



# Grace Episcopal Church

October 23, 2016 8:00am

Ministers: All of Us

Preacher/Priest in Charge: Joan Anthony

Music & Arts: Ann Strickland

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*We are seated. A bell rings and we listen to the longing of our hearts.  
At the second bell we stand and affirm our intention to be here.*

## A Call to Worship

Leader Blessed be God: Above us, Beside us and Within us.

People **May we know the light and peace of God, now and forever. Amen.**

Leader Here in this place, God's light is streaming in.

People **We gather in God's light, to be light for the world.**

Leader Here in this place, God's hope is with us.

People **Young and old, rich and poor, strong and weak: we gather to be renewed and welcomed home.**

Leader Here in this place, God is alive within us.

People **We gather to remember: to see Christ in ourselves and in each other. We gather to practice: to be aware, compassionate and to live with kindness.**

We are invited to sing.

## Opening Song: Blue Green Hills of Earth

Musical score for the song "Blue Green Hills of Earth". The score is written in 3/4 time and consists of five staves of music. Each staff includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and half notes. Above the notes are chord symbols: F, F/G, G7, G/C, C, F, Dm7, G(sus4), G7, F, F/G, E/G#, Am, F, C/G, G7, and C. Below the notes are three verses of lyrics. Verse 1: "1. For the earth for - ev - er turn - ing," Verse 2: "2. For the moun - tains hills and pas - tures," Verse 3: "3. For the sun for rain and thun - der," Verse 4: "For the skies for - ev - 'ry sea," Verse 5: "In their si - lent maj - es - ty," Verse 6: "For the land that makes us free," Verse 7: "To our Lord we sing re - turn - ing," Verse 8: "For all life for all of na - ture," Verse 9: "For the stars for all the heav - ens," Verse 10: "Home to our blue green hills of earth." Verse 11: "Sing we our joy - ful praise to Thee." Verse 12: "Sing we our joy - ful praise to Thee."

1. For the earth for - ev - er turn - ing,  
2. For the moun - tains hills and pas - tures,  
3. For the sun for rain and thun - der,

5 For the skies for - ev - 'ry sea,  
In their si - lent maj - es - ty,  
For the land that makes us free,

9 To our Lord we sing re - turn - ing  
For all life for all of na - ture,  
For the stars for all the heav - ens,

13 Home to our blue green hills of earth.  
Sing we our joy - ful praise to Thee.  
Sing we our joy - ful praise to Thee.

Repeat verse 1.

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Let us pray.

God of enduring patience, help us be humble as we practice the faith of our ordinary lives. May we, with every spoken or silent prayer, breathe in mercy and compassion and breathe out the possibility of change and redemption. **Amen.**

# WE TELL THE STORY

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*We sit for the reading.*

## Reading

Joel 2:23-32

or 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

*After the Reading, the Reader will say*

The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 65

*We are invited to stand and say the Psalm responsively.*

Praise is yours, God in Zion.

Now is the moment to keep our vow,

For you, God, are listening.

All people come to you bringing their shameful deeds,

You free us from guilt, from overwhelming sin.

Happy are those you invite and then welcome to your courts.

Fill us with the plenty of your house, the holiness of your temple.

You give victory in answer to our prayer.

You inspire awe, God, our savior, hope of distant lands and waters.

Clothed in power, you steady the mountains;

You still the roaring seas, restless waves, raging nations.

People everywhere stand amazed at what you do, east and west shout for joy.

# Our Gospel Hymn: Peace to Every Heart

We stay standing and sing

(A)




Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da  
Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give

(B)



pa cem. Da  
peace, Lord. Give

(C)



pa cem.  
peace, Lord.

Text: Taizé Community, 1991  
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994  
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The Celebrant then introduces the Gospel by saying

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

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

## The Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

After the Gospel the Celebrant will say

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Homily



# OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

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*We say together these ancient and new words.*

**We believe in God above us,  
maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon,  
of water and earth,  
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,  
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,  
Born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor.  
He was tortured and nailed to a tree.  
Knowing full passion and deep sorrow, he died forsaken.  
He descended into the earth to the place of death.  
On the third day he rose from the tomb.  
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present.  
And his Kingdom will one day be known.**

**We believe in God within us,  
The Holy Spirit of pentecostal fire,  
Life-Giving breath of the Church,  
She is the Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
Source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen.**

# The Prayers of the People

*We continue to stand as we pray*

## Gratitude

Leader “O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God.” We give thanks for the care and concern of our Grace community as we continue to grow and understand ourselves.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.*

