

Grace

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 4, 2022 | 8:00 AM SERVICE

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”
~ Romans 15:13

Welcome to Grace Church

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

Masks are optional during the service and are available at the back of the church if you wish to wear one.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Your children are very welcome here! If you have babies or children, we have a nursery across the street from children ages 0-3 years, and a special program called WonderKids for children ages 4-12.

In WonderKids, we use The Jesus Storybook Bible curriculum which engages elementary school aged children with stories from the Bible and teaches that God is the hero of every story. Your children will bring a take it home page with them so that you can continue to discuss what they are learning. We also provide a small snack and restroom opportunity just before we come into the sanctuary at the Passing of the Peace. We want the children to be ready to enjoy family time together in Church!

For children in 5th-8th grades, we offer a special teaching unit just for them: Connect! This curriculum is designed just for preteens and uses humor and interesting Bible content to connect to them where they are at. Connect is meeting every other week in Grace Hall.

If you have any questions or would like to contact someone about your family or children, please don't hesitate to connect with Erin van Santen at erin@graceocala.org.

The Nursery is open during the the entire 10am Service for children ages 0-3.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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.**

THE PROCESSION

Please stand

Celebrant

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

People

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

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

The liturgy of the Eucharist is best understood as a journey or procession. It is our entrance into the presence of Christ, and this presence allows us to see the ultimate reality of life, the way God sees it. In the procession, we are called to come together in one place, to be more than what we were: a new community with a new life.

Making the sign of the cross is a tangible way to mark ourselves as Christ's. Crossing yourself is an act of sanctification, a physical reminder that you are set apart as holy for Christ. Because it is often done at the mention of the Trinity ("Father, Son, and Holy Spirit"), the sign of the cross is also a physical reminder of belief in the Triune God. Many find it a helpful expression of their faith, although it is not mandatory.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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COLLECT OF PURITY

This collect (prayer) is a deeply personal prayer of need. Even though we attempt to hide, the Lord sees the secret desires of our hearts. It is only by the moving of His Spirit in our hearts that we are enabled to overcome our fallen nature of sin and death.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE KYRIE ELEISON

Celebrant

Lord have mercy upon us.

People

Christ have mercy upon us.

Celebrant

Lord have mercy upon us.

THE GLORIA

***Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men.***

***We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,
we glorify thee,***

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

***Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.***

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please be seated

THE FIRST READING

Reader

ISAIAH 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

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COLLECT OF THE DAY

This prayer is centered on the readings of the day. As we prepare to receive the food of God's Word, our Celebrant (lead pastor) prays this prayer to focus our hearts and minds on God's Word.

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The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw
like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

THE PSALM

The Psalms represent experiences of men and women, written down as poetic prayers. By reading them, we encounter God, others, and ourselves in life's joys and sorrows, tragedies, and triumphs.

Reader

The Psalm for today is Psalm 72, which we will read responsively at the half verse:

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

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

Reader

ROMANS 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name”;

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GOSPEL READING

As God's Word comes down the aisle to literally "dwell among us," we stand for this Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on the words and actions of Jesus.

The "little" sign of the cross is used at the beginning of the reading of the Gospel, when the Deacon says: "The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ." It is the marking of small crosses, using the thumb, on the forehead, mouth, and heart. It's meant to signify the sanctification of our thoughts, speech, and affections for God.

and again he says,
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";
and again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";
and again Isaiah says,
"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:1-12

Deacon

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

People

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Deacon

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

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But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Deacon

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to thee, O Christ.

SERMON

FR. JONATHAN FRENCH

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant

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

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on

THE SERMON

The exposition of God's Word helps us reflect on God's will for our lives, and the ways we can respond to His call for redemption in our current world. We have provided space near the end of this bulletin or in the side panels for taking notes.

THE NICENE CREED

The creed reminds us of the core of Christianity. It contains the raw elements that every follower of Christ believes. As we recite this together our unity as the Body of Christ is strengthened.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for others and ourselves. Through these guided prayers, we begin to see the world as God sees it.

