



*With the Spirit and Fire*, Jan Richardson

# Grace Episcopal Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021 | 8:00 & 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

Interim Rector | Stephen Crippen

Music Director | Ann Strickland

Tribe | Rhododendron

## The Moonlight

That night the moon rose  
in the window. Its light  
touched the pane and spread  
over the floor. The girls  
climbed out of their beds  
and gathered in the glow,  
where their hands came alive.  
Their chatter filled their chests  
with such gladness it flowed  
out past the sentry girl  
at the door and down  
the corridor until it struck  
the matron's ears. She rocked  
forward, enraged, and thundered up  
the corridor. The sentry girl  
gave the alarm. They flew  
for their beds. The matron  
burst in. Her arm swung  
and connected. A girl dropped.  
The hand of the moon  
went to the girl, tapping  
her on the shoulder, tapping

to no avail. It withdrew,  
gliding back to the window  
and out. When the sun  
came up, its blaze seething  
into the floor, the girls  
gathered again at the window.  
They watched as the gardener  
dug a hole. His shovel  
thrust firmly in the ground,  
he lifted a covered figure  
and let drop. Its arms  
were crossed as it tumbled  
to the bottom. The gardener  
grimaced and covered the hole.  
That night the moon rose  
in the window. Its light  
touched the pane and spread  
over the floor. The girls  
climbed out of their beds  
and gathered in the glow,  
where their hands came alive.

~ Noah Buchholz

Translated from the American Sign Language  
by John Lee Clark, the Poetry Foundation

# Gathering Song | O Come O Come Emmanuel

We sing verses 4 and 5.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

## A Call to Worship

Celebrant Open your eyes.

**All God's light is rising.**

Celebrant Open your ears.

**All God's trumpet is sounding.**

Celebrant Be strong; do not be afraid.

**All Christ is coming soon.**

# Opening Song | Kyrie

Music: Diane McGrew. 9:30 am only

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son Oh God have mer - cy" and "Chris - te e - le - i - son Oh Christ have mer - cy Ky-ri- Oh". The second staff contains the second line of music with lyrics: "e. God Oh Ky-ri - e Oh God Ky-ri - e Oh God have mer - cy. Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son." The chords indicated above the notes are D, G, Em, Em7, A, D, G, Em, Em7, A, Bm, G, Em, Em7, A, D.

## The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come upon us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*We are seated for the reading.*

## **The First Reading** | Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

After the reading, the Reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle | The First Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 12:2-6)

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*.; Music: Thomas Merton, Ray W. Urwin.



1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not  
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing  
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re - jice as you draw wa - ter from sal -  
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with



va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -  
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the



liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.  
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

We are seated for the second reading.

## The Second Reading | Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

After the reading, the Reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Moment | Godly Play for the Third Sunday of Advent

We stand and sing.

### Gospel Song | Cantai Ao Senhor

Words: from Psalm 98: Music: traditional Brazilian. 9:30 am only



Can - tai ao Sen - hor um can - ti - co no - vo, can - tai ao Sen -  
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song, O sing to the  
Can - tar al Se - ñor un can - ti - co nue - vo, can - tar al Se -



hor um can - ti - co no - vo, can - tai ao Sen - hor um  
Lord, O sing God a new song, O sing to the Lord, O  
ñor un can - ti - co nue - vo, can - tar al Se - ñor un



can - ti - co no - vo, can - tai ao Sen - hor, can - tai ao Sen - hor.  
sing God a new song, O sing to the Lord, O sing to the Lord.  
can - ti - co nue - vo, can - tar al Se - ñor, can - tar al Se - ñor.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

## **The Gospel** | Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*After the Gospel the Celebrant says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **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

Leader Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**All I will trust in God and not be afraid.**

Leader We wait for the Dawn to rise over all people.  
*Silent prayer for all people of faith, and those whose faith is known to God alone.*

Leader Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**All I will trust in God and not be afraid.**

Leader We wait for the Star to shine above all nations.  
*Silent prayer for the nations and all in authority.*

Leader Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**All I will trust in God and not be afraid.**

Leader We wait for the Sea to rain justice over the whole earth.  
*Silent prayer for the planet and all living creatures.*

Leader Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**All I will trust in God and not be afraid.**

Leader We wait for the Oil of Gladness to anoint all in any need or trouble.  
*Silent prayer for those closest to our hearts. We pray especially for those on our prayer list.*

Leader Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**All I will trust in God and not be afraid.**

Leader We wait for the Trumpet to shatter the grave.  
*Silent prayer for all who have died, and all who mourn.*

Leader Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**All I will trust in God and not be afraid.**

