

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Grace Episcopal Church is a community that invites and supports everyone to live out the teachings, love, and actions of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, May 5, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Welcome! Thank you for joining us in worship today as we learn the faith, love the Lord, and live the faith together. We hope you will find liturgy that lifts the spirit, sacraments that feed the soul, and preaching that stretches the mind. Much of our service can be found in the blue *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) indicated with page number below, and songs are found in the red *1982 Hymnal*. At times, the BCP indicates when to stand or kneel. You may do so as you feel comfortable.

The Word of God

Processional Hymn Take My Life and Let it Be #707

Opening Acclamation BCP p. 355

Collect for Purity BCP p. 355

Pascha Nostrum (*Hymnal, "S" Service Music section at the beginning*) S-47



Collect of the Day BCP p. 225

The Lessons

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (10:44-48)

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
*and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.*

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

A Reading from the First Letter of John (5:1-6)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

#660

The Gospel

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to John. (15:9-17)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you

to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

The Sermon

The Rev. Anne Schnaare

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

The Prayers of the People (Form I)

BCP p. 383

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

The Peace

Announcements

Offertory How Blest Are Those Who Fear the Lord Raymond Haan, b. 1938

Doxology

#380 vs 3

The Holy Communion

All baptized Christians regardless of age or denomination are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Once invited forward by the usher, you may either stand or kneel at the altar rail.

Receiving the bread: extend your hands out flat in front of you to receive the bread. Let the priest know if you would prefer a gluten free wafer.

Receiving the wine:

a. *If you prefer to drink from the common cup – after consuming the blessed bread, please grasp the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips.*

b. *If you desire to receive by intinction (dipping) – leave the wafer in your hand (don't consume it immediately). The Eucharistic Minister will pick the wafer up from your hand, dip it in the wine, and hand it back to you.*

c. *We believe in the real presence of Christ in both the bread and the wine. Therefore, to receive only the bread is to fully participate in the Sacrament. If, for any reason, you desire not to receive the wine, you may either step back from the rail once you have received the bread or fold your arms across your chest once you have received the bread, and this will signal to the Eucharistic Minister that you do not desire to receive the wine.*

Receiving a blessing: If you desire a spoken blessing instead of the Sacramental bread and wine, please fold your arms across your chest as sign for the priest to offer you a blessing.

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Sanctus S-130 (*Hymnal, “S” Service Music section*) Franz Peter Schubert, 1797-1828

Memorial Acclamation

BCP p. 368

The Lord's Prayer S-119 (*Hymnal, Service Music section*)

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem S-164 (*Hymnal, Service Music section*) Franz Schubert, 1797-1828

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since some of us cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Anthem

Beloved, Let Us Love One Another Van Denman Thompson, 1891-1969

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God;
and everyone that loveth is begotten of God and knoweth God.

Herein is love, not that we love God but that he loved us
and sent his Son to atone for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us we also ought to love one another.

If we love one another God abideth in us,
and his love is made perfect in us.

God is love, and whoso abideth in love
abideth in God and God abideth in him.

Beloved, let us love one another.

1 John 4: 7, 10-12b,

Communion Hymn Just As I Am Without One Plea

#693

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Blessing

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Closing Hymn Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

#561

Postlude Allegro from Suite Gothique

Leon Boëllmann, 1862-1897

Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments following the service.

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Serving Today

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Anne Schnaare
Lay Readers: Andy Saur, Louis Edison
Acolyte: Elijah Norkus
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Andy Saur, Janey Volkema
Ushers: Patty Hunnewell
Video Operator: James Kessel
Altar Guild: Martha Porter
Vestry Rep: Patty Hunnewell

Announcements

Want to stay connected? Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter, *Grace Notes*, by going to the following link gracechurchgr.org/newsletter or scanning this QR code.



To make a contribution to Grace Episcopal Church, you may place cash or checks in the collection plate. You may also donate online by going to the following link gracechurchgr.org/give or scanning this QR code.



Pledge Statements. First quarter 2024 pledge statements were sent out to those with a 2024 pledge commitment on file with the church. If you did not receive your statement or would like a statement, please contact Diane Vezmar, our new bookkeeper, at finace@gracechurchgr.org.

Bishop Whittemore Sunday: This Sunday we celebrate the life and legacy of Bishop Whittemore. To learn more about the Foundation established in his memory or to make a contribution, please visit www.whittemorefoundation.org

Taizé Services. On the first Tuesday evening of each month, please join us for a service of singing and contemplation. Our next Taizé service is **Tuesday, May 7** at 7 pm. All are welcome!

The Rector's Discretionary Fund. The open plate offering will be collected on the first Sunday of every month and deposited into the discretionary fund. These donations enable the Rector to disburse appropriate amounts of money on an emergency basis to those persons who have come to Grace seeking help. Such requests are part of the life of our parish. We are called as a community to live out our faith serving the needs of others who live around us. The

Community Engagement Team joins Mtr. Anne in encouraging you to be generous in order that she may be able to serve the increasing numbers of people who are reaching out to Grace for help.

Calendar

Sunday, May 5

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:30 am Adult Formation
6:00 pm Young Adult Gathering

Monday, May 6

6:30 pm Building and Grounds Mtg

Tuesday, May 7

10:00 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Taizé Service

Wednesday, May 8

7:15 am Morning Prayer
5:30 pm GEF Meeting

Thursday, May 9

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm Confirmation Class

Sunday, May 12

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:30 am Adult Formation

Easter Flowers

Joy Bushi

In memory of our husband, dad, and grandfather, the Rev. Muthyala Benjamin Diwakar.

Jayden Gerrity

In loving memory of Grandma Ginny Ferris.

Barbara Harris

In loving memory of Herman Harris, William and Jessie Mitchell, and Ozie Quarterman.

Greg, Andrew, and Spencer Palmer and Families

To the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Boris F. Palmer and Elynore M. Palmer, and our brother, Bradley Duncan Palmer.

Martha Porter

In loving memory of Charles Francis Porter, Alice Porter Landis, Charles Thoren Porter, and Margaret Porter.

The Schnaare Family

In thanksgiving for Grace Church's people and ministries.

Doug and Susan Townshend

In thankfulness for our grandchildren Artley, Kathlyn, and Leo Townshend

In loving memory of our daughter, Katie Townshend Deneke.

Steve and Maureen Birnie

With gratitude for our daughter, Lillie and in memory of Eleanor and Paul McCarthy

Steve and Liz Batdorf

In loving memory of Carol Batdorf, and Rene Jean Ortlieb

Bradley Belrose

Kurt & Anita Berends

John & Punky Edison

Megan Harding

Kate & Jeff Koeze

The Lexow Family

Grace Church Staff

Rector: The Rev. Anne Schnaare mother.anne@gracechurchgr.org (269) 425-0815

Director of Music: Mary Hamersma Baas

Building Manager: Chris Lowe

Sexton: Abdullah Bahassen

Nursery Coordinator: Maggie Porter