

GRACE GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1535 NE 17TH AVENUE, PORTLAND, OREGON 97232 503.287.0418 WWW.GRACE-MEMORIAL.ORG

A parish for all people in the heart of the city.

❖ THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY ❖



❖ JANUARY 28, 2024 ❖ 8:00 & 10:00 AM ❖



WELCOME TO GRACE!

We are glad you are with us!

Grace Memorial is part of the Jesus Movement in the Episcopal Way. We are a community of story, symbol, service, and song.

We are a church of people with and without disabilities. Those who need to vocalize or move during the service are welcome to do so.

Please let us know that you are here by filling out a newcomer card and giving it to an usher or clergy person – or by saying "hi" in the YouTube chat.

COVID PROTOCOLS

There are high-quality (MERV-13) filters in Grace's HVAC system. Grace strongly encourages vaccination. We support the choice to wear a mask.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children are welcome and expected throughout the service. For those families who would prefer it, nursery care is available beginning at 9am in the Nursery downstairs. For older children, Church School gathers in the Mason Burnham room after the service's opening collect (i.e., prayer).

2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

❖ **Sunday, January 28**

8:00 am *Holy Eucharist Rite I*
*10:00 am *Choral Eucharist Rite II*

FORMATION CLASS (7PM) & COMPLINE (8PM)

❖ **Wednesday, January 31**

On Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/grace-adulted-wed>

THURSDAY EUCHARIST

❖ **Thursday, February 1**

9:30 am *Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Chapel*

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

❖ **Sunday, February 4**

8:00 am *Holy Eucharist Rite I*
*10:00 am *Choral Eucharist Rite II*

FORMATION CLASS (7PM) & COMPLINE (8PM)

❖ **Wednesday, February 7**

On Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/grace-adulted-wed>

THURSDAY EUCHARIST

❖ **Thursday, February 8**

9:30 am *Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Chapel*

THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

❖ **Sunday, February 11**

8:00 am *Holy Eucharist Rite I*
*10:00 am *Choral Eucharist Rite II*
5:00pm *Celtic Service*

ASH WEDNESDAY

❖ **Wednesday, February 14**

12:00 pm *Ash Wednesday Service in the Chapel*
7:00pm *Ash Wednesday Service in the Nave*

THURSDAY EUCHARIST

❖ **Thursday, February 15**

9:30 am *Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Chapel*

*** Hybrid Services** - both in the Nave and on YouTube

❖ THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY ❖

8:00 AM ❖ HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
YEAR B

*Today's readings can be found at www.Lecternarypage.net
The Service begins on page 323 in the Book of Common Prayer found in the pew racks.*

OPENING SENTENCES	BCP pg. 323
THE COLLECT OF THE DAY	BCP pg. 164
FIRST READING	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
PSALM 111	BCP pg. 754
SECOND READING	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
THE HOLY GOSPEL	Mark 1:21-28
SERMON	The Reverend Martin Elfert
THE NICENE CREED	BCP pg. 326
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	BCP pg. 328
CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION	BCP pg. 330
THE PEACE	BCP pg. 332
HOLY EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I	BCP pg. 333
THE LORD'S PRAYER	BCP pg. 336
MINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT	BCP pg. 339
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING	BCP pg. 339
THE BLESSING	BCP pg. 339
THE DISMISSAL	BCP pg. 339

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth:
Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



❖ THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY ❖

10:00 AM ❖ HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, Page 355 – YEAR B
Today's readings can be found at www.Lectarypage.net

❖ THE ENTRANCE RITE ❖

PRELUDE ❖ *Sonata no. 4 – Andante*

Thomas Arne

WELCOME ❖

OPENING HYMN 124 ❖

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt.

Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Cowley Carol Book*, 1902

OPENING ACCLAMATION ♦

BCP pg. 355

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY ♦

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY ♦

BCP pg. 215

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

1. A - rise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned up-on you.

2. For behold, darkness covers the land; deep gloom en-shrouds the peo-ple.

3. But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will ap-pear up-on you.

4. Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn-ing.

5. Your gates will always be o-pen; by day or night they will nev-er be shut.

6. They will call you, The City of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Is - ra - el.

7. Violence will no more be heard in your land, ruin or destruction with - in your bor - ders.

8. You will call your walls, Sal-va-tion, and all your por-tals, Praise.

9. The sun will no more be your light by day; by night you will not need the bright-ness of the moon.

10. The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glo - ry.
(*Gloria Patri* may be omitted)

11. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit:

12. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men.

