



*"I lift up my eyes to the hills..." Psalm 121.1*

# Grace Episcopal Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020 | 8 and 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Music | Martin Cockroft

Tribe | Fern

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## *Excerpted from* **"Wild Geese"**

Geese appear high over us,  
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,  
as in love or sleep, holds  
them to their way, clear  
in the ancient faith: what we need  
is here. And we pray, not  
for new earth or heaven, but to be  
quiet in heart, and in eye,  
clear. What we need is here.

~ Wendell Berry

Songs & readings omitted at the 8:00 service are marked with an \*

A bell rings. We listen to the longing in our hearts. We remain seated.

## Gathering Song | Gather Your People

Mary Louise Bringle

Tony Alonso



Gath - er your peo-ple, mer - ci-ful God,



gath - er the long - ing, the lost, and un-sure.



Gath - er your peo-ple, mer - ci-ful God,



name us and claim us as yours.

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## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*After the gathering song, the Celebrant invites us to stand.*

Celebrant God above us, God beside us, God beneath us,

**People God at our center, God at the edge, God with us.**

Celebrant God, you are gracious and full of compassion.

**People Your mercy endures forever.**

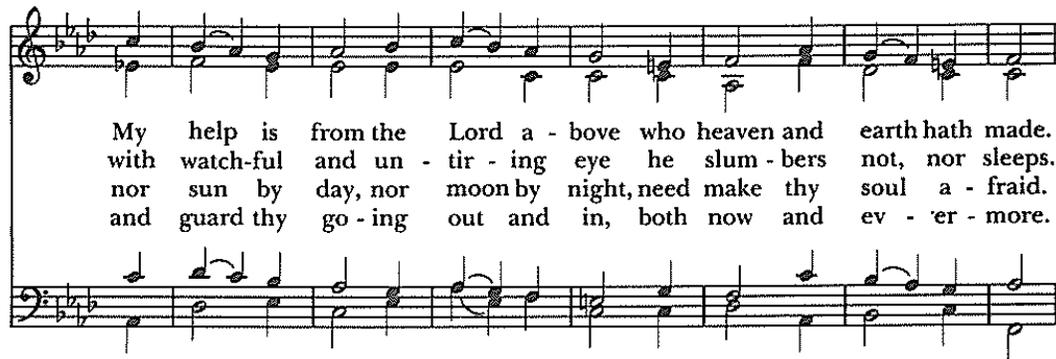
*Adapted from a prayer written by Richard Carter in Liturgy on the Edge: Pastoral & Occasional Worship.*

We remain standing and sing together.

## Opening Song | I to the Hills Will Lift Mine Eyes\*



1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes; from whence shall come my aid?  
2 He will not let thy foot be moved, his own he safe - ly keeps;  
3 Thy faith - ful guard - ian is the Lord, thy shelt - er and thy shade;  
4 From e - vil he shall keep thee safe and shall thy strength re - store



My help is from the Lord a - bove who heaven and earth hath made.  
with watch - ful and un - tir - ing eye he slum - bers not, nor sleeps.  
nor sun by day, nor moon by night, need make thy soul a - fraid.  
and guard thy go - ing out and in, both now and ev - er - more.

Words: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, 1650, alt.; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of Psalm 121  
Music: *Burford*, from *A Book of Psalmody*, 1718

CM

## The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

We lift up our eyes to you, Holy One. Your glory is always to have mercy. Fill us with your Spirit and move us to lift our eyes beyond ourselves; to find, going out and coming in, life, strength, and rest in you. **Amen.**

# WE TELL THE STORY

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*We are seated for the reading.*

## **The First Reading** | Genesis 12: 1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

*After the reading, the reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**All    Thanks be to God.**

*We stand and say the Psalm.*

## **Psalm** | 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

**Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

The Lord himself watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

**So that the sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

**The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.**

*We are seated for the second reading.*

## **The Second Reading** | Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 \*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*After the reading, the reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*We stand together and sing*

## **Gospel Song** | **What Wondrous Love**

*Music by Ann Strickland; Words: American Folk Hymn*

3

What won-drous love is this?      What won-drous love is this?

What won-drous love is this?—      O my soul.      O my soul.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains two measures of music with lyrics 'What won-drous love is this?' repeated. The second staff begins with a '3' above the first measure, indicating a triplet. It contains three measures of music with lyrics 'What won-drous love is this?— O my soul. O my soul.' The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

*The Celebrant then introduces the Gospel by saying*

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

**People**      **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

## **The Gospel** | John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

*After the Gospel the Celebrant will say*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Music by Ann Strickland; Words: American Folk Hymn

What wondrous love is this?      What wondrous love is this?