CONFESSION

Confession and repentance go hand in hand. Confession of sin is a large element of our corporate worship because we recognize how much we need forgiveness.

the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please kneel as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

The reader leads the people in a series of prayers to which the people respond.

Reader

Lord, in Thy mercy

People

Hear our prayer.

Reader

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

People

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We

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do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him...

THE PEACE

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

The people are invited to offer their gifts to God.

Celebrant

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Please stand

ABSOLUTION

The celebrant, absolving our sins, is acting as a representative of our heavenly Father, who "is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." Psalm 145:8

THE PEACE

When we say "God's peace" to each other, we do two things. First, we acknowledge the dignity and acceptance of the other, no matter who they happen to be. Second, we signify together that the Church community is reconciled and can approach the Lord's Table in good conscience.

CHRISMONS

Chrismons are ancient symbols of Christ. They have been used by Christ's followers since Biblical times and are the heritage of all Christians. The word chrismon in a combination of the words Christ and monogram.

OFFERTORY

In giving our gifts of time, talent and treasure, we pray that God, the maker of all things, would take our offering and turn it into something greater.

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COMMUNION

In communion we share one bread and one cup to be bound together with those with whom the cup and bread are shared, to express one's faith, and to reaffirm one's commitment to God and the community. All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive communion.

Celebrant

All things come of thee, O Lord.

People

Of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks unto our Lord, God.

People

It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

The Celebrant offers a Preface, and concludes saying,

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel as able

Celebrant

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by

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his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

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REAL PRESENCE

"He was the Word that spake it, he took bread and brake it, and what that Word did make it, I do believe and take it."

Hymn 322, John Donne

The elements of the Eucharist of bread and wine are not mere signs or symbols. Christ's body and blood really become present and are really given. They are present so that, in receiving them, believers may be united in communion with Christ the Lord.

EPICLESIS

At this moment, the priest invokes the active presence of the Holy Spirit in the Eucharistic prayer so that the bread and wine may become the body and blood of Christ. The term is based on the Greek word that means "to call upon," "to invoke."

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray the prayer Jesus taught, together with one voice. As a family we acknowledge our needs, our lackings, our desires and God's solution.

PRAYER TEAM

During communion, you have the opportunity to receive prayer. We have a prayer team in the back of the church who are delighted to lift you up in prayer. Simply walk up to them and share your request.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People

Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People

Have mercy upon us.

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Celebrant

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People

Grant us thy peace.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

THE SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING COMMUNION

Be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament has left us a memorial of your passion: Grant us, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of your redemption; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Please kneel as able

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.

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THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant

The blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

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!

THE BLESSING

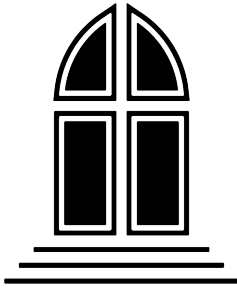
This pronouncement is a blessing from God to His people. This is not a prayer to God, but a blessing from God. Be encouraged! As we leave this family gathering, God is going with us into the world.

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon reminds us that as followers of Christ we are empowered to go into the world, now that we have worshipped God and been filled with the Holy Spirit. And with God in us, we are to go and serve.

PERSONAL NOTES

GRACE CONTACT INFORMATION FORM



Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church

Please fill out this card and place in the offering plate or mail it back to us. We look forward to getting to know you.

