



Peter's Vision, Oxygen Multimedia Ministries

Grace Episcopal Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 | 8:00 & 9:30 am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Eric Mason

Deacon | Scott Deasy

Guest Music Director | Kelly Carpenter

Home Group | Peninsulas

We Gather in God's Name

Gathering

We take a moment to be still and know God. Our world is full of many noises, even as we sit together in silence. Let the noises be, and listen for the deep stillness that underlies all being. This moment will begin and end with the ringing of a bell.

Call to Worship

We stand as we're called to worship.

Celebrant O God, Giver of Life, Bearer of Pain, Maker of Love,
**All You accept in us what we find difficult to acknowledge;
You hold in your memory what we have tried to forget;
You show us the glory we dream of and imagine.**

Celebrant Reconcile us to all we have rejected in ourselves,
that we may live lives of resurrection, wholeness and hope.
All Through Jesus Christ, our healer and our friend. Amen.

**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.**

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
All The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Celebrant Then let us sing and celebrate the resurrection of all Creation.

Opening Song | Sing Out, Earth and Skies



1. Come, O God of all the earth: Come to us, O
2. Come, O God of wind and flame: Fill the earth with
3. Come, O God of flash-ing light: Twin- kling star and
4. Come, O God of snow and rain: Show- er down up -
5. Come, O Jus - tice, Come, O Peace: Come and shape our



Right - eous One; Come, and bring our love to birth:
 right - eous - ness; Teach us all to sing your name:
 burn - ing sun; God of day and God of night:
 on the earth; Come, O God of joy and pain:
 hearts a - new; Come and make op - pres - sion cease:



In the glo - ry of your Son.
 May our lives your love con - fess.
 In your light we all are one.
 God of sor - row, God of mirth.
 Bring us all to life in you.

Refrain



Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who loves you!



Raise your joy-ful cries! Dance to the life a - round you!

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Tune: SING OUT, 7 7 7 7 with refrain; Marty Haugen. ©1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Collect

Celebrant May God be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of abiding love, you choose us as your servants and dare to call us friends: take our fragmented hearts, commanding them to love, making whole our joy, our life reborn in you; through Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us. **Amen.**

During the 9:30 service, children and youth are invited to come forward to the altar for a children's moment before joining their teachers for Sunday School. The children will return in time for communion. They are also welcome to remain with their families in the sanctuary if that is their choice.

We Hear and Respond to the Story

We are seated for the first lesson.

First Lesson | Acts 10:1-35, 44-48

Reader A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius." He stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" He answered, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside." When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, and after telling them everything he sent them to Joppa.

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while it was being prepared he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look, three men are searching for you. Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation, for I have sent them." So Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?" They answered, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish people, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the brothers and sisters from Joppa accompanied him. The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. On Peter's arrival, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, worshiped him. But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal."

And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled, and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is improper for a Jew to associate with or to visit an outsider, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?"

Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered before God. Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say."

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him..."

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

After the reading

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

We stand and speak the Psalm responsively.

Sing a new song to God,
who has done marvelous things.

**With your right hand, O God, and your holy arm,
you have won for yourself the victory.**

You have made known your victory;
your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.

**You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Shout with joy to God, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

**Sing to God with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
shout with joy before our God who reigns in majesty.

**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before God,
who will come to judge the earth;

**God shall judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.**

We are seated for the second lesson.

Second Lesson | 1 John 5:1-6

Reader A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

After the reading

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All Thanks be to God.

We stand for the Gospel acclamation and reading.

Gospel Acclamation | Alleluia



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Gospel | John 15:9-17

Deacon May God be with you.

All And also with you.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I

command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

After the reading

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

We are seated for the homily.

The Homily

After the homily, we observe a moment of silence. This time begins and ends with the ringing of a bell.

Affirmation of Faith

We stand as we affirm the faith that's been handed down to us.

