

Grace

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | 10:00 AM SERVICE

“Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

~ Matthew 24:44

Welcome to Grace Church

WELCOME!

Welcome, we are so glad you are joining us for worship this morning!

TODAY'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

Rite One Service | 8:00am
Advent Wreath Workshop | 8:45am | Parish House
Coffee Hour | 9:00am | Parish House
Nursery | 9:00am | Nursery
New Testament Bible Study | 9:15am | Grace Hall
WonderKids | 9:45am | Sunshine Room
StoryMakers | 9:45am | Wonder Room
Connect | 9:45am | Grace Hall
Rite Two Service | 10:00am
Coffee Hour | 11:15am | Parish House

WHO ARE WE?

In our reverent worship space, we warmly welcome people who are at all stages of faith, from those who are curious to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning, to those who are growing and maturing in their faith. Our sermons convey the truth of the gospel and offer practical applications to everyday life. Our desire is to grow in knowledge and love of God, and infuse His grace and truth into everything we do. Grace Episcopal Church is traditional and liturgical, and we care for our visitors by clearly explaining the heart and history behind our form of worship. We have found a family here, and we want this church to feel like a family for you, too.

OUR BELIEF & PRACTICES

The Episcopal Church has been called the “bridge church,” for we are Protestants who also honor our traditional Catholic heritage as well as contemporary worship. In addition to the Bible, our worship is led by the Book of Common Prayer, which has formed our historical thought and practice in its several editions since 1549. We are deeply sacramental, believing in the Baptism of children and that the Holy Eucharist (Communion) is the central act of worship. All baptized Christians may receive communion.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Rite One Service: Traditional Service without music at 8:00 am Sunday mornings
Rite Two Service: Contemporary Service with music at 10:00 am Sunday mornings. Nursery is open.
Midweek Service: Healing and Prayer Service at 12:05 pm on Wednesdays

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Your children are very welcome here! If you have babies or children, we have a nursery across the street in the Church Office building for children ages 0-3 years. We offer our WonderKids program for children ages 4-6 where we use the Jesus Storybook Bible curriculum. Our Story Makers classroom is for ages 7-9. And we also offer Connect Youth for ages 10-13.

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light:

People

On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

Celebrant

John the Baptist called out in the wilderness: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

People

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

Celebrant

Christ himself has given us the power for repentance. By his holy life and innocent death he has conquered Satan and sin and is able to help us when we are tempted.

People

He reigns in our lives with his grace and brings us to eternal life

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your holy Word has called us to repent of sin and walk in your path of righteousness. For the sake of Jesus Christ, you have not quickly judged the world for sin, but have given all a time of grace, and a call to turn from evil ways. By the power of your Spirit, turn our hearts to you. Make us grow in our obedience to your Word. In Jesus, you have revealed to us your holy love. Move us to love one another as he has loved us, and to serve one another as if we were serving you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

LITURGICAL GUIDE

ADVENT WREATH

The lighting of the Advent Wreath is a tradition rich in symbolism. Most importantly, it reminds us of the Light of Christ: "...in him was life, and the life was the light of all people." (John 1:4)

PROCESSION

We start our services with a procession of ministers and servers who have chosen to serve God and his people in their act of corporate worship. The procession is led by the cross, reminding those serving and those worshipping that our lives have been set apart by the sacrifice of Christ, on our behalf, for the glory of God.

HYMN 66

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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THE WORD OF GOD

You are invited to voluntarily make the sign of the cross on your body - to cross yourself - as a means to tell God again, and remind yourself, that you belong to him. You can do this at any time it seems meaningful to you. Often we sign ourselves when the names of the Trinity are used, in reference to the resurrection of the dead, and when saying "blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT OF PURITY

Celebrant

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

GLORIA

S280

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

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Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,
and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in
which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that
in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to
judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please Be Seated

THE FIRST READING

ISAIAH 2:1-5

Reader

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and
Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;

COLLECT OF THE DAY

This prayer is a moment to catch the theme of the service today. If you grasp it, your participation in worship will be enhanced, and you'll see God connecting the pieces of the gospel with your life.