# Confession and Absolution

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence is kept.*

**Celebrant** God of all mercy,

**All** we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

*The Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness, saying*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## The Peace

*We conclude these prayers with the sharing of God's peace. We remain socially distanced as we greet one another.*

**Celebrant** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All** And also with you.

*After the peace, we are seated.*

## The Offering

**Celebrant** Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Those participating in person may place their offering in the basket near the sanctuary entrance at any time before, during, or after the liturgy. Those participating online may make an offering at the following link:*

*<https://www.gracehere.org/give/>*

## Offertory Song | God Help the Outcasts

*Words and music: Stephen Schwartz and Alan Menken. Offered by Stephanie Reese Coates; accompanied by Jordan Pitre. 9:30 only*

# The Great Thanksgiving

*This Eucharistic Prayer is Form 3 in Enriching Our Worship, a collection of supplementary liturgical materials authorized for use by the Episcopal Church.*

*We stand as the table is set with the gifts of our hearts and hands.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing. All you create is a sign of hope for our journey, And so, as the morning stars sing your praises, we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:



*Music: Divinum Mysterium; Text adapt. Donna DiBella*

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all; your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations; you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*The Celebrant continues*

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*Celebrant and People*

**Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*We are now invited to share the gifts of Communion. Please know that at Grace Church, all are invited to receive the Eucharist. The sacrament is God's free gift. Please tell your server if you prefer to receive a wafer that is free from gluten, soy, or dairy.*

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## **Communion Song | Instrumental**

*Offered by Jim Quitslund.*

## **Our Prayer after Communion**

*We stand and say together*

God of abundance,

**you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

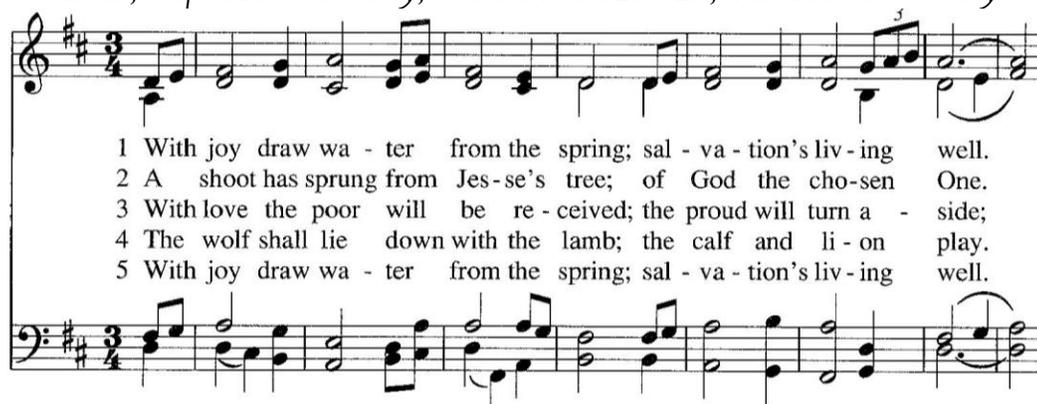
After we share milestones, please join us in singing, "God Grant Them Many Years."

## The Blessing

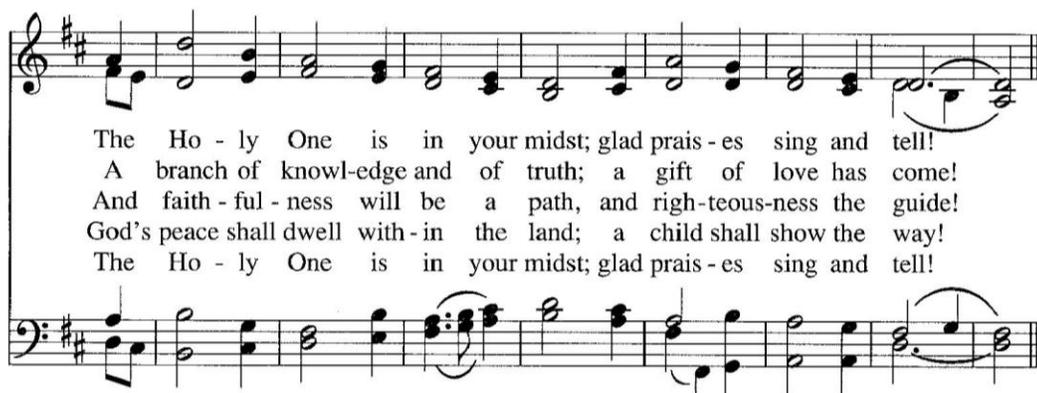
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

## Closing Song | With Joy Draw Water from the Spring

From Isaiah; adapt. Anne McKinstry; Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish traditional melody.