We believe in God above us,

**maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all humanity.**

We believe in God beside us,

**Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
Born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor,
he was tortured and nailed to a tree.
Knowing full passion and deep sorrow, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,
and his Kingdom will one day be known.**

We believe in God within us,

**the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church.
She is the Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

We remain standing for the prayers. Our prayers are written by members of Grace; all are encouraged to join in, adding your own prayers after each intercession, silently or aloud. To submit names to our prayer list, and/or to receive weekly updates from our prayer team, email us at prayerlist@gracehere.org. We would love to include those you love in our prayers for thanksgiving, healing, support, or peace; and we also welcome your prayers for particular persons who have died.

Gathering

“Jesus said, ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.’” We celebrate Jesus’ resurrection and the chance for transformation in our lives.

We gather silently in prayer with deepened breath and intention.

Environment

“Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein. Let the rivers clap their hands and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord.” God, give us wisdom to hold your earth and its creatures sacred by improving our natural environment.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.

Leader Risen Christ

All Gather in our prayers

Our Community, Nation, and the World

“In righteousness shall God judge the world, and the peoples with equity.” Strengthen those who lead and those who follow. Guide us all to work for justice, and to cultivate harmony and peace with one another.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.

Leader Risen Christ

All Gather in our prayers

Families and Individuals

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” Help us as we seek to live with patience and love.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.

Leader Risen Christ

All Gather in our prayers

Prayer Requests

“The Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.” We offer prayers for those on our prayer list and those whom we carry in our hearts. Knit us together by your spirit.

Those on our current prayer list are named. You are invited to speak aloud (or simply remember quietly) the names of those for whom you are praying. Please also pray for these persons on our long-term prayer list:

Healing for Jon, Marc, Katie, Vivian, James, Gretchen, Linda, Jon, Bob, Doug, Sam, Whitney and Eleanor Grace, Alyson, Timothy, Margie, Harold, Jas, MJ, Mary, Patty, Scott, Marty, Judy, Mary Ann, Dick, Johan, Aunt Linda, Christine, Susan M, Larry, Teri, Cathy, Debbie, Amy Sue, Rebecca, Ben, Lizzie, Mary Anne, Carrie, Tom, Susan, Mike, Frank, Pearle, Nancy, Ted, Len, Dena

Support for Loanna, Haini, Connie, Matt & Gretchen and children, Linda’s family, Kate & Neil, Delia, Suzy, Barb, Rich, Mollie, Ben, Samara, Isobel, Wendy, James, Macy, Lori, People in Ethiopia, Ted, Macy, Andrew, Nancy P, Charlie, Chelsea, Aunt Linda’s family, Ann, Afghan friends and colleagues, Cindy, Henry, Amy Sue’s family, Jody, Martha, Mary, Cecile, Rose, Cherry, Heather, Joe, Beth

Peace for Evelyn, Alan, April

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.

Leader Risen Christ

All Gather in our prayers

Gratitude

“Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.” We give thanks for the gifts of Grace.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.

Leader Risen Christ

All Gather in our prayers

Closing

“You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that God will give you whatever you ask in my name.” In the season of rebirth and new life, may we hold each other tenderly.

Collecting the Prayers of the People

The Celebrant concludes the Prayers of the People.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

All And also with you.

All are invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another. Please respect others' choice to do so socially distanced.

We are seated after the Peace.

We Share in the Sacred Meal

The Offering



Out of gratitude for all we've been given, we give ourselves back to God. Bread, wine, and money all symbolize the fruit of our labor. Together, our gifts make possible this community of inclusion, service, discovery, and gratitude. All worshipping in person are invited to place their offering in baskets as they are passed through the rows, but anyone in person or online may give via this link: www.gracehere.org/give/, or by accessing our OnRealm system with this QR code. Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and your presence with us today.

We remain seated while the bread and wine are brought forward.

Offertory Song | Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 9:30am only



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887.

We stand as the baskets are brought forward, lifting up the offering of our hearts and hands.

Prayer over the Gifts

All **Ever present God,**
with this offering we present also ourselves:
all that we have been,
all that we are,
and all that we shall become,
and our resolve to walk in your way.
Accept us and our offering,
we pray for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

We remain standing for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you,
holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.
From before time you made ready the creation.
Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:
sun, moon and stars; earth, wind and waters;
and every living thing.