THE FIRST READING

The First Reading is always an Old Testament passage. The OT forms a foundation for the New Testament and gives us many examples how God has led his people, displaying his essence and character.

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all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 122

THE PSALM

We read a psalm responsively each service as an expression of our emotions before the Lord. The Psalms contain all of our common emotions that derive from our day to day experiences. Read it recognizing that being honest before God, and each other, has great godly benefit.

Reader

The Psalm for today is Psalm 122, which we will read responsively at the half verse:

I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;

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To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the LORD.

For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Reader

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 13:11-14

Reader

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

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Please Stand

GRADUAL HYMN

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

HYMN 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 24:36-44

GOSPEL READING

Jesus is the Word of God made flesh, who made his dwelling among us. Reading his spoken words from the center of the congregation proclaims that grace and truth come through Jesus Christ.

When we make a little cross on our head, mouth and chest we are reminding ourselves that Jesus' gospel reforms our thinking, cleanses our speech and conforms our hearts to his truth and love.

Deacon

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People

Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Deacon

When Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Deacon

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

FR. CARLOS CABRERA

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant

Let us stand together and affirm our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please kneel or be seated as able

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THE SERMON

God's Word is living and active, and cuts to the heart. That's why we read it, proclaim it, listen to it, meditate upon it, and take the time to make it understood.

THE NICENE CREED

If you are looking to unite around one set of beliefs for the Christian life, this would be it. It is broad enough to capture the essentials of our faith and narrow enough to be a definitive statement of biblical truth.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray these established prayers to ensure that we cover important aspects of our lives and the world with corporate prayer. Listen to each prayer carefully, saying the words silently, so that your spoken Amen will ring true in your heart and be added to the prayers of the saints.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Reader

For all the people in their daily life and work;

People

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Reader

For this community, the nation, and the world;

People

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Reader

For the just and proper use of your creation;

People

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Reader

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Reader

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Reader

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; and Justin, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People

For all who serve God in his Church.

Reader

For those who are unable to be present and who join in our worship from home;

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation;

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And for all those we name from our hearts.

You may add your own petitions

Reader

Hear us, Lord;

People

For your mercy is great.

Reader

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

You may add your own thanksgivings

Reader

We will exalt you, O God, our King;

People

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

You may add your own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People

Who put their trust in you.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

We recognize our sins before God as a church body, recognizing our humanity and our weekly, daily, momentary need for the Lord and the cleansing blood of Christ. You will notice after some months of confession and absolution that you start to feel clean throughout the week, as if you've been washed and renewed. The 16th-century reformers thought the proper way to approach God was via confession.

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ABSOLUTION

Having heard the Word of God proclaimed, which has led us to confess our sins, it is now time to receive some assurance that God has forgiven the sins of those who have put their trust in Jesus Christ. It is Christ's power that forgives, embodied by the pronouncement of the priest, that makes tangible the truth that God has removed the barrier between him and us.

THE PEACE

Exchanging the peace is an ancient custom of God's people. We do it after Confession and Absolution which means we can give the same forgiveness to others that we have received from God. A demonstration that we have renewed relationships in Christ, it also prepares us to together receive Communion as the Body of Christ.

OFFERTORY

What will you give to God? The money he gave to you? The time he has allotted for you today? The abilities with which you were born? Your next breath? Combine your offering with those around you, and see what God can do with and through our church.



Celebrant

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Please be seated

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

Celebrant

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

WE ARE WAITING

**We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
Sun of justice, shine upon us;
we are trusting in your promise.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.**

**We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
Loving Shepherd, walk beside us;
Stir our hearts, and gently guide us.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.**

We are waiting.

Please Stand

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THE DOXOLOGY

HYMN 380, VERSE 3

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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The celebrant offers a preface and concludes saying...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

S130

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION

By taking Communion we obey the Lord's words to his disciples to remember his goodness to us and to proclaim that he is coming again. Jesus turns a simple earthy action - eating bread and drinking wine - into a magnificent celebration for his people. In Communion, Jesus is with us, and we are with each other. Sounds like a party!

