

Grace Episcopal Church
Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 14, 2020 | 9:30am
Ministers | All of Us
Rector | Wren Blessing
Music | Ann Strickland



Bulletin art by the people of Grace, compiled by Isobel Coney.

Today we come together to honor all our children who have learned and discovered at Grace in the past year, and we give thanks for our shared lives in community.

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

Gathering Song | Shine Your Light on Me

by Eva Kurtzman and Ann Strickland

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song 'Shine Your Light on Me'. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Shine your light on me _____ shine your light on me ____'.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

After the gathering song, the Officiant invites us to stand and says

- Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Officiant Open our eyes.
People The earth stands in awe before you.
Officiant Open our hands.
People Your compassion never fails.

We remain standing and sing together.

Opening Song | This Little Light of Mine

African American Spiritual

**This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Oh, this little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine**

Hide it under a bushel, NO...

Don't let anyone blow it out...

Ev'ry where I go...

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Holy One, how shall we repay you for the good things you have done for us? Fill us with your Spirit and grow in us faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim truth with boldness, and seek justice with compassion. **Amen.**

WE TELL THE STORY

We are seated for the reading.

The First Reading | Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?” The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We stand and say the Psalm.

Psalm | 116:1, 10-17

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

**How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things he has done for me?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

**I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.**

Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his servants.

**O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

**I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,**

In the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!



We are seated for the second reading.

The Second Reading | Romans 5:1-8

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song | **Prayer of Saint Francis** *Offered by Stephanie Coates*

Traditional

Make me a channel of your peace, Where there is hatred let me bring you love
Where there is injury your pardon Lord, And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace, Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
Where there is darkness, only light, And where there's sadness, ever joy.

O Master grant that I may never seek,
To be understood as to understand,
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace, It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Make me a channel of your peace, Where there is hatred let me bring you love
Where there is injury your pardon Lord, And where there's doubt true faith in you.

The Officiant introduces the Gospel by saying

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

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

The Gospel | Matthew 9:35-10:8

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.”

After the Gospel the Officiant will say

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

The Homily

Offered by children of Grace.

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 silently in prayer.

The Prayers of the People

Offered by children of Grace.

Love, Take a Walk with Me *by Ana Hernandez & Fran McKendree*

Love take a walk with me.

Love take a walk with me.

Love take a walk with me.

Oh, Spirit, guide my feet.

Peace take a walk with me.

Peace take a walk with me.

Peace take a walk with me.

Oh, Spirit, guide my feet.

Silence

Leader God of kindness, thank you for being with us as we learn and discover new things. Thank you for all who love us and call us by name in our communities, schools, and at Grace Church.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.

Leader Holy One, meet us in silence.

People And hear our prayer.

Leader God of compassion, we pray for people around the world who do not have enough safety, food, work, joy, or hope. Help us and our leaders to be brave and generous as we help our neighbors together.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.

Leader Holy One, meet us in silence.

People And hear our prayer.

Leader God of creation, thank you for the goodness and wildness of the world that sustains us.
Move us and all people to care for, enjoy, and protect the earth and its creatures.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.

Leader Holy One, meet us in silence.

People And hear our prayer.

Leader God of justice, we pray for peace. We pray for an end to racism and violence in our country and in the world. We lament the violent deaths of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Stonechild Chiefstick and so many others. Give us strength and vision to stand with those who are downtrodden, to lay down our privilege, and to learn and seek enduring change. Make us instruments of healing and hope.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.

Leader Holy One, meet us in silence.

People And hear our prayer.

Leader We pray for those who feel alone, who are afraid, who need shelter, or who are sick. We name now those on our prayer list.

We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly or aloud.

Leader Holy One, meet us in silence.

People And hear our prayer.

Love take a walk with me.

Love take a walk with me.

Love take a walk with me.

Oh, Spirit, guide my feet.

Peace take a walk with me.

Peace take a walk with me.

Peace take a walk with me.

Oh, Spirit, guide my feet.

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 Song: Guide My Feet

African American Spiritual. Offered by Carol Corbus.

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.

As you go from this place, God give you courage to recognize and rejoice in the kingdom of heaven come near. And the Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God, strengthen you to serve Christ in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

Closing Song | What the World Needs Now *Offered by Holly White*

by Hal David & Burt Bacharach

What the world needs now is love, sweet love
It's the only thing that there's just too little of
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,
No not just for some but for everyone.

Lord, we don't need another mountain,
There are mountains and hillsides enough to climb
There are oceans and rivers enough to cross,
Enough to last till the end of time.

What the world needs now is love, sweet love
It's the only thing that there's just too little of
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,
No, not just for some but for everyone.

Lord, we don't need another meadow
There are cornfields and wheat fields enough to grow
There are sunbeams and moonbeams enough to shine
Oh listen, lord, if you want to know.

What the world needs now is love, sweet love
It's the only thing that there's just too little of
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,
No, not just for some but for everyone.

No, not just for some, oh, but just for everyone.

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 Now the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

Praise in Summer

By Richard Wilbur

Obscurely yet most surely called to praise,
As sometimes summer calls us all, I said
The hills are heavens full of branching ways
Where star-nosed moles fly overhead the dead;
I said the trees are mines in air, I said
See how the sparrow burrows in the sky!
And then I wondered why this mad *instead*
Perverts our praise to uncreation, why
Such savour's in this wrenching things awry.
Does sense so stale that it must needs derange
The world to know it? To a praiseful eye
Should it not be enough of fresh and strange
That trees grow green, and moles can course
in clay,
And sparrows sweep the ceiling of our day?

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/73467709605?pwd=akdtV04yTEM2ZER3S2s2dzFUWWlrUT09>