You made us in your image, male and female,
 and taught us to walk in your ways.
 But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away.
 And yet, as a mother cares for her children,
 you would not forget us.
 Time and again you called us
 to live in the fullness of your love.
 And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
 in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity
 lifting our voices to you as we sing:

Sanctus | Holy, Holy, Holy

Assembly

Ho - ly Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho san - na in the high - est.
 Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the
 high - - est.

Jason Liles.

Celebrant Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
 To deliver us from the power of sin and death
 and to reveal the riches of your grace,
 you looked with favour upon Mary, your
 willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son,
 Jesus, the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.
 He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
 healed the sick and proclaimed good news to the poor.
 He yearned to draw all the world to himself
 yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
 Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
 the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

*Take, eat, this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
and gave it to them, saying:

*Take, drink; this cup is the new covenant in my blood,
given for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Now, gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with all your saints from every tribe and language
and people and nation, to feast at the banquet of the world.
All this we ask through Jesus Christ.
By him and with him and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,
Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now as our savior has taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the Bread and a period of silence is kept. The silence is broken with these words.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

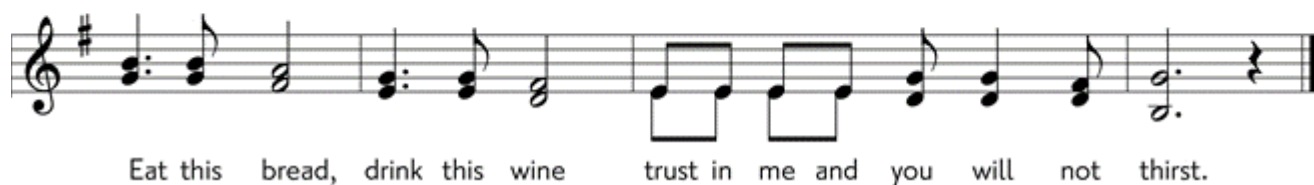
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All Thanks be to God.

All are welcome to come forward into the circle to receive Communion. Please tell the bread minister if you prefer to receive a wafer free from gluten, soy, and dairy. Please tell the chalice bearer if you prefer non-alcoholic wine. If you prefer not to receive wine at all, cross your arms in front of your chest, and when the minister brings the chalice near you, they will simply say the words, "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation." Finally, if you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest and the bread minister will ask God's blessing on you.

Communion Song | Eat This Bread 9:30am only



Words: John 6 adapt. By Robert J. Batastini and the Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier.

Communion Song | Be Still and Know 9:30am only

Words: Psalm 46:1. Music: John L. Bell. Music © 1989 & 1998 by WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

Canon

1. 2. 3. 4.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

After communion, we share in silent reflection and prayer, begun and ended by the ringing of a bell.

Our Prayer After Communion

We stand and pray.

All God of compassion, through the life and model of Jesus, you have shown reconciliation to your people. May we follow him with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Celebrations 9:30am only

After we share milestones, please join us in singing, "God Grant Them Many Years."

We are Sent into the World

Blessing of Easter

Celebrant May God who has redeemed us and made us sons and daughters through the resurrection of Jesus, bestow on you the deep riches of God's blessing.

All Amen.

Celebrant May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from loss into newness of life, make you holy and sacred and united to Christ for ever.

All Amen.

Celebrant May God who has brought us out of bondage into true and everlasting freedom, bring you deeper into life.

All Amen.

Celebrant And now may the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah; and of Jesus born of our sister Mary; and of the Holy Spirit who broods over Creation like a Mother over her children; be upon us and remain with us always.

All Amen.

Closing Song | Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 9:30am only



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813.

Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power
of the Spirit!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Surprise

The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

—Acts 10.45

O Spirit, loosen my heart
to stop being so surprised
when you color outside my lines,
when you bless those I curse,
you embrace those I exclude,
you empower those I put down.
Starved with expectations
I'm least able to catch your wind;
cemented by certainty
the pious are least likely to catch fire.

Still, this is what you do best,
to make the incombustible
burst into glory.

—Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Acknowledgments of Artists, Authors, and Sources

Art: *Peter's Vision*, Oxygen Multimedia Ministries.

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Collect: From *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*, Steven Shakespeare (Church Publishing Inc., 2009).

