

# GRACE ABOUNDS



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**Weekly News from Grace Episcopal Church - Thursday, March 13, 2025**

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## **Grace Church's Mural in the News!**

It's official - the scaffolding is gone! The mural is now fully visible and looks so much better. You'll see Christ in Majesty, and all his angels, in their glory this Sunday. *(The second photo shows the restored mural while the scaffolding still was being removed.)*

In addition to the [broadcast on WPRI/Channel 12](#) mentioned in last week's e-newsletter, the story of our mural restoration also was featured last Friday on [several newscasts on ABC6](#), and was a [front-page story in Saturday's Providence Journal](#). The ProJo article included some great photos - and it mentions times for our Open Doors ministry so hopefully more visitors will stop by to see the mural live!

On Sunday, June 1, we will rededicate the mural during our Sunday service when we celebrate Ascension Sunday. June 1 also will be our celebration of Grace Church Day, so save the date!

*Note: The removal of the scaffolding also means we're back to our regular practices for liturgy and for serving Communion.*



**A Loss to Our Grace**



# Family

We are saddened to announce that Grace's oldest member - Ray Finelli, age 103 - died peacefully at home last Friday, March 7. At the time of his death, Ray's family were with him, as was the rector.

Ray was a well-respected artist who painted commissioned portraits; [click here](#) to see some examples of his work. Ray also wasn't afraid to speak his mind. [Click here](#) to learn how he influenced House Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi's political career.



May Ray rest in peace and rise in glory.

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## Thursday Lenten Eucharist and Supper - Starts Tonight

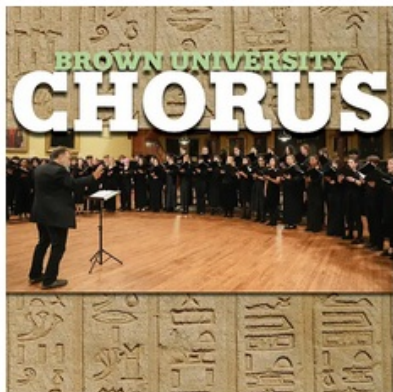
You are invited to join us on Thursdays in Lent - tonight through April 10 - for a Lenten Eucharist and Supper. The Eucharist begins at 6pm in our Chapel of the Messiah, with a supper immediately following in The Pavilion.



Tonight's supper is provided by the 20s/30s+ Group (many thanks to them!); they invite you to bring salads and desserts to share.

Our supper next Thursday, March 20, will include delicious soups from [Blount Fine Foods](#); please bring sweets, sides, and/or salads to share. Come for the Eucharist, the supper, or both. All are welcome!

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## Brown University Chorus Performs "Israel Into Egypt" - Sunday

In his 33rd and final year directing the Brown University Chorus, [Frederick Jodry](#) leads the Chorus and the Providence Baroque Orchestra in a performance of Handel's oratorio [Israel in Egypt](#) at Grace Church.

The concert takes place this Sunday, March 16, at 4pm. Tickets are \$25; students are \$5. Note that there won't be cash sales at the door; [click here to purchase tickets online](#). (Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended.)

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# Lent at Grace Church



There are several opportunities to worship here at Grace throughout Lent:

- **Friday:** Each week, join us at noon for the short liturgy of **The Way of the Cross (also called "Stations of the Cross")**. During this lunchtime service, participants walk to 14 stations posted throughout the church commemorating Christ's journey to Mount Calvary and his death on the Cross. To learn about the unique paintings at each of these 14 stations - made by New York City artist Gwyneth Leech - [please click here](#).
- **Sunday:** As usual, we'll gather at 10am each Sunday morning to celebrate **Holy Eucharist, with our Choir** singing seasonal anthems and psalms.
- **Thursday evenings:** Starting at 6pm, join us for a **brief service of Holy Eucharist, followed by a supper in The Pavilion**. Each week's menu will vary, based on who volunteers to bring it that evening. (We also have a supply of delicious soups donated by Blount Fine Foods to help with the meal.)