3  
What wondrous love is this?—      O my soul.      O my soul.

## OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

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### The Homily

#### Affirmation of Faith

*We stand and say*

**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.**

We gather in prayer.

## The Prayers of the People

Stefan Waligur

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,  
Lord, have mer - cy, on us.

Leader You so love the world. Bless all your people everywhere: protect churches, synagogues, temples and all places of worship that they may be havens of safety. Move us to work so that religious divisions might cease.

*We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.*

Leader In your mercy,  
**All hear our prayer.**

Leader You so love the world. We ask you to guide the people of this land and of all nations to seek peace and justice. Guide us to serve the common good, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples. Inform hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit for discernment when voting. Gant us honest and competent leaders.

*We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.*

Leader In your mercy,  
**All hear our prayer.**

Leader You so love the world. We pray for its welfare. Strengthen all who bring food to those who are hungry, who hold shelter for people experiencing homelessness, who share wisdom and comfort with us when we are lonely, troubled, or in conflict. Envelop with your presence people in quarantine, and all who work to combat the coronavirus. We pray for peace.

*We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.*

Leader In your mercy,  
**All hear our prayer.**

Leader You so love the world. We pray for one another during this season of Lent, and for all who seek a closer relationship with you. Provide for those among us who suffer or are in need, including those on our prayer list, and those we name before you now.

*We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.*

Leader In your mercy,  
All **hear our prayer.**

Stefan Waligur

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,  
Lord, have mer - cy, on us.

*Silence*

Celebrant We pray to you for the forgiveness of our sins.

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

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Celebrant In the name of God who created you, in the name of the Son who searches for you, in the name of the Spirit who brings healing and forgiveness, you have been forgiven and set free. **Amen.**

# The Peace

*We conclude these prayers with the sharing of God's peace.*

Celebrant Now the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

*After the peace, we are seated.*

## Offertory Song | Born Again

*Written by Josh Garrels; Offered by the Music Circle*

Came into the world, to the wild  
No place for a child  
Used my voice to howl  
With the ghouls of night  
In the dying light

I had to learn to get what I need  
In the dark, empty  
Instincts are guiding me  
Like a beast to some blood  
And I can't get enough

I'm losing control  
My body, my soul are slowly fading away  
But I'm ready now to feel the power of  
change

I'm my mother's child  
I'm my father's son  
It took me a while  
But my time has come  
To be born again

Running scared in between  
What I hate and what I need  
Savior and enemy are both trying to take my  
soul  
And I can't hide no more

Stumble out into the light  
Raise my fists up to fight  
Then I catch your eyes  
So full of love  
Lord, what have I done?

I cry at your feet,  
Wounded for me  
And all of the monsters of men  
But here in your light, we can begin again  
I'm my mother's child  
I'm my father's son  
It took me a while  
But my time has come

I'm my mother's child  
I'm my father's son  
Lord, took me a while  
But my time has come  
To be born again

To be born again

# WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE

*We stand as the table is set with the gifts of our hearts and hands.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**People 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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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:

*Caroline Clucas*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly; Lord God of all.\_\_\_\_\_

Heav'n and earth re - joice in your wond - drous\_\_ love\_\_\_\_\_

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 favor 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 them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you. And whenever you drink it, 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ 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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

*We are now invited to share the gifts of Communion.*

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Please know that at Grace Church all are invited to receive the bread. This sacrament is God's free gift.*

*Please tell your server if you prefer a wafer that is free from gluten, soy, and dairy.*

## Music during Communion | Simple Gifts\*

*Led by Jim Quitslund and Isaac Hanto*

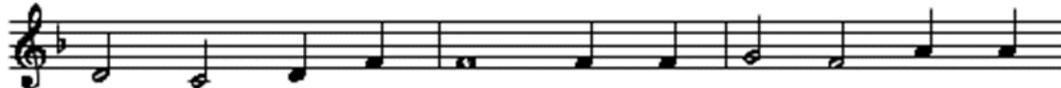
'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free  
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.  
When true simplicity is gained,  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,  
To turn, turn will be our delight,  
Till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

# Healing River of the Spirit\*

Words: Ruth C. Duck | Music: Beach Spring



1. Heal - ing riv - er of the Spir - it, Bathe the  
2. Well - spring of the heal - ing Spir - it, Stream that  
3. Liv - ing stream that heals the na - tions, Make us



