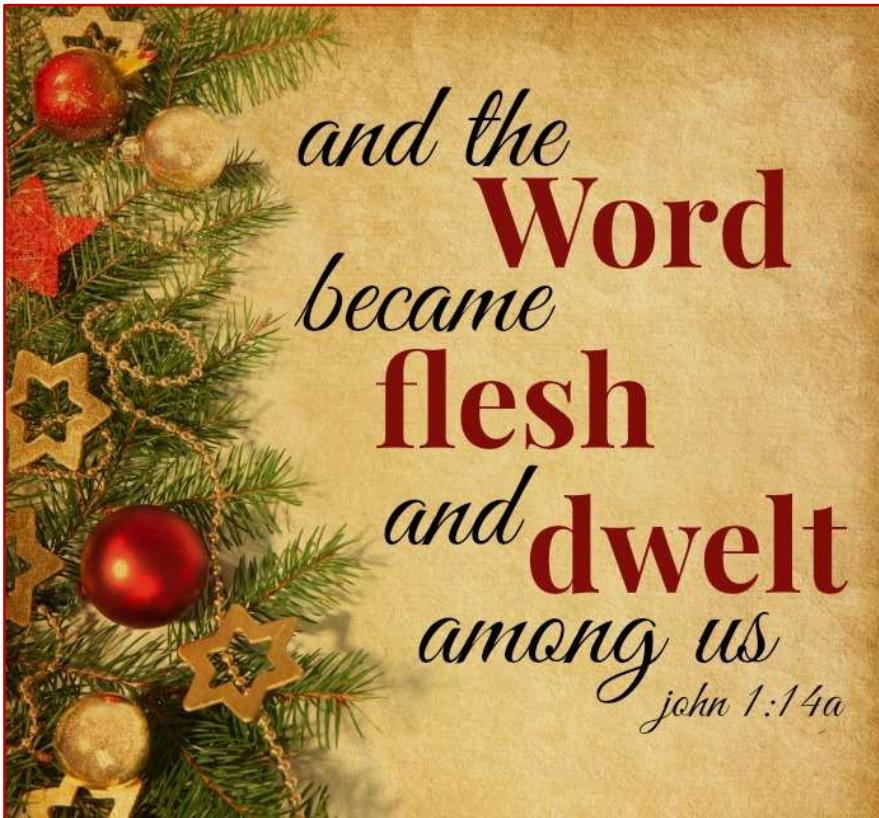




# The Holy Eucharist, Rite 2



**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 28, a.d. 2025 at 10:15 a.m.**

*Serving Christ by Ministering to the Needs of the Community and the Parish*



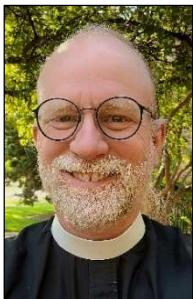
**Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church.** We are so delighted that you have chosen to worship in this place and in this community today. If you are new to Episcopal worship, this full-text bulletin has everything you need to participate.

**Welcome Card.** If you are new to Grace, we would love to have a record of your visit. There is a Welcome Card in the pew rack. Please fill out as much (or as little) information as you would like to share with us and place it in the offering plate when it comes by.

**A Word about Communion.** At the heart of our worship is Holy Communion, which we also call Holy Eucharist. We celebrate it every Sunday with bread and real wine. Please know that we practice an open table; *all Christians* (no matter what tradition you come from) are invited and encouraged to come forward and receive communion. On page 14, there are more details about how we practice communion at Grace.

Again, welcome! If you ever have any questions or thoughts feel free to call, text, or email me (620-314-7520; frted.grace@gmail.com).

Blessings,  
Father Ted Blakley



*Priest and Rector*



Streaming Starts at 10:05 a.m. • Liturgy Starts at 10:15 a.m.  
To join the service, go to [facebook.com/gracechurchhutch/live](https://facebook.com/gracechurchhutch/live).

**WELCOME****PROCESSION INTO WORSHIP** *stand*Words: Isaac Watts, Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel, adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:**  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;**  
let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods,  
    rocks, hills, and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**"Joy to the World" • Hymnal 100 (vv. 1-4)**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,**  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

**He rules the world with truth and grace,**  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

# *The Liturgy of the Word*

**OPENING ACCLAMATION** *stand**The Book of Common Prayer* 355

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

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

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heav'nly 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,  
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.

