



## Grace Episcopal Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020 | 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Curate | Stephen Crippen

Music | Ann Strickland

### **the man who killed the bear**

only after the death  
of the man who killed the bear,  
after the death of the coalminer's son,  
did i remember that the moon  
also rises, coming heavy or thin  
over the living fields, over  
the cities of the dead;  
only then did i remember how she  
catches the sun and keeps most of him  
for the evening that surely will come;  
and it comes.  
only then did i know that to live  
in the world all that i needed was  
some small light and know that indeed  
i would rise again and rise again to dance.

~ Lucille Clifton, from *The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010*  
(BOA Editions, 2012)

# Announcements

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

## Gathering Song | O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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### Call to Worship

Officiant Wisdom of God, come to your world,

**People for all creation waits.**

Officiant Dawning light, come to your world,

**People for all creation waits.**

Officiant Living hope, God with us,

**People Guide us into the way of peace.**

# Advent Wreath Lighting

Wren invites children of Grace into reflection on Advent as a Grace household lights the first candle of an Advent Wreath.

We remain standing and sing together.

## Opening Song | Emmanuel Carol

by Gael Berberick

God of light, we are wait-ing for you... We shall call you Em man\_ u - el...      God of light, we are wait-ing for you We shall call you Em man\_ u - el...

4  
—      God of hope and mer - cy, God of pow - er and peace, God of  
—      Be\_\_ hold a vir - gin shall give birth to a son... We shall

7  
light, we are wait - ing for you...  
call you Em - man\_\_ u - el...

## The Collect

Officiant      The Lord be with you.

**People      And also with you.**

Officiant      Let us pray.

Shine forth, Faithful One. Tear open the heavens and come to us again. Restore us with your strength, enlighten us by your wisdom and as we wait, draw us more deeply into the communion of your love.

**Amen.**

# WE TELL THE STORY

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*We are seated for the reading.*

## **The First Reading** | Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

*After the reading, the reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand and say the Psalm.*

## **Psalm | 80:1-7, 16-18**

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**O Lord God of hosts,  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

*We are seated for the second reading.*

## **The Second Reading | 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*After the reading, the reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**People        Thanks be to God.**

*We stand together and sing*

## **Gospel Song | The Trumpet Child** *Offered by Merry Cockroft*

*by Detweiler Linford Jerome*

The trumpet child will blow his horn  
Will blast the sky till it's reborn  
With Gabriel's power and Satchmo's grace  
He will surprise the human race

The trumpet he will use to blow  
Is being fashioned out of fire  
The mouthpiece is a glowing coal  
The bell a burst of wild desire

The trumpet child will riff on love  
Thelonious notes from up above  
He'll improvise a kingdom come  
Accompanied by a different drum

The trumpet child will banquet here  
Until the lost are truly found  
A thousand days, a thousand years  
Nobody knows for sure how long

The rich forget about their gold  
The meek and mild are strangely bold  
The lion lies beside the lamb  
And licks a murderer's outstretched hand

The trumpet child will lift a glass  
His bride now leaning in at last  
His final aim to fill with joy  
The earth that man all but destroyed

*The Officiant introduces the Gospel by saying*

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

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

## **The Gospel | Mark 13:24-37**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

*(Reading continues on the following page.)*

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*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

### 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

*Led by Diane McGrew*

**Come by here my lord, come by here.**

**Come by here my lord, come by here.**

**Come by here my lord, come by here.**

**Oh lord, come by here.**

*Silence*

Leader       Key of David, open the hearts and minds of all the baptized, and all who seek your truth. Turn us toward the future, show us your way, and send us on your mission.

*We pause for silent prayer.*

Leader       come, Emmanuel,  
**People      and dwell with us.**

Leader       Desire of Nations, restore peace and unity to your people everywhere. Guide the leaders of nations; shelter the refugees; nourish the hungry; and open our eyes and ears to all who cry for justice.

*We pause for silent prayer.*

Leader       come, Emmanuel,  
**People      and dwell with us.**

Leader       Dayspring, rise in glory above this good, green earth. Enlighten our minds and hearts, that we might share the warmth of your embrace with all living things.

*We pause for silent prayer.*

Leader       come, Emmanuel,  
**People      and dwell with us.**

Leader       Wisdom, strengthen us to reach out to friends and strangers on this island, and beyond. Give courage and skill to essential workers, and to all who look for work. We pray especially for our ministry partners, Helpline House, BARN Bites, and Fishline.