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**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Please kneel as able

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we

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may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

CORPORATE SONGS DURING COMMUNION

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;

HYMN 67

THE LORD'S PRAYER

When you pray this prayer, the one Jesus taught his disciples, and that all Christians everywhere pray, reflect on the words, recognizing you are actually talking to your Heavenly Father. Pray it afresh, as if for the first time.

PRAYER TEAM

Praying with a friend or minister during Communion is a powerful way to experience the presence of Christ. Our clergy and prayer warriors invite you to ask for a breakthrough in your life. The Lord awaits the requests and prayers of his people.

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EUCCHARIST INSTRUCTIONS

Please follow these instructions when you go up to receive communion:

1. The ushers will dismiss each row, one at a time.
2. Walk up the center aisle.
3. When it is your turn to receive the Eucharist, kneel down or stand at the altar rail and extend your hands together, palm up. The priest will place a wafer into your hand.
4. The Chalice Minister will then come to you. You have two options; (1) drink from the chalice or (2) have your wafer intincted with wine. If you choose option 2, leave your wafer in hand so that Chalice Minister can place it back in the palm of your hand to consume. You may consume at the rail.
5. Return to your seat by the side aisle closest to you.

If you cannot come to the rail to receive notify an usher to have communion brought to you in the pew.

tell her that her sins I cover,
and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth
in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him,
and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain:
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token
that the word is never broken.

HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

HYMN 59

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
"Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day."

Wakened by the solemn warning,
from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,

may he with his mercy shield us,
and with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might,
and blessing to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run.

WE WALK BY FAITH

HYMN 209

We walk by faith, and not by sight;
no gracious words we hear
from one who spoke as none e'er spoke,
but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,
nor follow where he trod,
yet in his promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near,
and seek where you are found:

That when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are
in full and endless sight.

Please kneel as able

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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THE BLESSING

When you bless someone, you give them life-changing words. The priestly blessing will impact your day with heaven's power. Be sure to receive it with an open heart.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and may the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Please stand

RECESSIONAL

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

HYMN 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
The King of creation;
O my soul, praise Him,
For He is thy health and salvation:
Join the great throng, psaltery, organ, and song,
Sounding in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord: over all things
He gloriously reigneth:
Borne as on eagle-wings
Safely his saints he sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how all thou needest hath been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper
Thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy
shall ever attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath
Come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for ever adore Him.

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THE DISMISSAL

Deacon

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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THE DISMISSAL

As if we haven't gotten the message yet from the rest of the service, the Deacon urges us to take our love for God and each other into the rest of the world. This can only happen if we walk through the red doors in the power of the Holy Spirit. Praise the Lord.

Christmas Services

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

DECEMBER 21, 2025, 12:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2025

6:00PM - CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
WITHOUT INCENSE (NURSERY
PROVIDED)

10:00PM - CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
WITH INCENSE

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025

10:00AM - MORNING PRAYER
LEAD BY DEACON SUSAN MOOREHEAD

LESSONS AND CAROLS

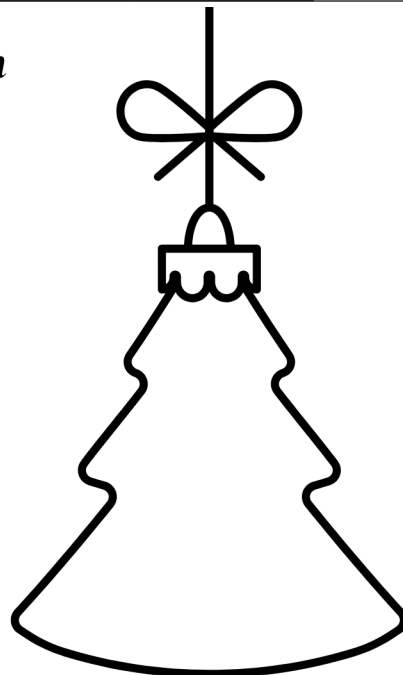
Join us as we celebrate the season with our annual Lessons and Carols service. Dinner will be served in the Parish House at 5:30pm and we will gather in the church for the service at 7:00 PM. We hope you'll join us for this cherished tradition and a joyful night of worship and fellowship together! You do not need to RSVP for the Service but if you are joining us for dinner please scan the QR code or call the Church Office at (352) 622-7881.



