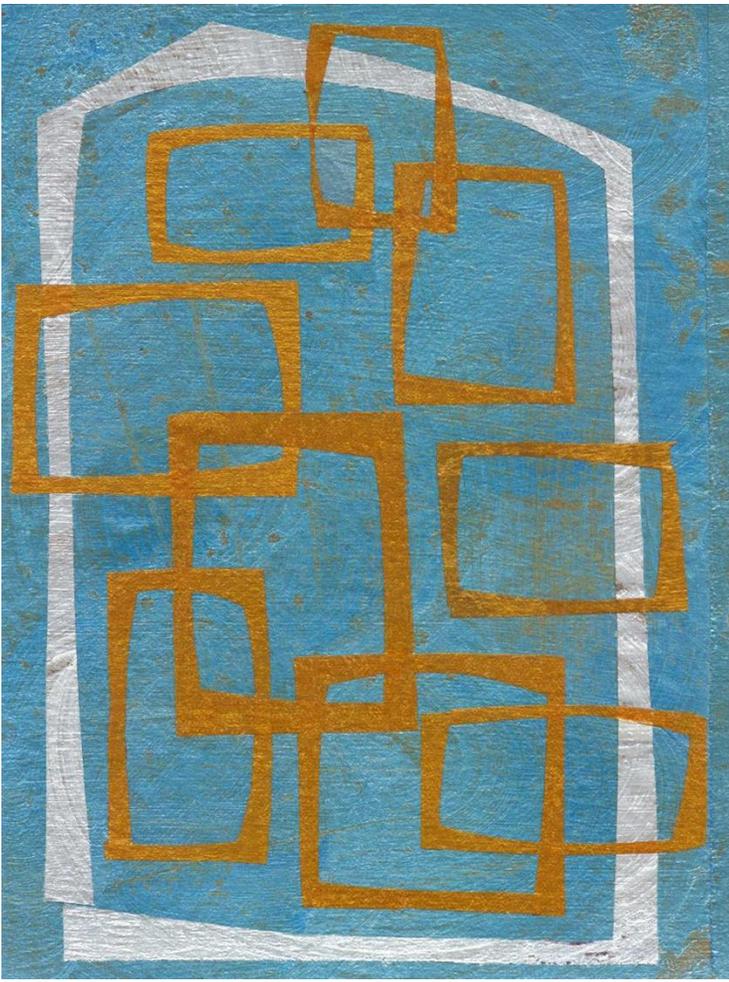


“Many Rooms” Jan Richardson



## Grace Episcopal Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2020 | 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Music | Ann Strickland

### To My Mother

I was your rebellious son,  
do you remember? Sometimes  
I wonder if you do remember,  
so complete has your forgiveness been.

So complete has your forgiveness been  
I wonder sometimes if it did not  
precede my wrong, and I erred,  
safe found, within your love,

prepared ahead of me, the way home,  
or my bed at night, so that almost  
I should forgive you, who perhaps  
foresaw the worst that I might do,

~ Wendell Berry, from *Entries* (Pantheon Books, 1994)

and forgave before I could act,  
causing me to smile now, looking back,  
to see how paltry was my worst,  
compared to your forgiveness of it

already given. And this, then,  
is the vision of that Heaven of which  
we have heard, where those who love  
each other have forgiven each other,

where, for that, the leaves are green,  
the light a music in the air,  
and all is unentangled,  
and all is undismayed.

# Announcements

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

## Gathering Song | She's Got the Whole World in Her Hands

African American Spiritual; arr. Hezekiah Brinson

Led by Arielle Boucher

She's got the whole world in Her hands, She's got the  
whole world in Her hands, She's got the whole world  
in Her hands, She's got the whole world in Her hands.

2. She's got the itty bitty baby, in her hands ...
3. She's got the birds and the bees, in her hands ...
4. She's got everybody here, in her hands ...

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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After the gathering song, we stand and sing.

Cantor

Al-le - lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia..

People

Al-le - lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia..

The Officiant proclaims

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We remain standing and sing together

## Opening Song | Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Words: Elisha A. Hoffman | Music: Anthony J. Showalter; arr. Carl Haywood



1. What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine,  
2. O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,  
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,



1. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; What a bless - ed - ness,  
2. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; O how bright the path  
3. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; I have bless - ed peace



1. what a peace is mine, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
2. grows from day to day, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
3. with my Lord so near, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing, lean - ing, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

## The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Holy One, you are our way, our truth, our life. We rejoice in your mercy and are listening for your call. Build us up as living stones and use us for hospitality, service, and healing. **Amen.**

# WE TELL THE STORY

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*We are seated for the reading.*

## **The First Reading** | Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

*After the reading, the reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm** | 31:1-5,15-16

*We say the Psalm.*

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

**Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.

**My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.**

Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and in your loving-kindness save me.