1 With joy draw wa - ter from the spring; sal - va - tion's liv - ing well.  
2 A shoot has sprung from Jes - se's tree; of God the cho - sen One.  
3 With love the poor will be re - ceived; the proud will turn a - side;  
4 The wolf shall lie down with the lamb; the calf and li - on play.  
5 With joy draw wa - ter from the spring; sal - va - tion's liv - ing well.



The Ho - ly One is in your midst; glad prais - es sing and tell!  
A branch of knowl - edge and of truth; a gift of love has come!  
And faith - ful - ness will be a path, and righ - teous - ness the guide!  
God's peace shall dwell with - in the land; a child shall show the way!  
The Ho - ly One is in your midst; glad prais - es sing and tell!

## The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

[Music used by permission. One License #A-706845.]



# News from Grace Church, Bainbridge Island

December 12, 2021

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

## Upcoming Events & Programs

### **December 12 and 19 | Sundays in Advent | 8:00 and 9:30 am**

8:00 am: Contemplative Holy Eucharist. 9:30 am: Holy Eucharist in person and on Zoom, with Godly Play for children of all ages.

### **December 14 and 21 | Advent Compline at Grace | 7:00 – 7:30 pm**

Join us in person at Grace on three Tuesdays in Advent, December 7, 14, and 21, at 7:00 pm, for a 30-minute liturgy of silence, stillness, night prayers, and chanted music led by Stephen.

### **December 15 | Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study | 10:30 am | Zoom only**

Please find links to the Zoom login and worship bulletin on our website:  
[gracehere.org/join-us-for-onlineworship-at-grace/](https://gracehere.org/join-us-for-onlineworship-at-grace/)

### **December 15 | Benefit Concert for Families in the Philippines | 6:00 pm**

Stephanie Reese Coates, a singer and member of Grace, is leading a benefit concert here on Wednesday, December 15, at 6:00 pm, to raise funds for an effort in the Philippines that is feeding 8000 people a week. For more information or to volunteer to help with the event, contact Stephanie ([stizzr@yahoo.com](mailto:stizzr@yahoo.com)).

### **December 16 | Draw Near - Women's Conversation Circles | 12:00 – 1:30 pm**

At Grace, in person. Meditation, Conversation, Community. Our guest Deb Flynn will gather us to move, listen, witness and PLAY in this time of Advent and Anticipation. Wear clothing that is comfortable to move in. All are welcome. Contact Cindy Vandersluis ([office@gracehere.org](mailto:office@gracehere.org)).

### **December 19 | Christmas Eve 5:30 Service Rehearsal | 10:45 – 11:45 am**

Families, please join us immediately following the 9:30 service on December 19, when we will rehearse with children and youth who are participating in the 5:30 Christmas Eve liturgy. Contact Stephen ([stephen@gracehere.org](mailto:stephen@gracehere.org)), or Kerstin ([kerstin@gracehere.org](mailto:kerstin@gracehere.org)).

### **December 19 | Christmas Music Rehearsal | 11:00 am**

For those participating in any music-making for Christmas; please join Ann Strickland for rehearsals at Grace on December 19 right after church. We will run through the early Christmas Eve service first, then rehearse the later Christmas Eve service, Christmas Day, and the First Sunday after Christmas, 12/24, 12/25, and 12/26. All ages welcome!

### **December 24 | Christmas Eve | 5:30 and 9:30 pm**

5:30 pm: Holy Eucharist with Godly Play Liturgy for Children. 9:30 pm: Holy Eucharist with Candlelight and Carols, in person and on Zoom. Visit: <https://www.gracehere.org/worship-with-us/>.

### **December 25 | Christmas Day | 9:30 am**

Contemplative Holy Eucharist, at Grace.

### **December 26 | First Sunday after Christmas | 8:00 and 9:30 am**

8:00 am: Contemplative Holy Eucharist. 9:30 am: Holy Eucharist in person and on Zoom.  
Visit: <https://www.gracehere.org/worship-with-us/>.

### **January 14, 28 | Compassionate Caring | 9:30 -11:00 am on Zoom**

Are you experiencing a loss, a difficult family situation, or anxiety you can't quite name? Grace's Compassionate Caring Support Group is open to all. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday. For more information, please contact Judy Williams ([jbwms@comcast.net](mailto:jbwms@comcast.net)); for the Zoom link, contact Diane McGrew ([dilmcgrew@gmail.com](mailto:dilmcgrew@gmail.com)).