

*Rejoice and Be Glad, Jan Richardson*

# Grace Episcopal Church

## Wednesday Morning Prayer

### May 4, 2022

## We Gather in God's Name

*We keep silence for a time.*

*The Officiant says*

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

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

*Officiant* Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

**All Spirit of God, search our hearts today, and teach us your Way of forgiveness and love.**

*Officiant* O Lord, open our lips;

**All And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. Praise to the One, Holy, and Undivided Trinity, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

# We Proclaim and Respond to God's Word

## Psalm | 23

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I  
will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

## First Reading | Acts 9:36-43

A reading from Acts.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

*After the reading, the Reader will say*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading** | Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”  
And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever!

Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*After the reading, the Reader will say*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel |** John 10:-22-30

Officiant A reading from the Gospel according to John.

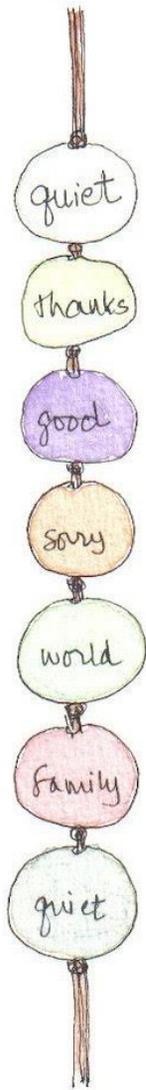
At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Officiant Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Homily or Reflection**

# We Pray for the World and All People



Seven Beads - Julie Snyder '10

Let us rest quietly in the presence of God.  
*We gather our hearts in silent prayer.*

Let us give thanks for God's blessings.  
*We offer prayers of thanksgiving.*

Let us rejoice with those who rejoice.  
*We offer prayers of praise.*

Let us confront ourselves with honesty.  
*We offer prayers of confession.*

Let us intercede for the whole world.  
*We offer prayers for all people.*

Let us pray for those closest to our hearts.  
*We pray for those in our parish family.*

Let us rest quietly in the presence of God.  
*We gather our hearts in silent prayer.*

## Healing Prayers

Officiant      Compassionate God: You so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fullness of your eternal life. **Amen.**

*All are invited to name those to be included in prayers for healing, aloud or in chat. Please share only the names of those for whom we should pray.*

*The Officiant offers a concluding prayer for healing*

Generous God, we give you thanks for your beloved Jesus Christ, in whom you have shared the beauty and pain of human life. Look with compassion upon all for whom we pray, especially [...]. Strengthen us to be your instruments of healing in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## We Are Sent into God's World

Officiant      Let us bless the Lord.

**All              Thanks be to God.**

Officiant      Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**