In addition, our Choir and Music department will present several programs throughout the Lenten season:

- **Third Thursdays at Noon:** provides diverse programs of music - free of charge - for the enjoyment of the community and visitors to the city.
  - **March 20 - "Seraphim and Cherubim"** featuring Collegium Ancora singers Soprano Jess Huetteman and Tenor Brad Kleyla.
  - **April 17 - Brown University Chamber Ensemble** featuring students participating in Chamber Music Ensembles in the Music Department at Brown University.
- **Sunday, March 23: Choral Evensong** - Music of Wood, Spicer, Knight, Dyson and featuring Gerald Finzi's masterpiece *Lo, the full, final sacrifice* sung by the Choir & Choristers of Grace Church. *A reception follows in The Pavilion. Doors open at 3:30pm.*

[Click here to download a full schedule of Lenten activities](#) - and join us as you travel this time with Christ.

**Seasonal Change to E-News:** Note that, during Lent, we'll publish the "Grace Abounds" weekly e-news on Thursday instead of Friday so you're aware of events happening on Thursdays and Fridays. We hope to see you at some of them!

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## "Third Thursday": Seraphim and Cherubim - March 20

Grace Church Soprano Jess Huetteman and Tenor Brad Kleyla, both Rhode Island natives, present a program of duets and solos, featuring music of Bach and Handel at noon next Thursday, March 20, as part of our "Third Thursdays at Noon" series.

Jess is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and Westminster Choir College. She currently teaches at the Rhode Island Philharmonic School of Music.

Brad is a graduate of Chicago's DePaul University where he studied Sound Engineering.

In addition to being an accomplished tenor, Brad is equally at home on the trombone.

Jess and Brad are staff singers at Grace Church, and both are members of Collegium Ancora and Ensemble Altera. Cheryl Bishkoff, Principal Oboe of the Rhode Island Philharmonic, will be a special guest on the concert.



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## Sunday School and Youth Group

### **Sunday School**

Sunday School (age 4 – Grade 6) meets during the Sunday morning service (other than the 2nd Sunday of the month, when kids attend the main service with their families). The children and teachers process from the church to the Sunday School rooms after the opening prayer. Kids can gather in the northwest corner of the church with the Sunday School teachers or sit with their families and join in the procession as it goes by. Questions? Call the parish office at 331-3225 or email [sundayschool@gracepvd.org](mailto:sundayschool@gracepvd.org).

### **Youth Group**

Youth Group (Grades 7-12) meets from 7 to 8 p.m. on Fridays. Teens can come to the Youth Group room at 7p.m., or come for pizza first in the choir room (Cronhimer Hall) at 6:30p.m. Questions? Feel free to call the parish office at 331-3225 or email [youthgroup@gracepvd.org](mailto:youthgroup@gracepvd.org).

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## Shawl Ministry - Our Project for March!

Shawl Ministry is now making dishcloths for the women's shelter and for those who come to the food pantry at St. Peter's and St. Andrew's Church. We invite you to join us in the Pavilion on Wednesdays from 10-11 am.

You are also welcome to knit or crochet at



home using any dishcloth pattern. Completed items may be dropped off at the church throughout the month of March. Thank you for helping us with this project!

For more information, please contact Jane Ditmars at [janeditmars@gmail.com](mailto:janeditmars@gmail.com)!



## Sunday Worship:

# The Second Sunday of Lent

## March 16, 2024

Most Sunday mornings, Grace Church offers a "live-stream" broadcast of our 10:00 AM service of Holy Eucharist. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in our worship life at Grace.

~ [Click Here to Join This Sunday's Service on YouTube](#) ~

**Livestreamed Worship:** When available, this service will be live-streamed to the [Grace Church YouTube Channel](#). Please use the link provided above to watch. The service also will be archived on the [Grace Church website](#) for on-demand viewing after Sunday morning.

**Order of Service:** To view a downloadable version of the Order of Service for the **The First Sunday of Lent**, please [click here](#).

**Collect for This Sunday:** *O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Readings:** For the texts of the readings for Sunday worship, [please click here](#).

**More About the Episcopal Church:** [Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. [Click here](#) for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island.

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

**Planning a Special Event? Rent The Pavilion at Grace!**

## Connect with Grace Anytime!

**This Sunday's  
Readings**

**Click Here for Recent  
Services**



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EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

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*The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the Gospel through worship, proclamation and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.*

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