*We are seated for the second reading.*

## **The Second Reading** | 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

*After the reading, the Reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel Song | Jesus is on the Mainline *Traditional American Spiritual*

Led by Dusty Collings & Marcus Lang

Jesus is on that mainline, tell him what you want.  
Jesus is on that mainline, tell him what you want.  
Don't you know Jesus is on that mainline, tell him what you want.  
You gotta call him up and tell him what you want.

If you're sick and you want to get well, tell him what you want.  
If you're sick and you want to get well, tell him what you want.  
If you're sick and you want to get well, tell him what you want.  
You gotta call him up and tell him what you want.

Now if your soul's in trouble, tell him what you want  
If your soul's in trouble, tell him what you want  
Talking 'bout if your soul's in trouble, tell him what you want  
You can call him up, and tell him what you want

Jesus is on that mainline, tell him what you want.  
Jesus is on that mainline, tell him what you want.  
Jesus is on that mainline, tell him what you want.  
You gotta call him up and tell him what you want.

*The Officiant 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 14:1-14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

*(Reading is continued on the following page.)*

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

*After the Gospel the Officiant will say*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

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### The Homily

*Before the homily, the Rev. Stephen Crippen will make some opening remarks.*

# 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

Please add your intentions to our prayers by including your concerns or thanksgivings in the chat window at each bidding.

Ann Strickland, from John 14:27

4  
My peace I leave with you my peace I give you. My peace I leave with you my  
7  
peace I give you. Do not let your hearts be trou-bled, do not be a-fraid, do not  
10  
let your hearts be trou-bled, do not be a-fraid. Do not let your hearts be trou-bled, do not  
be a-fraid. Do not let your hearts be trou-bled, do not be a-fraid.

*Silence*

Leader Our times are in your hands, O God. We pray for people around the world who are far from home; for refugees, for those who struggle with addiction, and for anyone who does not have a safe place to rest.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.*

Leader God of life,  
People **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for people in this community who are afraid or sick, and for those who know anxiety, irritability, or loneliness. Meet us where we are empty. Give strength to all who feed all who are hungry, including those who serve with Helpline House, Fishline, and the Salvation Army in Bremerton.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.*

Leader God of life,  
People **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for nations, peoples, congregations, and families who are in conflict. Guide our leaders to strengthen the vulnerable, to seek peace, and to protect the earth that sustains us.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.*

Leader God of life,  
**People hear our prayer.**

Leader We give thanks for all who have cared for us with a mother's love. Thank you for those in every generation in whom we have known the love of God.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.*

Leader God of life,  
**People hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for the concerns held in this gathering, and for those on our prayer list.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.*

Leader God of life,  
**People hear our prayer.**

4 My peace I leave with you my peace I give you. My peace I leave with you my  
7 peace I give you. Do not let your hearts be trou-bled, do not be a-fraid, do not  
10 let your hearts be trou-bled, do not be a-fraid. Do not let your hearts be trou- bled, do not  
be a- afraid. Do not let your hearts be trou- bled, do not be a- afraid.

Officiant      Let us pray.

**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.**

## Offertory

*While we cannot gather in person, we make our weekly offerings online here: <https://www.gracehere.org/online-giving/>.*

## The Blessing

*The Officiant offers a blessing.*

Our times are in God's hands. Today, may God's face shine upon you, and may Christ, in loving kindness, meet you. And the blessing of God, the peace of Christ, and hope of the Spirit rest upon you and abide in you, today and always. **Amen.**

# Closing Song | We Are Marching in the Light of God / Siyahamba

South African

Led by James Rufo-Hill

We are march - ing\* in the light of God, we are

1. march - ing in the light of God,  
2. march - ing in the light of God,

march - ing in the light of God. march - ing in the light of the  
we are march - ing,

light of God, we are march - ing, march - ing, we are

Oo we are

march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing in the light of God.

\* Alternate text: dancing, singing, praying

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Using the Zoom chat window, please share a milestone that we can recognize together.

We will sing, "God Grant Them Many Years."

## The Peace

We conclude with the sharing of God's peace.

Officiant Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Now the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Grounded**

Oh God,  
I'm reaching for you!  
Arms lifted high  
like branches of a strong tree  
eyes wide  
mouth open  
to catch Your spirit  
as it cascades  
down on me  
like a gushing waterfall!

To refresh  
my faith,  
to refresh  
my joy,  
my wonder,  
my courage,  
my delight in You,  
to bring back my peace.  
Restore me, Oh God.  
Send your roots down deep in me,  
as my branches reach up  
toward Your light.

~ Vicki Clucas Varghese

*Please stay online to join in a small group for a coffee hour conversation.  
Families with children at home are invited to join in this Zoom gathering:  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76283360201>*