



# Grace Episcopal Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021 | 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Curate | Stephen Crippen

Music | Ann Strickland

Tribe | Fern

## Afternoon in the House

It's quiet here. The cats  
sprawl, each  
in a favored place.  
The geranium leans this way  
to see if I'm writing about her:  
head all petals, brown  
stalks, and those green fans.  
So you see,  
I am writing about you.

I turn on the radio. Wrong.  
Let's not have any noise  
in this room, except  
the sound of a voice reading a poem.  
The cats request  
*The Meadow Mouse*, by Theodore Roethke.

The house settles down on its haunches  
for a doze.  
I know you are with me, plants,  
and cats—and even so, I'm frightened,  
sitting in the middle of perfect  
possibility.

# Announcements

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

## Gathering Song | Come and Fill Our Hearts

*From Psalm 137; Music: Jacques Berthier; offered by Carol Corbus*

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo-nus.  
*Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.*

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, Al-le-lu - ia!  
*Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Al-le-lu - ia!*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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*The Officiant proclaims*

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**All The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

# Opening Song | Peace is Flowing Like a River

Traditional; offered by Maggie Finley

The musical score is written in G major and 3/2 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 1 Peace is flow - ing like a riv - er, 2 Joy is flow - ing like a riv - er, 3 Love is flow - ing like a riv - er, 4 Hope is flow - ing like a riv - er, flow - ing out from you and me, flow - ing out in - to the des - ert, set - ting all the cap - tives free. The score includes chord markings for G and D7.

## The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

We take refuge in you, O God, for in you, we find living hope. Meet us in our fear and uncertainty and breathe your peace upon us, that we might have courage to forgive, wisdom to serve, and grace to rejoice in you. **Amen.**

# WE TELL THE STORY

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*We are seated for the reading.*

## **The First Reading** | 1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*After the reading, the reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm | 133

*We say the Psalm together.*

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,  
when brethren live together in unity!

**It is like fine oil upon the head  
that runs down upon the beard,**

Upon the beard of Aaron,  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

**It is like the dew of Hermon  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:  
life for evermore.

*We are seated for the second reading.*

## **The Second Reading** | Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*After the reading, the Reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel Song | Doubting Thomas

Words and music: Chris Thile; offered by Diane McGrew

What will be left when I've drawn my last breath  
Besides the folks I've met and the folks who know me  
Will I discover a soul saving love or  
Just the dirt above and below me?

I'm a doubting Thomas  
I took a promise  
I do not feel safe  
O' me of little faith

Sometimes I pray for a slap in the face  
Then I beg to be spared cause I'm a coward  
If there's a master of death I bet he's holding his breath  
Cause I show the blind and tell the deaf  
About his power

I'm a doubting Thomas  
I can't keep my promises  
Cause I don't know what's safe  
O' me of little faith

Can I be used to help others find truth  
When I'm scared that I'll find proof that it's a lie  
Can I be led down a trail dropping bread crumbs  
To prove I'm not ready to die

Please give me time to decipher the signs  
Please forgive me for time that I've wasted

I'm a doubting Thomas  
I'll take your promise  
Though I know nothing's safe  
O' me of little faith  
O' me of little faith

*The Officiant then introduces the Gospel by saying*

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

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

## **The Gospel** | John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*After the Gospel the Officiant will say*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All            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.**

# 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.

Words: Julian of Norwich; Music: David Keller; offered by Marcus Lang and Dusty Collings

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has four measures with the lyrics: "All shall be well and all shall be well and". The second system starts with a measure number "5" and has four measures with the lyrics: "all man-ner of things\_ shall be well be well." The music features a simple melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

Silence

Leader Gathered together in the peace of the Risen Christ, let us pray for the world, all people, and those who still wait for the news of Resurrection.

God of peace, we pray for all people who, like our brother Thomas, long to see you face to face. Fill this community with your spirit. Transform us into the wounded yet living Body of Christ.

*We offer additional prayers for all people, silently or aloud.*

Leader Risen Lord,  
**All hear our prayer.**

Leader God of justice, we pray for all leaders, and all nations. Teach them your way of mercy. Lead them on your path of redemptive love.

*We offer additional prayers for all people, silently or aloud.*

Leader Risen Lord,  
**All hear our prayer.**

Leader God of glory, we pray for the earth, and all living creatures. Fill us with your creative power. Make us gardeners with you in this world, cultivating life and health for all.