Date:

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

How did you hear about Grace Church (Check all that apply)

Friend/Family Internet Search Social Media

Other:

Your age group: (please circle) 18-34 35-59 60-up

First time visitor

New in community

Would like clergy to call

Would like an appointment with clergy

Have children school age
or younger (please circle)

Ages: 0-3 K-3 4-8 9-12

Would you like to be signed-up for our Grace To You

Weekly Newsletter? Yes No

How may we contact you? Phone Text Email



Advent & Christmas Events

12.4.22 - Undecorate the Tree

12.11.22 - Undecorate the Tree

**12.17.22 - Lessons and Carols, 7:00pm
Pies in the Parish House to follow**

12.18.22 - Undecorate the Tree

**12.24.22 - Christmas Eve Services
4:30pm - Children's Christmas Pageant
6:00pm - without Incense
10:00pm - with Incense**

**12.25.22 - Christmas Day Service
Morning Prayer 10:00am**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS & WREATHS



It is time to order Christmas Poinsettias and Wreaths. If you would like to sponsor these decorations, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate, or bring or send it to the Church Office by December 19.

Please include payment. The poinsettias and wreaths are \$20 each.

Name: _____

(As you wish it to appear in the bulletin - ie: Mr. and Mrs. John Doe, John and Jane Doe, the Doe Family, etc.)

Number of Poinsettias / Wreaths: _____ \$20 each

Total Paid: _____

Please make check out to Grace Episcopal Church and note "Poinsettias / Wreaths" on the memo line.

Message (E.g., "In memory of...", "In honor of:...")

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

THANK YOU FROM DEACON MARY

December 8th marks the 10th anniversary of my ordination as Deacon. Throughout those 10 years and the three years of preparation for ordination, the Grace family has been an unfailing support. Your prayers and encouragement have always been appreciated. When I volunteered in the Philippines for a year, you provided financial support, you took care of my pets, and you watched my house. That all gave me the peace I needed to give all my attention to the girls in the aftercare program for minor survivors of human trafficking. Since I returned you have given me your ears and your hearts when I have spoken and written about human trafficking and the work of International Justice Mission. God provides, and He often provides through His people caring for one another. Grace Church has certainly done so for me, and for that I am inexpressibly grateful.

UNDECORATE THE TREE

Advent began last week, and once again we will be collecting funds for the Boys' and Girls' Group Homes during the four weeks of Advent. We call it Undecorate the Tree because you will be able to select an ornament or ornaments with an activity and the cost of that activity for one teen. This is a reminder to bring in or send in your donation. Together, we provide activities for these teens which create meaningful memories during the holidays.

ECW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON DECEMBER 8

ECW will hold its annual Christmas luncheon at noon on Thursday, December 8th at the Hidden Village Clubhouse. The address is 2700 SE 27th Loop in Ocala. Luncheon will be potluck with meat and drink provided. Please bring your most delicious salad, side or dessert to share. Please RSVP to Carolyn Ayres at (352) 286-8536 to let her know you will be attending so that we can plan accordingly.

PIES IN THE PARISH HOUSE FOR LESSONS & CAROLS!

It's that time of year again. Our Worship Coordinator, Adam Pryor has planned a wonderful night of Lessons and Carols for Saturday, December 17 at 7:00 PM. After the Service we invite everyone to bring a pie to share in the Parish House. This will be a great time of fellowship prior to the busy week of Christmas!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 17 Lessons & Carols
- 18 Undecorate the Tree
- 24 Children's Christmas Pageant
 - Christmas Eve Services
- 25 Christmas Day
 - Morning Prayer Service
- 26-27 Church Office Closed
- 28-29 Church Office Open
 - By Appointment Only

JANUARY

- 1 10:00am Service Only
 - Baptism Prep Class
- 2 Church Office Closed
- 4 Alpha Starts
- 8 Baptism

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This year, after many years, we're having a Christmas pageant at Grace! Our kids will lead us in worship this year, and help us reimagine the details of a story that stars both blue collar workers and kings, a pregnant teenage girl and celestial beings. In the same way that a baby was born in a manger, the most unlikely of Kings, the smallest and youngest among us will remind us to slow down and remember how God came to be with us. We are so thankful that they are willing and excited to lead us this year in remembering what matters this Christmas. Our Christmas Pageant will be on Christmas Eve at 4:30 pm with hot chocolate and Christmas cookies afterwards in the Parish House.