Music: Plainsong, Tone 5, adapt. The Standing Commission on Church Music, 1979, alt.; acc. Alec Wyton (b. 1921) and SCCM 1979, alt. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

❖ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ❖

FIRST READING ❖ *Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM III ❖

BCP pg. 754

Antiphon is sung once by the Choir, repeated by All.

desc.

tone: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

- 1 Hallelujah! ... I will give thanks to the LORD with [my] whole heart,* in the assembly of the upright, ... in the [con]-gregation.
- 2 Great are the [deeds of] the LORD!*
They are studied by [all who] delight in them.
- 3 His work is full of [majesty] and splendor,* and his righteousness en-[dures] forever.
- 4 He makes his marvelous works to [be] remembered;* the LORD is gracious and [full of] compassion.

Antiphon

- 5 He gives food to [those] who fear him;* he is ever mindful [of] his covenant.
- 6 He has shown his people the power [of] his works* in giving them the [lands of] the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are [faithfulness] and justice;* all his com-[mandments] are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for-[ever] and ever,* because they are done in [truth] and equity.

tone: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

⁹ He sent redemption to his people; ... he commanded his [covenant] forever;*
holy and awesome [is] his name.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the be-[giving] of wisdom;*
those who act accordingly have a good understanding. ...
His praise en-[dures] forever.

Antiphon

SECOND READING ♦ *1 Corinthians 8:1-13*

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN ♦ *Be thou my vision*

vv. 1& 2 before the Gospel, 3 after

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ♦ *Mark 1:21-28*

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON ♦
A time of silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The Reverend Martin Elfert

THE NICENE CREED ♦

from Enriching Our Worship I, pg. 53

People

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ♦

Deacon

As we join one another in the Prayers of the People, please add your prayer concerns out loud. God of light, thank you for the birth and baptism of Jesus. Help us boldly confess Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Intercessor

God of light and life, our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith. We pray for all who serve God in the Church, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Diana, our Bishop; for our clergy at Grace Memorial Church. For our companion parish Trinity Cathedral in Monrovia, Liberia. For Matt Haines, our seminarian.

All

We pray for your church, for our diocese, bishops, clergy and all people.

Intercessor

Flame of abundant love, be our Joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world.

All

We pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith.

Intercessor

Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach and nurture all your children.

All

We pray for those in need of food, shelter, clothing, and of God's healing touch, especially those in this community.

Intercessor We pray especially for those on our prayer list: Alta Acosta, Anne Martin, Brandon Hoek, Caden Teddleton, Carl McNabb, Carla Brown, Claudia Frahm, Darryl and Katharine Holland, David Galaty, Debbie McDuffee, Donna Lisa, Dusty, Elaine Toll, Erin, George, George, Greg Gabriel, Hannah Miller, Ruth Haines, Jacquelyn Vittitow, Janie, Jeanann Francis, Joanna Bailey, John, Kate, Kathleen, Larry, Larry S., Lee Ann Snyder, Lexie, LeRoy Patton, Lindsay Hoek, Liz Gautier, LouAnn Pickering, Margaret Duryee, Michael Curry, Niki, Priscilla Anderson, Ricardo, Robert, Rochelle Hoek, Rosco, Rusty, Ruth Higgenbotham, Shirley Johnson, Staci Heuvel, Stanley Jackson, Stephanie Hoffman, Tony Gawf, and Trip Clark. We pray also for those whom no one prays.

The People may add their own petitions

All **Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them.**

Intercessor Comforter of us all, warm our hands and hearts to loving service.

All **We pray for the world, especially where there is trouble and suffering, especially Japan, Ukraine, Gaza and Israel.**

Intercessor God of Compassion, fuel our courage to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation.

All **We pray for our leaders, that they lead us wisely.**

Intercessor Star blaze of glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home, and to heal the circle of creation.

All **We pray for the land on which we stand; the peoples, creatures, plant life and waters around us.**

Intercessor We remember all those who have died and those who mourn, especially Jo D'Antonio, Joy Esther Pruitt, Jonanna Calleton, Jessica, Matt Zimmerman, Allen Stakset, Ric Menegat, Stephen Whitney-Wise, Elisi, Jerry, Mike, Jack Cassidy, Roy Coulter, Jack Haines, Laura Hull, and Kate Boger.

