



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Newton, Massachusetts • gracenewton.org

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CELEBRATION OF PRIEST IN CHARGE MINISTRY



HOLY EUCHARIST
April 28, 2024 | 10:30am

Your presence is a blessing to us!

A carpeted area for children with books and comfortable seating is located in the front by the font.

(Please silence all electronic devices during the service.)

PRELUDE

Voluntary in E

J.T. Horne (1894-1978)

Please stand as you are able and join in singing the opening hymn

OPENING HYMN 470

“There's Wideness in God's Mercy”

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;

there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

THE WORD OF GOD

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

GLORIA S277

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God,
 hea - ven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the
 Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
 with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF PRIEST IN CHARGE MINISTRY

The Rev. Canon Gregory Perez will lead us in celebrating the relationship of mutual ministry between Grace Church and The Rev. Tammy Hobbs Miracky as Priest in Charge.

Senior Warden and Priest in Charge address The Rev. Canon.

Canon Gregory, on behalf of the people of Grace Church, we present ourselves and those here gathered to receive God's blessing as we begin our new ministry together.

The Canon addresses the congregation.

Dear people of Grace Church, through Baptism you have been adopted into the community of faith, God's holy fellowship, the Body of Christ, the Church. As priest and people together, you have been called to share in the Church's mission to restore all people to unity with God and one another in Christ. Every baptized person is fully empowered and authorized to exercise ministry in Christ's name, with mutual affection and respect, within this parish, in the Diocese of Massachusetts, and in the wider community.

Having covenanted in Baptism to do this work, remember that each of you has resources and gifts for ministry. In the days and months ahead, join together as priest and people, in prayer, in discerning a vision for this parish, and in calling forth the leadership, resources, and talents to carry out that vision. Remember to love, support, and nourish one another, priest and people alike, for the building up of this parish community, in witness to Christ's grace, and in service to the world around you.

The Canon addresses the priest.

Tammy, do you commit yourself to this ministry, in partnership with the people of Grace Church?

The Priest responds.

I do, by the grace of God.

The Canon addresses the congregation.

People of Grace Church, do you commit yourself to this ministry, in partnership with The Rev. Tammy Hobbs Miracky, your new priest?

We do, by the grace of God.

May the One who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for calling us to be your people, for uniting us through Christ, and for strengthening us by the Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that Tammy Hobbs Miracky and the people of Grace Church may together be an effective witness to your love in word and action. Grant that they may serve you with devotion as priest and people, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

Scott Aquilina

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The choir sings the psalm.

PSALM 22

“Deus, Deus meus”

Chant Tone

Verses

- 24 My praise is of him in the ¹great as¹sembly; *
I will perform my vows in the ¹presence of ¹those who ¹worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the ¹LORD shall ¹praise him: *
“May your ¹heart ¹live for ¹ever!”
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall ¹remember and ¹turn to the ¹LORD, *
and all the families of the ¹nations shall ¹bow be¹fore him.
- 27 For kingship be¹longs to the ¹LORD; *
he ¹rüles ¹over the ¹nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow ¹down in ¹worship; *
all who go down to the ¹düst ¹fall be¹fore him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
my des¹cendants shall ¹serve him; *
they shall be ¹known as the ¹LORD’s for ¹ever.
- †30 They shall come and make known to a ¹people yet un¹born *
the saving ¹deeds that ¹he has ¹done.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able and join in singing the hymn.

GOSPEL HYMN 198

“Thou Hallowed Chosen Morn of Praise”

1 Thou hal - lowed chos - en morn of praise, that best and great - est
2 Come, let us taste the vine's new fruit, for heaven - ly joy pre -

shin - est: fair Eas - ter, queen of all the days, of
par - ing; to - day the branch - es with the root in

sea - sons, best, di - vin - est! Christ rose from death; and
re - sur - rec - tion shar - ing: whom as true God our

we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.
hymns a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Canon Gregory Perez

A period of silence is observed.

Please stand as you are able and join in affirming our faith.

NICENE CREED

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form VI, BCP, pg. 392

Leslie Lockhart

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

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

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

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Alan and Carol, our Bishops; and in our Grace Cycle of Thanksgiving, we give thanks for the Stewardship Committee who remind us of the blessings we've received from God, and the blessings that we can make possible through the giving of our time, talent, and treasure.

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our parish prayer list.

The people may add their own petitions, silently or out loud.