Teen Group Homes Christmas Collection

Grace Church has collected money for many years during the holiday season so the girls and boys at the Arnette House group homes are able to enjoy outings and activities during the Christmas break. Without our help they would not be able to do things like go to the movies , out to lunch or for ice cream, SkyZone, painting, and many other activities, they would not normally be able to do!

Please mark envelopes with cash or checks "Group Home Project." These can be put in the collection basket at church or dropped off at the office. The deadline is December 14th.



(Color me & cut out)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

13 ECW Christmas Luncheon
14 Coffee Hour
20 Children's Pageant Rehearsal
21 Children's Christmas Pageant
24 Christmas Eve
 No Midweek Service
 6:00pm Service
 10:00pm Service
25 Christmas Day - Office Closed
28 Coffee Hour
29 Church Office Closed
30 Church Office Closed
31 Church Office Closed
 No Midweek Service

JANUARY

1 New Years - Office Closed
4 Coffee Hour+
11 Baptisms
 Coffee Hour
18 Annual Meeting
21 Open Table
22 Vestry Meeting
25 Coffee Hour
28 Open Table

CHILDREN'S

MINISTRY 12/7/25

Nursery:
Alizon Morales & Sharon Romano

WonderKids:
Mollie Miranda & Alexis Johnston

Storymakers:
Catie Hourigan & Liz Jarrett

Connect:
Tina Phillips & Clare Redrick

Next Week's Bible Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

ECW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - DECEMBER 13!

All ladies of Grace: Please join us on Saturday, December 13, for the annual ECW Christmas luncheon. We will gather in the Parish House at noon to celebrate the season in our festive red and green apparel. Lunch will be covered dish, with ham provided. Please bring your favorite vegetable, salad or dessert to share. Invite another Grace lady to join you or bring a special friend to share our fellowship.

Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for our fun gift exchange. Please limit the cost to \$10 or less. Better yet, bring something hand-crafted or make your own. Feel free to re-gift, find something at a thrift shop or pass along a pre-loved treasure. Please include a Christmas wish for the recipient (it's anonymous).

We will be presenting checks to Interfaith Emergency Services and The Ocala Farm Ministry from the monies we raised at the Bazaar. Please come to meet and help honor the representatives from these wonderful organizations.

You are asked to RSVP to Carolyn Ayres at 352-286-8536 or mcdayres@gmail.com so that we will know how many to plan for. We look forward to seeing lots of merry faces as this special celebration!

COOKBOOKS ARE HERE!

If you pre-ordered a copy of the Let's Say Grace cookbook, you may pick it up during Coffee Hour with Peggy Bourne. Didn't pre-order? No problem—additional copies are available for purchase at Coffee Hour as well!

COFFEE HOUR+

Coffee Hour+ is two weeks away! Don't forget to bring your favorite dish to share on Sunday, December 7 after the 10:00am service!



Facebook
Grace Episcopal Church Ocala
Group Page: People of Grace



Instagram
grace_church_ocala



YouTube
Grace Episcopal Church Ocala



www.graceocala.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

IN THE COMING WEEK

Sunday, November 30 - Office Closed

8:00am: Rite One Service, Church, Livestream
8:45am: Advent Wreath Workshop
9:00am: Coffee Hour, Parish House
9:00am: Nursery (0-3), Nursery
9:15am: Josh's Bible Study, Grace Hall
9:45am: Wonder Kids (4-6), Sunshine Room
9:45am: StoryMakers (7-9), Wonder Room
9:45am: Connect (10-13), Grace Hall
10:00am: Rite Two Service, Church, Livestream
11:00am: Coffee Hour, Parish House