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

All **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We give thanks for the many blessings of this life, especially family, friends and this community.

All **For your loving kindness is great.**

Intercessor God of radiant light, your love illuminates our hopes before we know them, and our needs before we ask. Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All **Amen.**

CONFSSION ♦

BCP pg. 360

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION ♦

Children return from Church school.

THE PEACE ♦

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The People greet one another in the name of Christ.

❖ CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST ❖

THE OFFERING ♦

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the Altar.

At the Offertory, we return thanks for God's many blessings in our lives, and we invite you to give generously. You may give an offering in the plate or by visiting our online link at www.grace-memorial.org.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM ♦ *The river of the water of life*

Malcolm Archer

I saw the river of the water of life,
bright as a crystal,
flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
through the middle of the street of the city.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.
Alleluia...

Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,
and let the one who believes in me drink.
Out of the believer's heart shall flow
rivers of living water.

I saw the river of the water of life,
bright as a crystal,
flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
through the middle of the street of the city.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRESENTATION HYMN ♦

Tallis Canon

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

GREAT THANKSGIVING ♦

Eucharistic Prayer: EOW I #3, pg. 62

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS ♫

S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all...

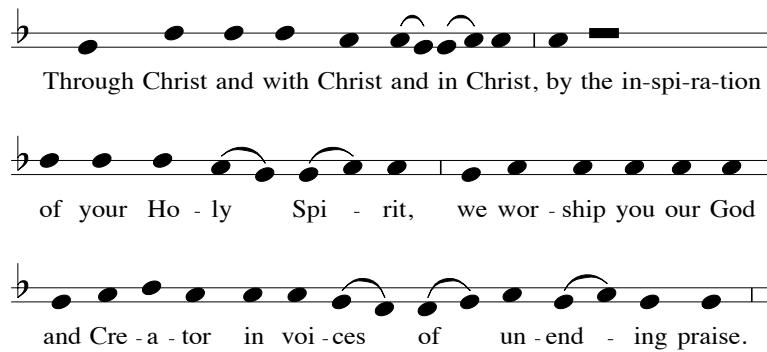
...And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All

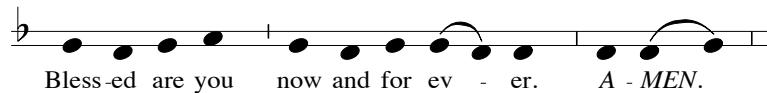
**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Presider

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.



Presider and People



Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER ♦

BCP pg. 364, S-149

Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 From: Music For the Lord's Supper. Theodore Presser Company. Used by permission.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD ♦

FRACTION ANTHEM ♦

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

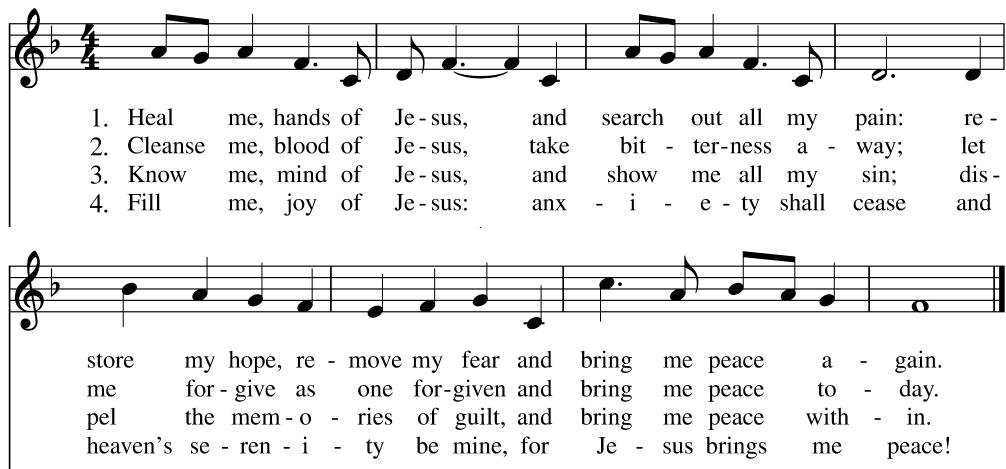
COMMUNION ♦

If you know the brokenness of life, then you have participated in the broken body of Christ, and you are invited to share in the breaking of bread. If you desire to know the love of God that overcomes apathy, alienation, and despair, then you are invited to share in the cup of the new covenant. The bread is received in the open palm. It is usual Anglican practice to drink the wine from the common cup. Intinction (i.e., the practice of dipping the bread into the chalice) is not permitted. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. The bread is gluten-free at the 10am service.