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

The people may add their own thanksgivings, silently or out loud.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

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

The people may add their own petitions, silently or out loud.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

PRESIDER'S COLLECT

Open our hearts to your presence around us and between us and within us, until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, in communities transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Please greet those around you, mindful that some may prefer a wave to a handshake or a hug.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" W.K. Stanton (1891-1978)

OFFERTORY HYMN H 380 Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ all creatures here below.

Praise Holy Spirit, evermore. Praise triune God, whom we adore.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer D, (Expansive Language Version)

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, 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:

Please join in singing the Sanctus.

SANCTUS SI 25

Proulx



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We acclaim you, holy God, 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.

Holy God, 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, Jesus 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 Jesus 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 Christ who died and rose for us, you sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for Jesus 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 Jesus 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 Jesus 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."

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ's resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ's 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.

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

God our Creator, 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 our Savior 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 all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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

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.

Please join in singing the Fraction Hymn.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD S155

Lamb of God

Near

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



All are welcome to receive communion at Grace Church. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of the bread or wine, cross your arms over your chest. To receive the bread, hold out your hands. You may receive the wine from the chalice (large cup) by helping the server guide it to your lips, or by intincting (dipping) the wafer in the small cup. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents, or to receive a blessing from the priest. Please have your children hold out their hands if they wish to receive the bread. If you would like communion brought to you, please advise the greeter or usher.

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and
 *3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by
 *4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.
Amen.**

Please be seated for announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

BLESSING

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with new life; and the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Postlude in F, Op. 28, No. 7

Christian Cappelen (1845-1916)

The flowers on the altar were donated by the Heywood Family in memory of Stephen Heywood.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Celebrant: The Rev. Tammy Hobbs Miracky

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Gregory Perez

Organist: William C. Parks

Acolytes: Iris Floyd, Penelope Floyd, Helen Schlimgen, Linnea Shannon

Lector: Scott Aquilina, Sallie Dunning

Intercessor: Leslie Lockhart

Altar Guild: Martha Bauer, Nancy O'Brien

Bell Ringer: Sallie Dunning

Counters/Closers: Scott Aquilina, Taylor Boas

Greeters/Ushers: José Estabil, Laura Johnson

Festive Coffee Hour: José Estabil, Kay Evans, Linda George, Diane Sakakini

Music: Reprinted with permission under One License # A-72686

TODAY AT GRACE

- **11:30am Festive Coffee Hour**

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE

- **Worship Advisory Meeting:** May 1st at 5:30pm on Zoom
- **Confirmation:** May 4th at 10:30am at *All Saints Parish, Belmont*
- **Godly Play | Church School:** May 5th at 9:30am
- **Sixth Sunday of Easter:** May 5th at 10:30am
- **Memorial Service for Donald Kennedy:** May 11th at 1:00pm
- **Seventh Sunday of Easter:** May 12th at 10:30am
- **Pentecost Sunday | Choir Appreciation:** May 19th at 10:30am
- **Vestry Meeting:** May 22nd at 6:30pm
- **Grace Men's Breakfast:** May 25th at 8:00am
- **Trinity Sunday:** May 26th at 10:30am

ONGOING EVENTS AT GRACE

- **Centering Prayer Group:** Wednesdays at 6:45pm on Zoom. For information, please contact Mary Malagodi (marymalagodi@aol.com).
- **Grace Choir:** Rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:00-8:30pm and Sundays at 8:30-9:15am.
- **Grace Discussion Group:** Sundays at 9:30-10:15am in the Small Hall. **May 5th:** “Diocesan Bishop Election Process” with Richard Morrill and Paulette Fontaine, delegates to the election convention

THIS WEEK WE PRAY FOR

Those celebrating birthdays: Ellen Farwell, Max Umbesen, David Samuels, Patrick McNally, Tony Lyman, Douglas Wong

Grace Cycle of Thanksgiving: Stewardship Committee

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: *Churches of the Concord River Deanery:* St. John's Chapel, Groton School, Groton; St. Michael's Church, Holliston; St. Paul's Church, Hopkinton; St. Luke's Church, Hudson; Congregational Chapters of the Episcopal Church Women

Those in need of healing: Dylan Angell, Billy DeFlavio, Richie Flaming, Jean Kennedy, Carol Leach, Leslie Lockhart, Dianne Mahany, Jo McGrade, Steve McGrade, Carol McNally, Carol Robinson, Marilyn Ruston-Stearns, Carolyn Sprich, Lisa Tieszen

You may add (or remove) a loved one to the prayer list by using the link found in Grace Today.

Note: If you would like to renew a prayer request, please email Sé. Names will be removed after three months.