

# Grace Episcopal Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021 | 8:00 & 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

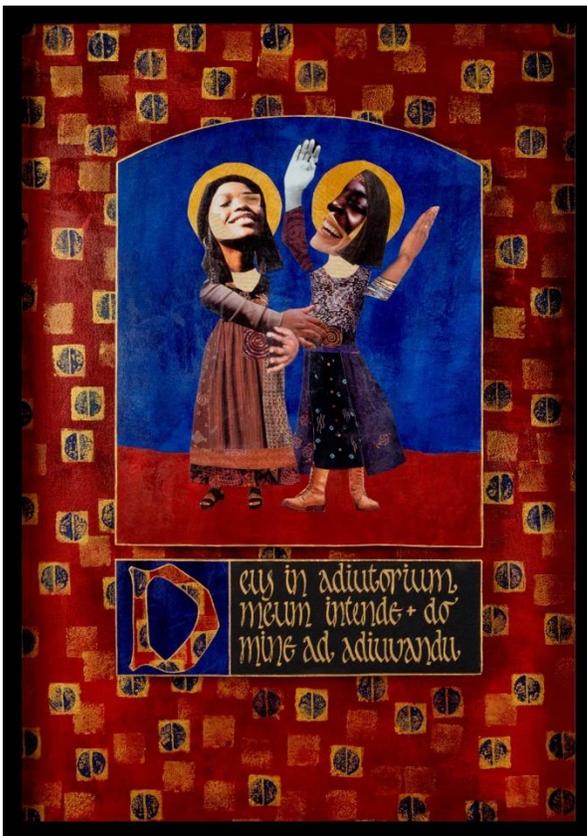
Interim Rector | Stephen Crippen

Deacon and Homilist | Linzi Stahlecker

Interim Music Director | Ann Strickland

Music Leader | Jordan Pitre

Tribe | Snowberry



Visitation, Jan Richardson

## The Adversary

A mother's hardest to forgive.  
Life is the fruit she longs to hand you,  
ripe on a plate.  
And while you live,  
relentlessly she understands you.

~ Phyllis McGinley, *public domain*

## About the Art

The Latin words in Jan Richardson's "Visitation" are from the first verse of Psalm 70. The full text she cites is "Deus, in adiutorium meum intende; Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina" (in English: "O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me"). Long used in the Roman Catholic daily prayer of the hours, our own service of Compline (prayer at the close of the day) in the Book of Common Prayer translates this verse as "O God, make speed to save us; O Lord, make haste to help us." One could hardly imagine a better prayer for two insightful women who, joyful as they are about their surprising pregnancies, are all too aware of the many challenges to come.

# Gathering Song | O Come O Come Emmanuel

7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## 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 musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first system consists of 8 measures with the following chords: D, G, Em, Em7, A, D, G, Em, Em7, A. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son Oh God have mer - cy. Chris - te e - le - i - son Oh Christ have mer - cy. Ky-ri- Oh. The second system starts at measure 9 with chords: Bm, G, Em, Em7, A, D. The lyrics are: e. Ky-ri - e. Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son. God Oh God Oh God have mer - cy.

## The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*We are seated for the reading.*

## **The First Reading** | Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;  
and he shall be the one of peace.

*After the reading, the Reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

# Canticle | The Song of Mary (*Magnificat*, Luke 1:46-55)

8:00 only.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

**He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

**The promise he made to our forebears,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*We stand and sing.*

## Canticle | My Soul Proclaims (paraphrase of *Magnificat*, Luke 1:46-55)

*Text paraphrase and music: Marty Haugen. 9:30 a.m. only*

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of God, re -  
joic - ing in God, my Sav - ior. The Ho - ly One has  
raised me up, I live in God's love and fa - vor.

We are seated for the second reading.

## The Second Reading | Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

After the reading, the Reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

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

We stand and sing.