CONNECT YOUTH

This Sunday, December 4th is the final Sunday for this session of our Connect Youth Group! The kids will be able to enjoy their winter break and re-start January 8th!

KING DAVID WINDOW BOOKMARK

Our window featuring King David is behind the piano on the pulpit side. Stained glass church windows traditionally told a bible story that could be understood even by people who could not read using symbols they would have recognized. You can pick up a King David bookmark at the back of the church.

Next Week's Bible Readings

- First Reading:
 - Isaiah 35:1-10
 - Psalms 146:4-9
- Second Reading:
 - James 5:7-10
- Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

2023 GIVING ENVELOPES

If you signed up on your Pledge Card to receive 2023 giving envelopes they are in the back of the church and ready for you to pick up. If you did not request envelopes and would like a set, please contact the church office at (352) 622-7881 or stop by and pick them up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

IN THE COMING WEEK

Sunday, December 4 Undecorate The Tree - Office Closed

8:00am: Rite One Service, Church, Livestream

9:45am: Children's Church, WonderKids Room

10:00am: Rite Two Service, Church, YouTube and Facebook

10:00am: Connect Youth, Grace Hall

Monday, December 5

12:00pm: Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday, December 7

12:05pm: Mid-Week Service, Church

7:00pm: Worship Team Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, December 8

12:00pm: Fr. Jonathan's Bible Study, Zoom

12:00 pm: ECW Christmas Luncheon, Hidden Village

Clubhouse: 2700 SE 27th Loop Ocala, FL 34471

Friday, December 9 Office Closed

Saturday, December 10 Office Closed

Sunday, December 11 Undecorate The Tree - Office Closed

8:00am: Rite One Service, Church, Livestream

9:45am: Children's Church, WonderKids Room

10:00am: Rite Two Service, Church, YouTube and Facebook

DO YOU FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA?



Instagram: [grace_church_ocala](https://www.instagram.com/grace_church_ocala)



Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church Ocala, FL
Group Page: People of Grace



YouTube: Grace Episcopal Church Ocala



Website: graceocala.org

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

27 Justin Turner

Pat Parsons

Amy Robertson

Kristen Rose

28 Dawson Turner

30 Moses van Santen

DECEMBER

2 Leigh Manning

3 Fr. Jonathan French

4 John Sullivan

Milda Kolesar

7 Pae Barberie

Evan Allison

9 Ryan Ashley

10 Collin Turner

Rezlyn Olguin-Wilson

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

If you would like to meet or talk
to our Children's Minister
Erin van Santen you can contact
the church office at
352-622-7881; or by email at
erin@graceocala.org

- Grace Church Leadership -

HEAD

Jesus Christ

BISHOP

The Right Rev. Gregory O. Brewer

WORSHIP TEAM

The Rev. Jonathan French: Rector

The Rev. Frans van Santen: Associate Rector

The Rev. Mary Delancey: Deacon

The Rev. Susan Moorehead: Deacon

Adam Pryor: Worship Coordinator

Erin van Santen: Children's Ministry Coordinator

Dave Rubin: Verger

VESTRY

Tim McCourt - Senior Warden Michael Owen - Junior Warden

Wayne Taylor- Treasurer Heather Hetzel Drick Heitman Amy Robertson

Carman Smith Sharyn Pliska Leslie Jones

Today's Servers

Advent Wreath: Tom & Cynthia Roberge

Usher: Carman Smith

Reader: Cookie Zeuch

Chalice Minister: Leslie Jones

Prayer Team: Mary Delancey

Altar Guild: Lise Kent, Lynda Peek, Paulette Johnson,
Carman Smith, Jeannie Piotrowski

Flower Guild: Carolyn Ayres, Lynda Peek, Lynn Nobles, Maurica French

VPOD: Sharyn Pliska

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

Pastoral Care Emergency Line: (352) 369-5780

graceocala.org, info@graceocala.org