Leader Holy Spirit

**All Hear our prayer**

## Community Worship

Leader “The Lord stood by me and gave me strength.” We pray for the lay leaders and clergy of Grace Church that Christ may be in the midst of our worship.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.*

Leader Holy Spirit

**All Hear our prayer**

## Life Journeying

Leader “I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.” As our nation moves towards a change in leadership, may we vote with prayerful consideration for the betterment of all.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.*

Leader Holy Spirit

**All Hear our prayer**

## Leaders, World and Faith

Leader “Clothed in power, you steady the mountains; you still the roaring seas, restless waves, raging nations.” Guide our religious and political leaders, that they may find love stronger than fear and work together towards peace in their communities and the world.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.*

Leader Holy Spirit

**All Hear our prayer**

## Our Earth Home

Leader “You tend and water the land. You fill your springs.” We pray to lessen the stress our fragile earth and its atmosphere are undergoing, and for those people who are affected.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.*

Leader Holy Spirit

**All Hear our prayer**

## Prayer Requests

Leader “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” We offer prayers for those on our prayer list and all others who are suffering or have died.

*We pause for prayers to be spoken quietly and in our hearts.*

Leader Holy Spirit

**All Hear our prayer**

## Closing

Leader As the shadows lengthen, God help us to deepen our own connection to you.

# OUR CONFESSION

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Celebrant God of compassion, you have searched us out and known us  
**All And all that we are is open to you.**  
**Forgive us, when we deny dignity to ourselves and to each other;**  
**Forgive us, when we use our power to dominate,**  
**and our weakness to manipulate;**  
**Forgive us, when we evade responsibility and forget to live with an**  
**abundant heart;**  
**Remember us, when we lose our way.**

Celebrant Once again, we turn to you God;  
**All We acknowledge our failings,**  
**We claim your love;**  
**We choose to remain whole.**

Celebrant God of welcome, you have called us home to you;  
**All Let us walk in your presence,**  
**with love in our hearts and truth in our minds,**  
**Until, at the end of our journey,**  
**We know the joy of our homecoming**  
**And the welcome of your embrace. Amen.**

*We continue with this act of community—the sharing of God’s Peace.*

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People And also with you.**



# THE CELEBRATION OF OUR SACRED MEAL

Once the Table is set with the gifts of our hearts and hands we remember God's extraordinary gift of welcome and love, and we ask that once again the ordinary things of life—bread, wine, alms, and ourselves—would be vehicles of that welcome.

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 God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon and stars; earth, wind and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, male and female, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away. And yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity lifting our voices to you as we sing:

C                      G/B                      Am

We praise you, we bless you, we thank you. \_\_\_\_\_ We

5      F                      G                      C

praise you, we bless you, oh God. \_\_\_\_\_

By Ann Strickland

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is the cup of the new Covenant,  
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now, gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer you our gifts of bread, wine, alms, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet of the world.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ. By him and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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 and Sharing of the Bread and Wine**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and the silence is broken with these words*

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**All Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

*Now we are invited to share the gifts of communion. The Celebrant extends that invitation by saying*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*To receive the bread and the wine, please simply move to the center circle with those around you. Know that at Grace Church this common meal is for all who feel moved to receive. This sacrament is God's gift to all, and is not tied to membership, doctrine or creed.*

*Please assist the Chalice Bearers by tipping the cup from the base.  
If you prefer a wafer that is free from gluten, soy and dairy, please tell your server  
Music is offered as we receive the bread and cup.*

## **Music During Communion**

*After Communion, we are invited to share the sounds of silence with one another.  
The quiet will last a few minutes—and will begin and end with a bell.  
For all of us, young and otherwise, these simple moments of stillness are offered  
as a chance to find ourselves held in the timeless presence of God.*

# GOING OUT INTO GOD'S WORLD

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## Our Prayer after Communion

*We stand to pray.*

All            **Living God, we thank you that in this sacrament you make yourself known to us. From now on, whenever we walk in strange places, we will find your footprints there; whenever we meet with unknown faces we will see your image there; whenever we stumble into unexpected joy, we will feel your heartbeat there.**

Leader        **Wherever we go we start from here.**

All            **Loving God, send us now into the world in peace, and grant us the strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Blessing

*The Celebrant offers this blessing.*

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit who broods over creation as a mother over her children, be upon us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

## Dismissal

Leader        **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!**

People        **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**