Monday, December 1

12:00 Noon: Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday, December 2

12:00pm: Fr. Frans Bible Study, Zoom

Wednesday, December 3

12:05pm: Midweek Service, Church

Thursday, December 4 - Office Closed

Friday, December 5 - Office Closed

Saturday, December 6 - Office Closed

5:30pm: Dinner, Parish House
7:00pm: Lessons and Carols, Church, Livestream

Sunday, December 7 - Office Closed

8:00am: Rite One Service, Church, Livestream
9:00am: Coffee Hour, Parish House
9:00am: Nursery (0-3), Nursery
9:15am: Josh's Bible Study, Grace Hall
9:45am: Wonder Kids (4-6), Sunshine Room
9:45am: StoryMakers (7-9), Wonder Room
9:45am: Connect (10-13), Grace Hall
10:00am: Rite Two Service, Church, Livestream
11:00am: Coffee Hour, Parish House
12:00pm: DOK Meeting, Grace Hall

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

23 Michael Hart
25 Darlene Trowbridge
26 Marilyn Corsiglia
Arlo Burns
27 Justin Turner
Pat Parsons
Amy Robertson
Kristen Rose
Sandi McCann
28 Dawson Turner
29 Allison Hart
30 Moses van Santen
Jackie Wright

DECEMBER

1 Will Whitehouse
2 Leigh Manning
3 Ron McCreary
4 John Sullivan
Milda Kolesar
5 Sharon Guenther
6 Larry Davis

If you would like to make a prayer request for either the weekly prayer list or the DOK private prayer list please email Deacon Susan at prayers@graceocala.org. And include which list you are requesting.

If you would like to meet with Fr. Frans please contact Catie Hourigan at 352-622-7881 or catie@graceocala.org

If you would like to meet or talk to our Children's Minister, Catie Hourigan, you can contact the church office at 352-622-7881; or by email at catie@graceocala.org

- Grace Church Leadership -

HEAD

Jesus Christ

BISHOP

The Right Rev. Dr. Justin S. Holcomb

WORSHIP TEAM

The Rev. Frans van Santen: Rector

The Rev. Josh Reed: Associate Rector

The Rev. Carlos Cabrera: Deacon

The Rev. Susan Moorehead: Deacon

Adam Pryor: Worship Coordinator

Catie Hourigan: Children's Ministry Coordinator

VESTRY

Greg Harrell - Senior Warden Michael Owen - Junior Warden Sanjit Nirmalanandhan - Treasurer

Cheryl Arnold Michael Ashley Stephen Ayres Todd Craig Kristin Dean

Lise Kent Amy Robertson

MUSICIANS

Adam Pryor Sharon Mai Jessica Mongerio Jason Bartosic

Cheryl Arnold Audrey Flechas

TODAY'S SERVERS

Advent Wreath Lighters: Samantha Crawford, Sophia Crawford, Gretchen Springer

Ushers: Sanjit Nirmalanandhan, Darlene Trowbridge

Reader, First Reading/Psalm: Frank Blasucci

Reader, Second Reading/PoP: Greg Harrell

Acolytes: Gail van Deusen, Nevaeh Nirmalanandhan, Will Rose, Joseph Hetzel

Chalice Ministers: Mary Stewart Lewis, James Perdue

Prayer Team: Robin Cesarone, Geralyn Murphy

Altar Guild: Lise Kent, Lynda Peek, Jeannie Piotrowski, James Perdue

Flower Guild: Carolyn Ayres, Lynda Peek, Lynn Nobles, Heather Hetzel,

Molly Hetzel, Erin van Santen, Estella van Santen

VPOD: Cheryl Arnold

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Nursery: Alizon Morales, Sharon Romano

Wonderkids: Mollie Miranda, Geralyn Murphy

Storymakers: Catie Hourigan, Julie Kesselring

Connect: Matt Merchant, Garrett Bryden

Weekly Services on Our Campus

Sunday 8:00am—Rite I

Sunday 10:00am—Rite II with music

Wednesday 12:05pm—Midweek at Grace

Grace Episcopal Church: 503 SE Broadway St, Ocala, Florida

Church Office (mailing address): 510 SE Broadway St, Ocala FL 34471

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am to 3:30pm, Closed on Friday

Office Phone: (352) 622-7881

graceocala.org, info@graceocala.org