Healing prayers are available by the icon in the right transept during communion. You may ask for prayers for yourself or someone else.

COMMUNION MUSIC ♦

COMMUNION HYMN WLP 773 ♦ *Heal me, hands of Jesus*



1. Heal me, hands of Je-sus, and search out all my pain: re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je-sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je-sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je-sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and
store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

Words: Michael Perry. Music: *Sharpe*, Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Tunes for Grace*.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER ♦

BCP pg. 365

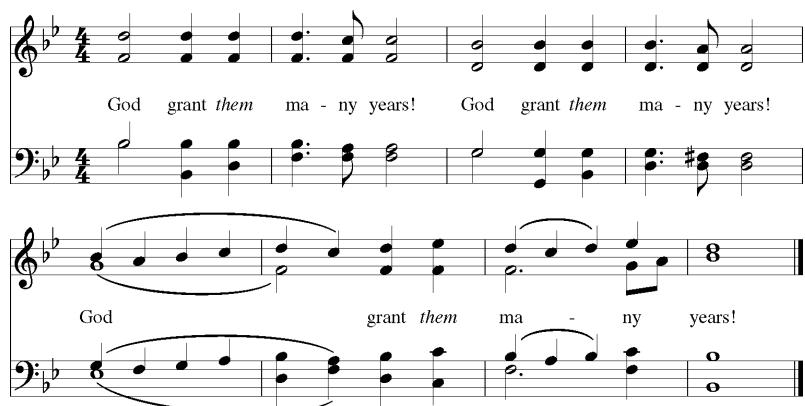
*Presider
and People*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING ♦

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANKSGIVINGS ♦

THANKSGIVING HYMN, WLP 824 ♦ *God grant them many years*



God grant them ma - ny years! God grant them ma - ny years!
God grant them ma - ny years!

CLOSING MHSO 59 ♫

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
 4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less, long-ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, own, has
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see. _____
 pow - er to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice. _____
 bro - ken for o - thers, shared un - til all are fed. _____
 shel - ter - ing o - thers, wall made of liv - ing stone. _____
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come. _____

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gath - ered to - day. _____

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DISMISSAL ♫

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE ♫ *Sonata no. 6 - Presto*

Thomas Arne

*Following the 10am service, join us in the Parish Hall for a lunch
 & attend the Annual General Meeting of Grace!
 Thank you to all who provide treats and coffee at our Coffee hours!*

❖ SERVING US TODAY ❖

Presider & Preacher	The Reverend Martin Elfert
Deacon	The Reverend Doctor Liz Klein
Church School	Jennifer Yeast
Acolytes	Zane Barlow, Frederick Gibson, Sam Schifferdecker
Lector & Intercessor 8AM	Lisa Westarp
Lectors 10AM	Paul Parker, Nora McLaughlin
Intercessor 10AM	Alicia Lehrle
Sacristans	Gillian Weisgram, Wolf Weisgram-Sieveking
Ushers	Miriam Elfert, James Skirving-Smith
Organist/Choir Director	Susan J. Jensen
Digital Verger	Evelyn Prater
Nursery Care Coordinator	Jo Wiersma
Healing Ministry	Rev. Dr. Corbet Clark, Myra Clark

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Grace News & Notes

TODAY! Grace's Annual General Meeting: Sunday, January 28th

Join us right after church for (aka *Coffee Hour Plus*)



At the AGM we will:

- Elect members to the Vestry of the Parish.
- Honor retiring Vestry members.
- Elect representatives to Diocesan Convention.
- Bestow the Angeline Berry Award for outstanding service to the Grace community.
- Bestow the Hale McMahon Award for outstanding service to those in need.
- Receive the 2024 budget.
- Demonstrate our mastery of church trivia via the annual quiz.

Please join us on Sunday, January 28, as we review the year gone by and look to where God may be calling Grace Memorial in 2024 and beyond.

Grace Epiphany Adult Formation continues with Lectio Divina on THIS Wednesday, January 31 at 7pm on ZOOM with Lectio divina. All are welcome to join in! Look for the zoom link in Grace Notes. It will be followed by **Compline at 8pm on ZOOM.**

Circle of Grace: Prayer embraces everyone! **This is the last Sunday to pick up a CIRCLE of GRACE CARD!** Please pick up a Circle of Grace card in the back of the church today & pray for your Grace family throughout the coming year.