### Gospel Song | My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

Text: based on the Magnificat; Music: Kingsfold, English Folk Tune. 9:30 am only



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav-ior's praise!  
2 To all who live in ho-ly fear your mer-cy ev-er flows.  
3 To Is-ra-el, your ser-vant blest, your help is ev-er sure;



You looked up-on my low-li-ness, and I am full of grace.  
With might-y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex-pose.  
the prom-ise to our par-ents made their chil-dren will se-cure.



Now ev-'ry land and ev-'ry age this bless-ing shall pro-claim—  
The ruth-less you have cast a-side, the low-ly throned in-stead;  
Sing glo-ry to the Ho-ly One, give hon-or to the Word,



great won-ders you have done for me, and ho-ly is your name.  
the hun-gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un-fed.  
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a-dored.

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

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

## **The Holy Gospel** | Luke 1:39-55

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

    "My soul magnifies the Lord,  
        and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
    Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
    and holy is his name.  
His mercy is for those who fear him  
    from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
    he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
    and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
    and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
    in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
    to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*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 My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**All and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

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 My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**All and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

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

Leader My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**All and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

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

Leader My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**All and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

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 My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**All and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

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

Leader My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**All and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

# 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 | This Little Light of Mine

*African-American Spiritual. Offered by David A. Tobin. 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 | My Soul Gives Glory to My God**

*Words and music: Miriam Therese Winter.*

1. My soul gives glory to my God,  
My heart pours out its praise.  
God lifted up my lowliness  
In many marvelous ways.

2. My God has done great things for me:  
Yes, holy is this Name.  
All people will declare me blessed,  
And blessings they shall claim.

3. From age to age to all who fear,  
Such mercy love imparts,

Dispensing justice far and near,  
Dismissing selfish hearts.

4. Love casts the mighty from their thrones,  
Promotes the insecure,  
Leaves hungry spirits satisfied;  
The rich seem suddenly poor.

5. Praise God, whose loving covenant  
Supports those in distress,  
Remembering past promises  
With present faithfulness.

## 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

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

# Closing Song | My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Text: from Luke 1:46-58; adapt. and arranged by Rory Cooney. Music: Star of the County Down, Irish traditional melody.

Verses



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



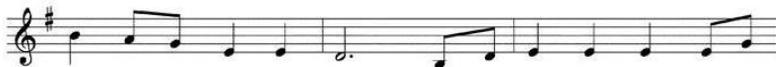
God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the  
work great things in me, And your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who  
depths of the past to the end of the age to  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing



wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
throne. The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn!

## 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 19, 2021

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

## Upcoming Events & Programs

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

Families, please join us today immediately following the 9:30 service, 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 | Today 11:00 am**

For those participating in any music-making for Christmas; please join Ann Strickland for rehearsals at Grace today 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 21 | Advent Compline at Grace | 7:00 – 7:30 pm**

Join us in person at Grace for a 30-minute liturgy of silence, stillness, night prayers, and chanted music led by Stephen.

### **December 22 | 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/](http://gracehere.org/join-us-for-onlineworship-at-grace/)

### **December 23 | Christingle-Making Party | 4:00 – 6:00 pm**

Young adults – ages 18-22 (more or less!) are invited to a Christingle-making party at Grace on Thursday, December 23, from 4-6 pm. Let's continue this beautiful Grace tradition so the children who come to our Christmas Eve services will each get to take this special treat home. Don't miss this chance for Christmas fun and for time to reconnect with others who are back home for the holidays. Food and drink will be served. Siblings and friends are very welcome! Connect with Valerie Reinke ([Valerie.reinke@gmail.com](mailto:Valerie.reinke@gmail.com)) or Wendy Tyner ([tynerassociates@aol.com](mailto:tynerassociates@aol.com)).

### **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 | 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 2, 2022 | Bring in the New Year with Grace Friends | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Start the new year with Grace friends on Sunday, January 2 after the service, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at Fay Bainbridge Park. We will have hot beverages and chili at the Beach Shelter by the playground. Sign up to bring chili by talking with Edith Cobourn by the main doors after church, or email Edith ([edithann1963@att.net](mailto:edithann1963@att.net)).

### **January 14, 28, 2022 | 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)).