

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

March 8, 2024

Capital Campaign Feasibility Survey: *The Organ and Mural*

As Father Jonathan mentioned last Sunday, we are asking Grace parishioners to complete a Feasibility Survey regarding a possible Capital Campaign to restore our pipe organ and the chancel arch mural. The survey will be in your email inbox this coming Sunday morning (March 10) at 11 AM. Remember – this is not a pledge form, only a survey to help us determine our ability to raise the needed funds for these projects. **Please complete the survey before Sunday, March 24** if possible. If you need a printed version of the survey, please contact the office. As we approach our 200th Anniversary as a parish (in 2029) it is exciting to think about restoring our pipe organ and beautiful mural, complete with an angel orchestra! Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.



Spring Daylight Savings Time: This Sunday, March 10!

Don't forget to 'Spring Forward' your clocks by one hour on Saturday night so you're not late to church on Sunday morning!



Lent IV is 'Rose' Sunday!

This coming Sunday, we observe The Fourth Sunday in Lent, also known as "[Laetare](#)" or "Rose" Sunday. The word "Laetare" means "Rejoice!" and comes from the Introit sometimes sung at the beginning of the liturgy on Lent IV. This Sunday marks the half-way point during the season of Lent is sometimes also known as "Refreshment Sunday" during which the more penitential ethos of the season was relax a little bit with pink/



rose-coloured vestments, allowing roses and other flowers on the Altar, and the baking and eating of Simnel cakes (a rich, fruit-cake popular in medieval England). In England, Lent IV is also sometimes referred to as "Mothering Sunday" and is observed in a similar way as "Mothers' Day" here in the US.

Here at Grace Church, we are blessed with a beautiful set of rose-coloured vestments made for us by parishioner and Altar Guild member Sue Hall in 2021 and dedicated to all past and present members of the Altar Guild. As always, you're most welcome to come up to the High Altar following the service and check out Sue's handiwork!

If you feel moved to do so, consider wearing some pink or rose colors when you come to church on Sunday, just like when we wear red on Pentecost!

Summary: The American Choral Directors' Association Conference at Grace Church

From February 28 to March 2, Grace Church was the primary performance space for the [American Choral Director's Association Eastern Region Conference](#). Over 500 singers representing 25 choirs from around the region rehearsed and performed in our beautiful church. A highlight was on Thursday evening when [VOCES8](#), a premier professional ensemble from England, performed for a capacity crowd of over 800 people! It was thrilling to see the church so full of people who love music! Many attendees remarked on the beauty of the space, and how welcome they felt while here. It was a special joy to welcome **Grace's own choir alum Sarah Hughes**, who was here with her choir from the University of Delaware, where she is a music education major. It was an honor and privilege to host all the choirs and their directors here at Grace Church.



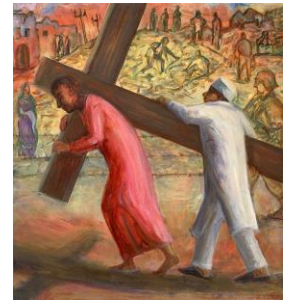
Easter Flowers & Music Donations/Dedications

Thank you for filling out a card located in the pews, and for your support of Easter flowers and music! Please print dedications legibly: *In memory of... in honor of... in thanksgiving for...* Place your card and gift in the green flower envelopes provided, and return in the offering plate or by mail. Dedications received **by Tuesday, March 26** will be printed in the service bulletins for Easter Vigil (March 30) and Easter Sunday (March 31).



The Way (Stations) of the Cross Services during Lent

Join us for this short liturgy during which participants walk to 14 stations posted throughout the church commemorating Christ's journey to Mount Calvary and his death on the Cross. This service lasts about 25 minutes and is scheduled for **every Friday at 12 Noon** during Lent.



Refugee Bins at Grace Church

In recent years people at Grace Church have contributed more than two dozen bins of supplies to help greet and settle newly arrived refugees in our community. Now some of those bins are empty, needing to be “adopted” (and filled) for a new set of new arrivals. We have about a dozen bins which we are handing out along with a list of desired items for different rooms (e.g. kitchen, child's room, single adult, etc). Or, you can provide your own bin! Since this is a wonderful way to translate a Lenten spiritual discipline into a physical act of love for our (new) neighbors, please pick up a list/bin on Sunday, choose a room, and **return it (filled) in two weeks by March 17th**, so we can be ready for Holy Week the following week! Thanks for your participation in this unusual Grace ministry.



Thursday Lenten Eucharists

Join us next **Thursday, March 14 at 6:00 PM** for a short Eucharist service with music, prayers, and a brief reflection on specific pieces of Christian artwork offered by lay parishioners of Grace Church. The service takes place in the Chancel near the High Altar amongst candlelight and incense for a more intimate worship experience. A light potluck supper in The Pavilion follows the service.