Psalm: © Order of Saint Helena, used by permission.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 2 from *Enriching Our Worship*.

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News from Grace Church, Bainbridge Island | May 5, 2024

★ You'll find more details about these events, and other news,
in our weekly newsletter and at www.gracehere.org/news ★

Welcome to Grace! If you are visiting, we hope you have felt welcomed. If you have questions or queries — however large or small — feel free to contact Liz Powell at lizpowell165@comcast.net.

TODAY after the 9:30 service | Rogation Sunday at the Gifts of Dirt Garden Everyone is invited to this special day of dedication and blessing at Grace's Gifts of Dirt Garden. Rev. Eric will bless the garden, as it once again will provide bountiful produce to share with our neighbors in need. Come tour the garden and enjoy fellowship and delicious treats. Carpooling is encouraged. Driving directions are available in the narthex.

Sunday programming for children during the 9:30 a.m. service in the Family Hall:

- Ages four and under are welcome in our beautiful, interactive nursery with adjoining playground under the supervision of trained staff.
- Children ages 3 or 4 through 12 begin with their families in the sanctuary for a children's moment with our priest, after which they go to their classrooms for rich and creative programming, and then return to the sanctuary for communion with their families.

Youth Gatherings | Youth in grades 6-12 may stay after the 9:30 a.m. service (or arrive at 10:30) and check out our brand-new youth room at the end of the Children & Families hallway on the left.

Book Group | Four Thursdays in May: May 9, 16, 23, 30 at 11:00 a.m. *The Good Immigrant: 26 Writers Reflect on America* presents 26 powerful stories with various viewpoints on the controversial topic of immigration — and addresses the questions of who is welcome, why, and who will speak for them? All are welcome! For questions, and to RSVP, contact Florrie Munat or Kim Cockcroft. Books and reading schedules are available in the Narthex for a suggested donation of \$16.

Thank you for your generous support of Grace Church through your gifts of time, talent, and treasures. Grace is blessed to have 161 households that pledged to provide financial support for our ministry programs and physical plant during 2024. Statements reflecting 2024 pledges received through April 30 were emailed to those households in the last few days. If you have questions about those statements or if you have not yet made a pledge for 2024 and would like to do so, please contact Tootie Kuhn, Trustee for Stewardship, at cgkuhn407@gmail.com. Additional 2024 Stewardship packets are available in the church narthex.

Conversations About Death | Tuesday, May 14 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. In this facilitated, informal, small group discussion, we'll explore our personal relationship with death. RSVP required. Sign up at www.gracehere.org/events, or contact Kim Cockcroft (kim@gracehere.org).

You Are Invited to be a Grace Night Owl. Each member of the Night Owl team volunteers for a week at a time. We walk the exterior of the building, verify all the doors are locked and latched, and that all windows and the gate are closed and latched. The team members arrive after 9:00 p.m. or a bit later, after all the folks involved in a rental or other Grace activities have left. This takes about 15-20 minutes. Email or call Eric Matthews: (206) 718-2254. There is a link to sign up in our newsletter.

Gallery at Grace May-June Exhibit | Printmaker/sculptor Virginia H. Davison presents "Math in Art," a series of shellac plate prints based on the Pythagorean Theorem. Virginia is fascinated with color relationships, spatial harmonies, texture, and surfaces that feel exciting and illusionary. There is one base plate, and then smaller shaped plates are used to add the new colors and shapes, slowly building up layers and meaning.

Home Groups at Grace | Looking to Connect with Others at Grace Church? Getting involved in a Home Group at Grace is one of the best ways to meet people, develop friendships, and discover more of what Grace has to offer you and your family. Over 200 people are involved in seven different Home Groups. They gather periodically for fellowship and fun, serve together on Sundays, and offer support to one another when needed. Do you want to meet some near neighbors? Many of our groups are geographically based. Do you want to meet other families with young children? Then our "Family Group" might be for you. If interested in learning more, contact Jeff Bassette (jeff.bassette@gmail.com), our Home Group Coordinator.

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Grace Episcopal Church ♦ Bainbridge Island, WA
inclusion service discovery gratitude

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