



"they are like trees planted by streams of water...", Ps. 1:3

Grace Episcopal Church
21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2020 | 9:30am
Ministers | All of Us
Rector | Wren Blessing
Curate | Stephen Crippen
Music | Ann Strickland

Listening

My father could hear a little animal step,
or a moth in the dark against the screen,
and every far sound called the listening out
into places where the rest of us had never been.

More spoke to him from the soft wild night
than came to our porch for us on the wind;
we would watch him look up and his face go keen
till the walls of the world flared, widened.

My father heard so much that we still stand
inviting the quiet by turning the face,
waiting for a time when something in the night
will touch us too from that other place.

~ William Stafford from *West of Your City* (Talisman Press, 1960).

Announcements

Giving Together

Ann New, vestry Trustee for Development, will share an update.

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

Gathering Song | O Christe Domine Jesu/Christ Jesus

Words: Psalm 23; Taizé Community | Music: Jacques Berthier

Offered by members of the Music Circle

O Chri - ste Do - mi - ne Je - su, O
Christ Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior! Christ

Chri - ste Do - mi - ne Je - su!
Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior!

Last time ☹

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

Officiant We are not alone.

People We live in God's world.

Officiant We are listening, Holy One.

People Give us hope, give us courage.

Officiant God, bless every step that we are taking.

People And God, bless the earth beneath our feet.

We remain standing and sing together.

Opening Song | Brother, Sister *Offered by Carol Corbus*

Words & Music: Richard Gillard, arr. Betty Pulkingham

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 1 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav - ellers; 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time; 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing, when you laugh I'll on the road; we are here to help each oth - er of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, laugh with you; I will share your joy and sor - row, walk the mile and bear the load. speak the peace you long to hear. till we've seen this jour - ney through.

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Enfolding God, Trinity of love, you are our source, our goal, our life: may we be born again in you no more to live alone and unconnected, but sharing in the Spirit's breath and carried to your heart; through Jesus Christ, who lifts us up. **Amen.**

WE TELL THE STORY

We are seated for the reading.

The First Reading | Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

We stand and say the Psalm.

Psalm | 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on his law day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

We are seated for the second reading.

The Second Reading | 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We stand together and sing

Gospel Song | **Give Thanks**

by India.Arie

Give thanks

Give thanks

Give thanks

Give thanks

Give thanks, for all that is

Say love

Say love

Say love

Say love

Say love, for all that is

Hallelujah

Hallelujah

Hallelujah

Hallelujah

Hallelujah, for all that is

There will never ever be another day just like this day

So let's give praise now

We give praise

We give praise

Say love

Say love

We give thanks, for all that is

We give thanks, for all that is

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 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

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

Words: Taizé Community | Music: Ann Strickland | Led by Dusty Collings & Marcus Lang

Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace.

5
Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace—

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff. The second staff starts with a measure rest labeled '5' and continues the melody. The lyrics are also written below the staff.

Silence

Leader: We ask your prayers for the Church, that God will kindle within us the fire of the Holy Spirit, and send us to proclaim the Good News to all people.

Pray for the Church.

Silent prayer

Leader: We ask your prayers for the nation and all in authority, that God will bless our leaders, and all who elect them, with the Spirit of wisdom and understanding.

Pray for the nation, and our leaders.

Silent prayer

Leader: We ask your prayers for this earth, our home, that God will cultivate in us God's own passion for the flourishing of all life.

Pray for the earth.

Silent prayer

Leader: We ask your prayers for this community, that God will break open our hearts to know and love all who live and work alongside us, especially our friends at Chaplains on the Harbor.

Pray for this community.

Silent prayer

Leader: We ask your prayers for all who suffer and all who are in trouble, that God will heal the sick, comfort the afflicted, and strengthen all who care for them. We pray especially for those on the parish prayer list.

Pray for all who suffer.

Silent prayer

Leader: We ask your prayers of thanksgiving for all who have died, that God will receive them in mercy, and console all who mourn.

Pray for all who have died.

Silent prayer

Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace.

5
Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace_

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/give/>.

The Blessing

The Officiant offers a blessing.

May the outrageous welcome of the Creator accept you for who you are;

may the incarnation of the Word touch and hold you close;

may the wandering of the Spirit help you risk yourselves for love;

and the blessing of the One, Holy, and Undivided Trinity be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Closing Song | Seek Ye First *Led by Diane McGrew*

Words: St. I, Matthew 6:33; adapt. Karen Lafferty | Music: Karen Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness
Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find

And all these things shall be added unto you
Knock and the door shall be opened up to you

Alleluia Alleluia

Alleluia Alleluia

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.**

The Collect and Blessing are adapted from Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church.

Heart to Heart

It's neither red
nor sweet.
It doesn't melt
or turn over,
break or harden,
so it can't feel
pain,
yearning,
regret.

It doesn't have
a tip to spin on,
it isn't even
shapely—
just a thick clutch
of muscle,
lopsided,
mute. Still,
I feel it inside
its cage sounding
a dull tattoo:
I want, I want—
but I can't open it:
there's no key.
I can't wear it
on my sleeve,
or tell you from
the bottom of it
how I feel. Here,
it's all yours, now—
but you'll have
to take me,
too.

News from Grace | October 25, 2020

Grace Church | Bainbridge Island

..... inclusion service discovery gratitude

Story and Song | Sundays from 9 – 9:30 am on Zoom

Click on the link to Grace's online worship (gracehere.org/join-us-for-online-worship-at-grace/). If you have questions please email Kim (kim@gracehere.org).

For Those We Love but See No Longer

This year on All Saints Day, as we gather online, we will light a candle for each person whom we name and remember. If you would like to pick up a candle to light at home during worship, they will be available under the eaves near the office door.

Photos of loved ones may be sent to Diane (office@gracehere.org) by Monday, October 26 to be included in our All Saints Day bulletin.

Upcoming Events & Programs

Today | Youth Group Spooktacular | 5 – 7 pm | Outdoors at the Church

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to our large group gathering on October 25th. We'll gather outside rain or shine for some glow-in-the-dark adventures. Contact Faith for details: youthgroup@gracehere.org

October 26 & November 9 | Men's Group Gathering | 7:30 pm

Please contact Eric Matthews for the Zoom link: eric@gracehere.org

October 28 & November 4 | Wednesday Healing Prayer & Bible Study | 10:30 am

Please find links to the Zoom login and worship bulletin on our website: gracehere.org/join-us-for-online-worship-at-grace/

October 29 | End-of-Life: The Conversations and Work of Planning | 7 – 8:30 pm

Session One: Discerning decision making for end of life: Panel Discussion with End of Life Caregivers & Professionals. Please contact Kim Cockroft for information and Zoom link: kim@gracehere.org.

November 1 | Poetry as Prayer Practice | 11 am

Every first and third Sunday, the group will gather in a Zoom breakout session after the 9:30 service. Contact Jon Quitslund: jonquitslund@att.net

November 3 | Parents Zooming Together | 8 – 9 pm

We'll meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Contact Kim Cockroft: kim@gracehere.org

November 6 | Open Mic for Caregivers | First Fridays | 4 – 5 pm

Caregivers, and friends of caregivers, are invited to make connections by sharing experiences, asking questions, and talking over problems. You are welcome to stay for the full hour or simply stop by for a few minutes. A member of the Pastoral Care Team will host the meeting. For more information, or to get the Zoom link, contact Florrie Munat: fmunat@aol.com.