*A moment of silence is observed.*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE FIRST LESSON** *sit*

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

*A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah*

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
    my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
    he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
    and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
    and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
    to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
    and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
    and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
    and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 147** *to be read responsively by half verse*

BCP 804

- 1 Hallelujah!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
**how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!**
- 2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
**he gathers the exiles of Israel.**
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted \*  
**and binds up their wounds.**
- 4 He counts the number of the stars \*  
**and calls them all by their names.**
- 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*  
**there is no limit to his wisdom.**
- 6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \*  
**but casts the wicked to the ground.**
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*  
**make music to our God upon the harp.**
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
**and prepares rain for the earth;**
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
**and green plants to serve mankind.**
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
**and for the young ravens when they cry.**
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
**he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;**
- 12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
**in those who await his gracious favor.**
- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
**praise your God, O Zion;**
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
**he has blessed your children within you.**

- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
**he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
**and his word runs very swiftly.**
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
**he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
**who can stand against his cold?**
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
**he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
**to them he has not revealed his judgments.**  
**Hallelujah!**

## THE SECOND LESSON

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

*A Reading from Galatians*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.*

## GRADUAL HYMN *stand*

**Love came down at Christmas,  
love all lovely, love divine;  
love was born at Christmas:  
star and angels gave the sign.**

**Worship we the Godhead,  
love incarnate, love divine;  
worship we our Jesus,  
but wherewith for sacred sign?**

**"Love Come Down at Christmas" • Hymnal 84 (vv. 1-3)**

Words: Christina Rossetti, Music: Gartan, harm. David Evans

**Love shall be our token;  
love be yours and love be mine;  
love to God and neighbor,  
love for plea and gift and sign.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to John  
Glory to you, Lord Christ*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## THE SERMON

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

Father Bill Waln

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

*The Deacon (or Celebrant) bids the people to proclaim their faith.*

*The Deacon begins the Creed and the people join in.*

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.



With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our bishops, Sean, Mark, and Mike; for our parish clergy, Amy, Bill, Larry, Larry, Ted, Todd, and Shane. In the world-wide Anglican Communion, for the Anglican Church of Rwanda, and in the Diocese of Western Kansas we pray that we enter the coming year with renewed hope in the power of God to do through you what you cannot, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Donald our President and Laura our Governor, for our representatives and judges, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this city of Hutchinson, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth, which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Abigail, Carson, Kent, Terry, Pam, Johnny, Stacy, Ellie, David, Josie, Wyatt, Darien, Kayla, Sarah, Max, Cassidy, Jordan, Lily, June, Aubrey, Diane, Bailey, Mary, Phillip, Jill, Clare, Avalynn, Daniel, and Tod. Are there others? For those confined to home or care center, for Fifi, Clarice, Jane, Virginia, Wright, and Ruth Ann.



For those prayers and thanksgivings received online: \_\_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Silence, and then The Celebrant adds a concluding collect:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE PEACE** *stand*

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

**PEACE HYMN** *stand*

“The First Nowell” • Hymnal 109 (vv. 1-5)

Words: English carol, Music: The First Nowell, English carol, 17th cent., harm. John Stainer

**The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.*

**They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain***

**And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain***

**This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain***

**Then entered in those wise men three  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain***

# The Liturgy of the Table

## GATHERING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*In gratitude for who God is and what God does, we give back to God a portion of what God has given to us so that God's mission through this place and this people might flourish. What you give today represents your life and your labors, your loves and loyalties, your joys and thanksgivings, and God receives it with gladness.*



### DIGITAL OFFERING PLATE: THREE SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE

- ✓ Go to [www.tinyurl.com/Giving2Grace](http://www.tinyurl.com/Giving2Grace)
- ✓ Scan the QR Code on the right.
- ✓ Text **GIVE** to **620-542-8024**.

## OFFERTORY *sit*

“Rejoice and Sing!” • Grace Choir  
by John Rutter © 2014 Oxford University Press

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D

BCP 372

**Sursum Corda** (*“Lift up your hearts...”*) *stand*

*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.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs and matriarchs, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *kneel*

BCP 364

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

**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** *kneel*

BCP 364

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept, in reverent thanksgiving for what Jesus has done for us.*

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-158

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 337

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own right-eousness, 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.*



## THE INVITATION

This is the Banquet of the Lamb.

It is made ready for those who love God,  
And for those who want to love God more.

So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
You who have been here often, and you who have not been here long,  
You who have tried to follow, and you who have failed.

Come because it is the Lord who invites you.

It is Christ's will that those who want him should meet him here.

## HOLY COMMUNION IN ONE OR BOTH KINDS

*At this time, an usher will come forward and invite each row to go forward for communion. **Bread.** When it is your turn to receive communion simply extend your cupped hands forward, and a priest will place the wafer of bread in your hands. **Gluten Free.** If you would prefer a gluten-free wafer, extend your hands palms down. **Real Wine.** If you wish to receive the wine, you may drink from the chalice or you may dip the wafer into the chalice. **Two Stations.** You may choose to receive communion at the altar rail or at the station on the right side in front of the pulpit.*

✚ The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION HYMN *stand*

“Canticle of the Turning”

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.



1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a  
4 Though the nations rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the  
work great . . . things in me, and your mercy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

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.

## THE BLESSING

### PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD *stand*

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light.

*Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!*

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth.

*Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!*

"Go Tell it on The Mountain" • Hymnal 99 (vv. 1-3)  
Words and Music: Afro-American Spiritual, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.

Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn.

*Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!*

### DISMISSAL & SENDING FORTH INTO GOD'S MISSION FIELD

*The Deacon bids the people to go forth into the world in mission, using the following or some other dismissal.*

*Deacon:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People:* Thanks be to God.



### HELP US END THE YEAR STRONG

Your giving is what makes the mission and ministry of Grace possible. Please consider a year-end gift.

If you want your gift included in this year's giving statement, please have it to the office by December 31.



**SIGN UP SHEETS ARE ON THE  
NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD**

## **ALTAR FLOWERS NEEDED**

If you would like to celebrate or remember a special event or person(s) with altar flowers, the 2026 Altar Flower sign-up sheet is now posted in the Narthex or you may contact the church office. Suggested donation is \$40 for each.



## **HOST FELLOWSHIP HOUR**

If you would be willing to host a Sunday please sign up. This is a good way for people to connect with one another.

**Upcoming Dates Available:** January 4 – December 27

## **PROVIDE A YOUTH GROUP DINNER**

Sign up to bring dinner for our youth groups. Meals can be simple. Drinks and desserts are appreciated, but not required. We eat at 6:30 pm, and we invite those who prepare the meal to join us for dinner. It is a great way to get to know our youth!

**Upcoming Dates Available:** January 7 – February 25



# WHO & WHAT IS THE VESTRY?

The vestry is the body within a congregation that, with the clergy, leads the parish. The vestry...

- helps to discern the vision toward which God is drawing that particular community;
- articulates and communicates the vision;
- holds the community accountable for its realization of that vision; and
- keeps the mission of the Church and that of the individual congregation clearly before the parish community.



God creates the Church, and invites us to participate in the process. A congregation's leaders are the stewards of that creation and hold it in trust. The congregation has been given the resources needed to do the job God has called it to do. Leaders identify and allocate those resources enabling the Church to carry out its mission. They also lead the congregation in celebrating and giving thanks for these resources.

## *Meetings of the Vestry*

**Vestry Night.** On the first Monday of each month, the Vestry meets at the church from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. On Vestry Nights, we focus on the adaptive work of discerning and clarifying the mission of the church. We begin our evenings with a catered meal. We devote our time to the work of building community, developing our leadership capacity, learning new perspectives and skills, and finding ways to carry out God's mission in practical ways.

**Vestry Zoom.** On the third Monday of a month, the Vestry meets online from 6:30 to 7:00 pm via Zoom. At this meeting, we focus on the more technical work of finances, stewardship, building and grounds.

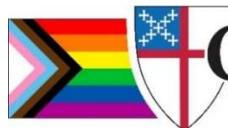
## *Who Can Serve on Vestry?*

Nominees for Vestry must be baptized and confirmed, attend worship at Grace regularly, and contribute financially to the mission and ministry of Grace. Nominees will fill out a questionnaire that will be distributed to the congregation the week before the Annual Meeting on January 25, 2026.

## *Looking for 5 Nominees.*

We have three off-going Vestry members—Stephen Armstrong, Toni Cottrell, and Julie Steen—and two other partial terms that need to be filled. So, we are looking for at least 5 nominees: 3 persons to serve three-year terms and 2 to serve two-year terms.

You may nominate yourself, or you may nominate someone else, if you have their permission to do so. Signup sheets are in the Narthex or nominations may be sent to Heidi in the church office ([grace.hutch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:grace.hutch@sbcglobal.net)).



# GRACE EPISCOPAL

Serving Christ by Ministering to the Needs of the Community & the Parish

## Upcoming EVENTS

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

December 25 – January 4

*Office will reopen January 5.*



### ONLINE PRAYER

9:00 pm • Every Night .....Compline Online at Nine (FB LIVE)

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:00 am .....The Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 • Spoken  
9:15 am .....Adult Sunday School: Sermon Sojourners  
10:15 am .....The Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 • Music  
After 10:15 am Service .....Fellowship Hour in Parish Hall

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

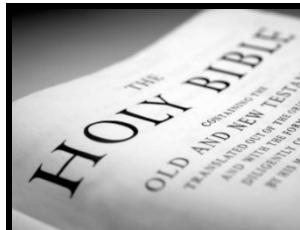
7:00 pm .....Al-Anon

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:30 am .....NO Chapel  
10:00 am .....NO Bible Study  
6:30 pm .....NO MS/HS Youth Group

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

8:00 am .....The Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 • Spoken  
9:15 am .....Adult Sunday School: Sermon Sojourners  
10:15 am .....The Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 • Music  
After 10:15 am Service .....Fellowship Hour in Parish Hall



### SCRIPTURES FOR NEXT SUNDAY • CHRISTMAS 2

- Jeremiah 31:7-14
- Psalm 84
- Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a
- Matthew 2:1-12



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