

Fifth 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, April 28, 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.

no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

A Reading from the First Letter of John (4:7-21)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn Abide With Me

#662

The Gospel

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. (15:1-8)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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 VI)

BCP p. 392

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

The Peace

Announcements

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 A

BCP p. 361

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

Memorial Acclamation

BCP p. 363

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

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Serving Today

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Anne Schnaare

Lay Readers: Kate Koeze, Louise Edison

Acolyte: Elijah Norkus

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Andy Saur, Janey Volkema

Ushers: Kate Koeze, Louise Edison

Video Operator:

Altar Guild: Patty Hunnewell

Vestry Rep: Lindsey Hansen

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.



Announcement Reminder: All bulletin announcements are due to Mary Baas (mcb@marnek.com) by NOON on Wednesday.

Youth Symphony Tickets. Grace Church member Fabio Tedeschi will be performing with the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony next Sunday, May 5. Tickets can be purchased through grys.org.

April 2024 Building and Grounds Summary Here is a summary of the Building and Grounds Committee meeting on 4/15/24:

Window Treatments for the Library will be installed with 4 - 6 weeks.

Pull down roller shades will be installed in the nursery prior to the next IHN visitation.

Phase One of the Naturalization Project is complete. It will take approximately 3 years for the areas to be fully grown.

Painting of the East Main Entrance has been finalized and should be completed this summer.

Painting of the East Elevator Entrance will be completed by parishioner volunteers after the pre school closes for the summer.

Spring Clean Up Day is 4/27/24 (rain date is May 4). The volunteer sign up sheet is on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

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

Calendar

Sunday, April 28

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:30 am Adult Formation
12:30 pm Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, April 30

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 1

7:15 am Morning Prayer

Thursday, May 2

5:00 pm Stewardship Committee
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 5

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

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