*We pause for silent prayer.*

Leader       come, Emmanuel,  
**People      and dwell with us.**

Leader            O Root of Jesse, bring healing to all who suffer. Give comfort and strength to caregivers and all who minister to the sick. Fill us with the power of your hope. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list.

*We pause for silent prayer.*

Leader            O come, Emmanuel,  
**People            and dwell with us.**

Leader            O Lord of Might, gather those we love who have died, and draw close to those who mourn. Join us as one communion of saints, and prepare our hearts for your reign of love that has no end.

*We pause for silent prayer.*

Leader            O come, Emmanuel,  
**People            and dwell with us.**

**Come by here my lord, come by here.  
Come by here my lord, come by here.  
Come by here my lord, come by here.  
Oh lord, come by here**

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 | Winter Song *Offered by Maggie Finley*

*by Sara Bareilles & Ingrid Michaelson*

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

This is my winter song to you.  
The storm is coming soon,  
It rolls in from the sea  
My voice; a beacon in the night.  
My words will be your light,  
To carry you to me.  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?  
Is love

They say that things just cannot grow  
Beneath the winter snow,  
Or so I have been told.  
They say we're buried far,  
Just like a distant star  
I simply cannot hold.  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?

*Chorus:*

This is my winter song.  
November never felt so wrong,  
'Cause you're not where you belong;  
Inside my arms.

I still believe in summer days.  
The seasons always change  
And life will find a way.  
I'll be your harvester of light  
And send it out tonight  
So we can start again.  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?

*Chorus*

This is my winter song to you.  
The storm is coming soon,  
It rolls in from the sea  
My love; a beacon in the night.  
My words will be your light,  
To carry you to me.  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive?

## The Blessing

*The Officiant offers a blessing.*

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God the Triune One, be among you, and remain with you today and always. **Amen.**

# Closing Song | Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn

by Marty Haugen



1. A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, For  
2. To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, His hum - ble song is



soon he is born, Be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, Yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, To bring all hearts to -  
Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul And hymns of lov - ing



geth - er, He o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door And  
kind - ness, The thun - der of his an - thems roll To



lives now in - side us for ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.

## 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.**

# News from Grace Church, Bainbridge Island

November 29, 2020

..... 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/](https://gracehere.org/join-us-for-online-worship-at-grace/)) for the Zoom link. If you have questions please email Kim ([kim@gracehere.org](mailto:kim@gracehere.org)).

## Newcomers

Are you new or visiting? Please email one of our clergy, Stephen Crippen ([stephen@gracehere.org](mailto:stephen@gracehere.org)) or Wren Blessing ([wren@gracehere.org](mailto:wren@gracehere.org)), to get more connected.

## Upcoming Events & Programs

### Today | Advent Wreath Supplies: Pickup at Grace | 1 – 3 pm

Due to COVID updates for our county, our wreath making will not be in person. But we invite you to stop by Grace any time from 1-3 pm to pick up wreath making supplies: forms, wire, candles, and readings. Advent calendars will also be available for pickup at that time, and Kim will be there to assist you.

### December 1, 8, 15 & 22 | Advent Evenings at Grace | 7-7:45 pm

Join us every Tuesday night in Advent for a service of quiet reflection, with music, poetry, and prayer. See the Grace website for details: [gracehere.org/advent-and-christmas-2020](https://gracehere.org/advent-and-christmas-2020),

### December 2 | 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/](https://gracehere.org/join-us-for-online-worship-at-grace/)

### December 4 | Open Mic for Caregivers | 4 - 5 pm

Caregivers, and friends of caregivers, are invited to make connections by sharing experiences, asking questions, and talking over problems. For more information, or to get the Zoom link, contact Florrie Munat: [fmunat@aol.com](mailto:fmunat@aol.com)

### December 6 | Poetry as Prayer Practice | Directly after the 9:30 service

Every first and third Sunday the group will gather in a Zoom meeting after the 9:30 service. Contact Jon Quitslund: [jonquitslund@att.net](mailto:jonquitslund@att.net).  
Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/96243490290?pwd=eGJua2YyNm1vT1k2QlpZeVFUUnFmQT09>

### December 7 | Men's Group Gathering | 7:30 pm

Please contact Eric Matthews for the Zoom link: [eric@gracehere.org](mailto:eric@gracehere.org)

### December 14 | Parents' Party | 8 pm on Zoom

Parents, join us for a lighthearted time of community, games, and prizes. Please see the Grace website for details: [gracehere.org/advent-and-christmas-2020](https://gracehere.org/advent-and-christmas-2020)