Thursday, February 1st at 10am: C3 (Coffee, Conversation, Connection) meets the First Thursday of Every Month. **Please note NEW LOCATION: Milos Cafe, 1325 NE Broadway.** For more information, please see Gwen Harvey: gph1220@gmail.com or 919 619 1238 and / or check Grace Notes.

The Joys of Altar Guild Ministry: Uplifting our Altar Guild Next Sunday, February 4

All are invited to a fun GRACE ALTAR GUILD recruitment and training meeting immediately after the 10 am service on Feb 4. In addition to being fun, it will be informative and not too long. Please contact one of our wonderful Altar Guild members: Jennifer Yeast, Cathy Gibson, Gillian Weisgram, Wolf, Carol Maroten, Folake Okande, Lisa Westarp, Demetria Keck.

To inspire you in this wonderful ministry and to understand more about the importance and joy of working on an Altar Guild, the following article was taken from the **National Altar Guild Association** website, written by *Sarah Chesebro, Director of Altar Guild at Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church in Los Osos, California, Diocese of El Camino Real; Sarah is also NAGA Province VIII Representative*

THE JOYS OF ALTAR GUILD MINISTRY

In the words of Presiding Bishop Curry, “People go to church to refocus. Focus on God. What you do for God matters. The altar guild helps us to refocus. Focus on God the Creator then follow Jesus into the world.” The altar guild is charged with this awesome responsibility and privilege of tending to the Sanctuary and enabling our congregation to engage in worship that is filled with order, beauty, peace, and tranquility.

At Saint Benedict’s (*and Grace!*), the altar guild also includes the flower guild and sacristy team. What joy it is for us to set the stage for the “sacred theatre.” As with theatre production, so much happens behind the scenes. During this time of preparation, it is an opportunity for us to experience spiritual reflection as we work with our hands and work in quiet meditation. Sometimes we work while the musicians and choir are practicing and have our own private concert. Or, while setting up for the 8 am service, experience the glory of the sun rising and the Great Blue Herons or White Egrets hunting. While we know that God is everywhere and all of creation is sacred, there are some places where God’s presence is more intensely felt, as in the sanctuary — a sacred space.

The altar guild is not a social group. We don’t have potlucks; we seldom have meetings. We are not involved in the business of the church. We don’t take votes or make momentous decisions. Most of what we do is invisible to the congregation and is meant to be that way. The work we do facilitates and enhances our worship and particularly the Eucharist.

Joining the altar guild means learning many fascinating aspects of Church tradition, including the esoteric names for all the various vessels, vestments, linens and paraments we use in worship. Most importantly, serving on the altar guild is a spiritual ministry. Caring for the altar is a way to act out our relationship with God. It is quiet, prayerful work.

While altar guilds can trace their roots to the women who cared for Jesus, at various times in the history of the Anglican Church, altar guilds have been composed exclusively of men or exclusively of women. Today, anyone can be a member of the altar guild. You don’t have to have any experience to join the altar guild. Your training will consist of hands-on instruction from our wonderful, experienced altar guild members.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner: Tuesday, February 13, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Join us for a delicious Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner on Tuesday, February 13 from 6:00 – 7:00pm. All are welcome!

Ash Wednesday Services with the Imposition of Ashes - Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday begins the Forty days of Lent leading to Easter. There will be two liturgies on Ash Wednesday: 12:00 pm in the Chapel & 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Catechumenate 2024 – “*Going Deeper into Faith*”

Catechumenate classes will begin on Wednesday, February 21, meeting on Wednesdays through March 27 at 6:30pm – 8pm in the Ella Brown Room.

Join us for six Wednesdays in Lent for *The Catechumenate*, a time of wondering, learning, creating, and questioning – in short, a time of going deeper into discipleship of Jesus and deeper into connection with other members of the Body of Christ. We'll begin with a meal at 6:30pm – 7pm, share in conversation and reflection 7:00pm – 7:45pm, and end with Evening Prayer.

What is Catechumenate?

The Catechumenate (*cata-CUE-men-it*) is a pathway of learning and conversation in a community of fellowship. It is a journey to baptism, confirmation, reception into the Episcopal Church, or the reaffirmation of baptismal vows, maybe to something else.