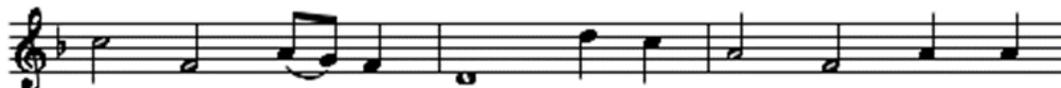
1. wounds that liv - ing brings. Plunge our pain, our sin, our  
2. flows to bring re - lease, As we gain our selves, our  
3. chan - nels of your pow'r. All the world is torn by



1. sad - ness Deep be - neath your sa - cred springs.  
2. sen - ses, May our lives re - flect your peace.  
3. con - flict; Wars are rag - ing at this hour.



1. Wea - ry from the rest - less search - ing That has  
2. Grate - ful for the flood that heals us, May your  
3. Sav - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us, Guide our



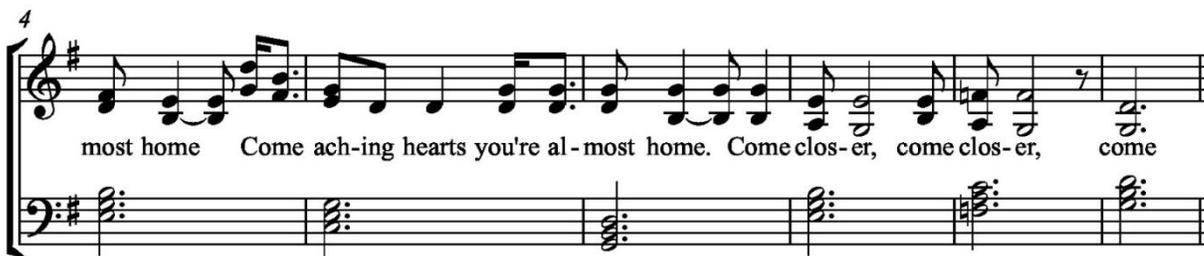
1. lured us from your side, We dis - cov - er in your  
2. church en - act your grace. As we meet both friend and  
3. wind - ing hu - man course, Till we find our way to -



1. pres - ence Peace the world can - not pro - vide.  
2. strang - er, May we see our Sav - ior's face.  
3. geth - er, Flow - ing home - ward to our Source.

# Come Aching Heart\*

Music: Ann Strickland; Words: Anis Mojgani



Following Communion we share silence with one another.  
The quiet will last a few minutes and will begin and end with a bell.

## Song after Communion | All Shall Be Well\*

Words: Julian of Norwich

Musical score for the song "All Shall Be Well" in G major, 4/4 time. The score is written for piano and voice. The first system contains the first four measures of the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "All shall be well and all shall be well and". The second system starts at measure 5 and contains the final three measures. The lyrics are: "all man-ner of thing shall be well be well." Above the second system, the following chords are indicated: D/F#, G, D/A, A7, and D.

## GOING OUT INTO GOD'S WORLD

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### Our Prayer after Communion

*We stand and say together*

**Eternal God,**

**you have graciously accepted us as living members**

**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**and you have fed us with spiritual food**

**in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace,**

**and grant us strength and courage**

**to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

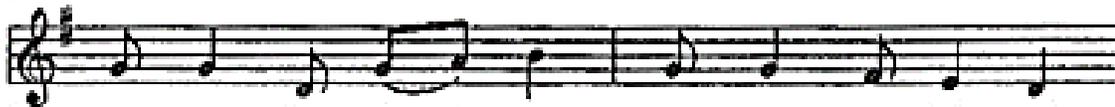
## The Blessing

*The Celebrant offers a blessing.*

As you go out, may the Triune God, the One who neither slumbers nor sleeps, guard, protect, and keep you. And the blessing of God who was and is and is to come rest upon you and bless the world through you again today. **Amen.**

## Closing Song | Send Now Your Servants \*

*by Chad McKenna*



Send now your ser - vants; send now your ser - vants,



send now your ser - vants, Lord. Our eyes have seen\_\_\_\_  
Our tongues have tast - ed  
Our ears have heard\_\_\_\_  
God has giv - en



sal - va - tion here. Now send your ser - vants in peace.  
sal - va - tion here.  
sal - va - tion here.  
sal - va - tion here.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries \*

*We pray together, then sing "God Grant Them Many Years."*

## Announcements \*

## Dismissal

**Celebrant** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**