*We offer additional prayers for all people, silently or aloud.*

Leader Risen Lord,  
**All hear our prayer.**

Leader God of love, we pray for all who are sick, suffering, anxious, grieving, or depressed. Shatter the lock of anxiety, and open the doors of their hearts to receive and to know your healing presence.

*Those on our parish prayer list are named. We offer additional prayers for those who suffer, silently or aloud.*

Leader Risen Lord,

**All hear our prayer.**

Leader God of life, we pray in thanksgiving for those who have died. You call them by name, and breathe upon them your life-giving peace. Gather us with them as one communion of saints.

*We offer additional prayers for those who have died, silently or aloud.*

Leader Risen Lord,

**All hear our prayer.**

Musical notation for the first part of the prayer, measures 1-4. The music is in 4/4 time and features a simple melody in the treble clef with a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: All shall be well and all shall be well and

Musical notation for the second part of the prayer, measures 5-8. The music continues from the previous section. The lyrics are: all man-ner of things\_ shall be well be well.

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.*

The blessing of God the Creator, who resurrects life in the chaos of death;

The blessing of God the Risen One, his wounded hands open in peace;

The blessing of God the Spirit, whose fire sends us forth in love;

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

South African; offered by Kelly and Barbara Hume

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with the lyrics "We are march - ing\* in the light of God, we are". The second staff has two first endings: "1. march - ing in the light of God," and "2. march - ing in the light of the". The third staff continues with "we are march - ing, light of God, we are march - ing, march - ing, we are". The fourth staff starts with "Oo we are" and ends with "march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing in the light of God." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and triplet markings.

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 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, the peace of the Lord be always with you!

All **And also with you, alleluia, alleluia!**

## Resurrection #6

This time he means to put me in my place,  
though often his words have unraveled me.  
Do not expect anyone to believe that story,  
he says, though I don't suppose you made  
it up. He believes me with the enthusiasm  
of a lifelong skeptic, fingers deep in the  
wound of proof. He is relieved to see that  
I can still breathe, that my limbs move, though  
slowly, so out of practice with the ground;  
he listens as my tongue begins to find its way  
into words again, stays just long enough to  
tell himself the damage is unnoticeable, a  
temporary death that will never be recorded,  
the ashes of that other woman mixed into  
mine, the two of us cheating the grave in unison,  
one forgiving, the other already forgetting.

~Joyce Sutphen, reprinted from *Poetry* (February 1996)

# News from Grace Church, Bainbridge Island

April 11, 2021

..... inclusion service discovery gratitude .....

## Upcoming Events & Programs

### **April 12 | Men's Group Gathering | 7:30 – 8:30 pm**

Every two weeks, the group gathers in a Zoom meeting. Please email Eric Matthews at [eric@ericmatthews.com](mailto:eric@ericmatthews.com) for more information.

### **April 14 | Wednesday 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/](http://gracehere.org/join-us-for-online-worship-at-grace/)

### **April 18 | Poetry as Prayer Practice | Directly after the 9:30 service**

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday the group will gather in a separate Zoom session after the 9:30 service. Contact Jon Quitslund: [jonquitslund@att.net](mailto:jonquitslund@att.net). Zoom meeting link: <https://zoom.us/j/96243490290?pwd=eGJua2YyNm1vT1k2QlpZeVFUUnFmQT09>  
Meeting ID: 962 4349 0290; Passcode: 395554

### **April 23 | Compassionate Caring Support Group | 9:30 – 11:00 am**

Meets online every second and fourth Friday; newcomers welcome. Please contact Diane McGrew ([dilmcgrew@gmail.com](mailto:dilmcgrew@gmail.com)) for the Zoom link.

### **April 26 | Earth and Spirit/Outreach | 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

"The Gifts of Dirt": discussion of the film "Kiss the Ground" and presentation about the Grace outreach project, Gifts of Dirt Garden. Please contact Marcy Lagerloef for more information and the Zoom link: [mlagerloef@seanet.com](mailto:mlagerloef@seanet.com)

### **May 6, June 3 | Mom's Morning Retreat | 9:00 – 10:00 am**

First Thursdays on Zoom. To receive the link, email: [morningretreat@gmail.com](mailto:morningretreat@gmail.com)

### **May 7 | Open Mic for Caregivers | 4:00 – 5:00 pm**

First Friday of each month. Email Florrie Munat: [fmunat@aol.com](mailto:fmunat@aol.com) for the Zoom link and topic for the current month, or to suggest a topic.