“*Going Deeper Into Faith*”, is an opportunity to take a new step in your spiritual journey. The six sessions culminate with the Easter Vigil and provide a deeper and more dynamic understanding of what it means to be a person of faith. If you are considering what faith means for the first time, have been a Christian for decades, or are somewhere in between – this class is for you. You will have the opportunity to explore your own spiritual journey, honestly ask who Jesus is and what it means to be a Christian, discover new ways to pray, and find out more about the Episcopal tradition. The capstone of the class is helping, should you so choose, with the Holy Week and Easter Vigil services. Each class will be led by our clergy and lay leadership.

The arc of our time together will look like this:

February 21 *Journeys and Wonder*

Why do you think you are here? What led you to this place and this moment?
Where might you have seen God on the journey?

February 28 *Jesus*

Who is Jesus? What does it mean to be Christian?

March 6 *Divine Gifts*

What is prayer? How do we pray?

March 13 *Stump the priest!*

Bring your questions and watch us squirm.

March 20 *Guiding Love*

What is the Episcopal tradition?

March 27 *Awe & Resurrection*

The cusp of the Triduum: What now?

Please let Rev. Martin or Rev. Lara know if you would like to participate. We'd love to see you there!

Grace Institute: Spring Break Camp 2024: March 25, 26 and 27, 2024

For more information: <https://grace-institute.org/2024/01/19/spring-break-camp-2024/>



Esteemed storyteller, Will Hornyak, returns to entrance campers with a Chinese tale about the healing power of patience, courage, and love called The Tiger's Whisker. Taking inspiration from The Tiger's Whisker, campers will rotate through a variety of arts studios, including Fibre Arts, Music & Dance, Podcasting, Printmaking, Visual Arts and more!

- Monday through Wednesday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Tuition is \$275/camper – [Scholarships are available!](#)
- Extended Hours available 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm: \$70 or \$12/hour
- 1st through 6th grade; ages 6 through 12
- **Registration opens online on January 31 at 10:00 am.**

Grace Calendar

Check out the Online Calendar at <https://grace-memorial.org/campus-calendar/>

Tuesday, January 30 @ 9am	Tai Chi meets in the Parish Hall
Wednesday, January 31 @ 7pm	Adult Formation Class (on zoom)
Wednesday, January 31 @ 8pm	Compline (on zoom)
Thursday, February 1 @ noon	St. Mary's Guild meets (Mason Burnham room)



❖ GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH ❖

A parish for all people in the heart of the city.

CLERGY

The Right Reverend Doctor Diana Akiyama – Bishop
The Reverend Martin Elfert – Rector
The Reverend Lara Halsey – Curate
The Reverend Doctor Corbet Clark – Associate Priest
The Rev. Canon Doctor Richard Toll – Associate Priest
The Reverend Doctor Liz Klein – Deacon

PARISH STAFF

Parish Manager – Kris Doty
Parish Assistant & Bookkeeper – Anson Jones
Organist / Choir Director – Susan J. Jensen
Digital Verger – Evelyn Prater
Campus Steward – Lukas Sherman
Office Volunteer – Demetria Keck
Nursery Care Coordinator – Jo Wiersma

CLERGY OFFICE HOURS

Reverend Martin Elfert
9:30am – 11:30am on Wednesdays
2:00pm – 4:00pm on Thursdays
Reverend Lara Halsey
1:00pm – 2:00pm on Sundays
3:00pm – 5:00pm on Mondays
Reverend Dr. Liz Klein
11:00am – 1:00pm on Wednesdays

SERVICE TIMES & LOCATIONS

Sundays
8:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite I – Spoken Service
10:00 am – Choral Eucharist Rite II*
**hybrid - offered both in the Nave and on YouTube*
Weekdays
Compline 8:00pm – on Zoom
Thursdays 9:30 am – Holy Eucharist

VESTRY

Charles A. McGee II, Co-Senior Warden (Vestry Chair); Kevin Walsh (2026), Co-Senior Warden (Rector's Advisor);
David Waldow (2025) Junior Warden; Warren Burkholder Jr., Treasurer; Alicia Lehrle, Clerk; Keri Beck (2025);
Roosevelt Carter (2026); Myra Clark (2024), Andrew D'Antonio (2024); Sally Fraser (2025);
Yetunde Laniran (2026); Bindhu Newell (2024); Calvin Richardson (2024);
Stephen Weeks (2024); Jennifer Yeast (2026)