



Grace Episcopal Church

Wednesday Online Prayer Service

July 21, 2021

Call to Prayer

We enter quietly.

The Officiant will say

Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen this day;

All respond We thank you for the daily resurrection of life, seen and unseen.

The Officiant then says

Beloved, love one another today, for love is of God, and whoever loves is born of God;

All respond Spirit of God, search our hearts today and show us both your forgiveness and your love.

Readings & Response

The psalm will be said by all; the Officiant will begin by saying:

O Lord, open our lips;

All respond And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Psalm | 145:10-19

All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.

**They make known the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power;**

That the peoples may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and merciful in all his deeds.

**The Lord upholds all those who fall;
he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.

**You open wide your hand
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.**

The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and loving in all his works.

**The Lord is near to those who call upon him,
to all who call upon him faithfully.**

First Reading | 2 Kings 4:42-44

A reading from Second Kings.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

After the reading, the Reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All respond Thanks be to God.

Second Reading | Ephesians 3:14-21

A reading from Ephesians.

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

After the reading, the Reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All respond Thanks be to God.

Gospel | John 6:1-21

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

All respond Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily or Reflection

We respond after the silence and before the people's response.

Leader We pray for the world:
 (Silently or aloud)

Consider prayers for the earth, and all God's people; consider prayers for the hungry and poor.

Leader We respond,

All respond Creator of all, lead us and every people into the ways of justice and peace.

We respond after the silence and before the people's response.

Leader We pray for our community:
 (Silently or aloud)

Consider prayers for the earth, and all God's people; consider prayers for the hungry and poor.

Leader We respond,

All respond Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours. May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves.

We respond after the silence and before the people's response.

Leader We pray for those in need:
 (Silently or aloud)

Consider prayers for the earth, and all God's people; consider prayers for the hungry and poor.

Leader We respond,

All respond Make us willing agents of your compassion. Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.

The officiant offers this or some other invitation to anointing

Jesus sent his disciples out into the world to lay hands on the sick, proclaiming God's healing love and forgiveness. We present ourselves, acknowledging our own frailty and need for God's healing love. We embody this love as we share in these prayers and extend our hands to one another.

All are invited to name those to be included in prayers for healing, aloud or in chat.

Officiant With the compassion you give us we can say:
the peace of the Lord be with you.

All respond **And also with you.**

Dismissal

Leader We have been blessed this day.

All respond **Lord, let us now be a blessing to your world.**