The next preacher in the series is parishioner and RISD Professor, [Andrew Raftery](#). He will offer a reflection on two pieces by [Claude Mellan](#), a 17th century French engraver: ["St. Francis in Prayer"](#) and ["The Deploation of Christ"](#)

Andrew led a very successful visit last Thursday (February 29) of a group of some 45 parishioners examining works of art at the RISD Museum.



Upcoming Collegium Ancora Concert

Experience the sublime combination of music and text on **Sunday, March 17 at 4:00 PM** in a concert entitled *Merry & Peace: A MASSive Experience* featuring the Mass in G minor for Double Choir by Ralph Vaughan Williams and the Missa Brevis for Choir and Organ by Zoltán Kodály sung by Collegium Ancora. Collegium is a professional chamber choir in Rhode Island and is the 'ensemble-in-residence' here at Grace Church. Tickets are available for purchase at: <http://tiny.cc/massiveexperience>



Lent at Grace 2024 Brochure

The penitential and reflective season of Lent begins next week as Christians around the world observe Ash Wednesday. Here at Grace Church we will have several additional offerings during Lent which are listed in the Lent 2024 Brochure found on the tables in the rear of the church. We hope that these opportunities will guide and aid your prayers and spiritual life during Lent, so please do join us!

To view a PDF version of the brochure, [please click here!](#)



Shawl Ministry Prayer Cloths

Shawl Ministry is making prayer cloths with cards which say: "This Prayer Cloth is a symbol of God's grace, peace and love. Keep it in your pocket. Let it remind you of God's presence. You are never alone." Adrienne Southgate is going on a pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona in Scotland. She would like to take prayer cloths from Grace Church to give to each of the 30 participants in this program. Can you knit some for us? Please email janeditmars@gmail.com if you need the instructions. Thank you for your help!



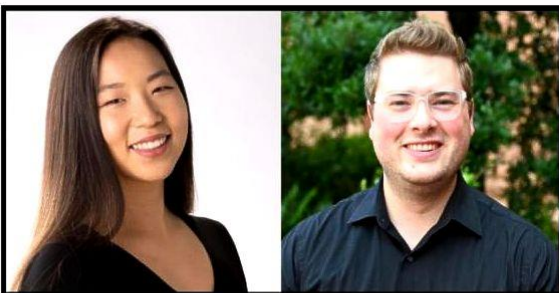
CHORAL COMPLINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH

8:00 PM

Doors open at 7:30 PM

A short 30-minute service of Gregorian Chant & unaccompanied Renaissance Polyphony,
sung in a darkened Church amongst hundreds of candles and fragrant incense.
The perfect calm and meditative way to start the week.



FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT

**BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S
CANTICLE II, OP. 51:
ABRAHAM & ISAAC**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21ST AT 12:00 NOON

Rising star vocalists Eliana Barwinski and Sam Denler will offer a unique concert centered around Benjamin Britten's Canticle II: Abraham and Isaac, Op. 51, composed for alto and tenor duet with piano accompaniment. Other works by Antonín Dvořák, Sergei Rachmaninov, Herbert Howells, Gustav Mahler, and Johann Sebastian Bach will be included.

THIRD THURSDAYS @ TWELVE (NOON): A CONCERT SERIES

Free, diverse, 45-minute concerts for the enjoyment of
the city of Providence and its visitors!

Please feel free to stay for the entire concert or for five minutes - whatever works best for your schedule!





HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2024



THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

Spoken Holy Eucharist *with* The Blessing of Palms

8:00 AM

Festal Sung Eucharist *with* The Blessing & Procession of Palms

10:00 AM

SPY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH

The Office of Tenebrae: A Service of Candlelight & Shadows

8:00 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH

Choral Holy Eucharist *with* The Washing of Feet,
Procession to the Altar of Repose, & Stripping of the Altar

7:00 PM

The Garden Watch *in* The Chapel of the Messiah

8:00 PM – 12:00 Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH

The Solemn Liturgy of The Passion

12:00 Noon

The Way (Stations) of the Cross *with* Music

6:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH

The Great Vigil, The Renewal of Baptismal Vows, & The First Eucharist of Easter
(followed by a Champagne and Chocolate Reception in The Pavilion!)

8:00 PM

THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST

Spoken Holy Eucharist

8:00 AM

Festal Choral Eucharist *with* Brass & Timpani

10:00 AM

*On Easter Day, all children are most welcome to participate in
The Easter Egg Hunt during Coffee Hour following the 10 AM Eucharist!*



Sunday Morning Worship

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare/ Rose Sunday

~ Sunday Morning YouTube Link ~

[Click here!](#)



This service will be live-streamed to the [Grace Church YouTube Channel](#). Please use the link provided above to watch. The service will also be archived on the [Grace Church website](#) for 'on-demand' viewing after Sunday morning. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sunday to participate in the worship.

To view the Order of Service for **The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare/ Rose,**
[CLICK HERE!](#)

Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together,
ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: *Laetare/ Rose Sunday* March 10, 2024

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



For the texts of the readings for **The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare/ Rose,**
[please click here.](#)

[Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here.](#)