



Grace Episcopal Church Galena, Illinois

Last Sunday after Epiphany

February 14, 2021

Welcome to Grace Church!

It is, as always, a pleasure and privilege to worship together today. Please know that your presence is valued whether this is your first time at Grace or whether you are a regular, whether we are together in person or online on Zoom.

We have chosen to keep our online and in-person congregations together. For those at home on Zoom, links to the bulletin may be found in Friday's e-Blast, the Zoom invitation, and on our website. Printed copies will be available for the in-person congregation. If you are worshipping in the church and wish to use a bulletin on your electronic device, you must download it **before** coming into the church. Please be aware that we are recording this service for later upload to Facebook, YouTube and our website. It is possible that you will be shown briefly in the recording.

Please remember:

Masks must be worn throughout your time at Grace for the protection of those near you.

Hand sanitizer is available at each of the entrances.

Sit only in the seats marked by bulletins and leave plenty of space between worshipers/families.

Please put your smartphone or other device in airplane mode so that our internet capacity is reserved for our online streaming.

At the time of Communion, the Vestry Coordinator will guide your approach to the chancel steps in the center aisle maintaining distance between communicants.

Reservations are required in advance and you will be checked in by the greeter and admitted through the Parish House entrance. If you did not reserve a seat, please check with the Vestry Coordinator to see if an open seat is available.

Baskets are available at the exits for your pledges/contributions.

Should you become ill after attending worship, please notify the church so that others present may be contacted.

At the end of the service, please depart from the church and maintain the six-foot distancing.

Conversations should take place outside.

As life continues to change, let us rejoice in God who continues to be revealed to us and give thanks for our ability to share in worship in hope for the time when all of us can be together again.

MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

* Members and Guests, *Celebrants*

* Rev. Linda Packard, *Presider*

* Rev. Dr. Gloria Hopewell, *Preacher*

* Rev. Diane Luther, *Deacon*

* Richard Luther, *Lector*

* Robin French, *Music Director*

* Nancy Cook, *Erben Organ*

* Charlotte Stryker, *Vestry Coordinator*

* Charlotte Stryker, *Altar Guild*

* Amy Hardwicke, *Greeter*

As we prepare ourselves for worship, please sit or kneel in quietness while the prelude is offered.

Silent Meditation

I love Epiphany, the season of befriending the Light. I love the liminal days between the Transfiguration and Ash Wednesday. I can linger on the mountain as the light fades. Soon, too soon, I have to confront those grayish shapeless lumps in my character that obscure the Light from radiating throughout my soul. In Lent I must tend to the lumps.

--*Suzanne Guthrie*

We gather to worship

PRELUDE

Angelus

G. Joseph/Floeter

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy and living God

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

THE COLLECT

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.
O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading.

THE LESSON

Lector: A reading from **2 Kings 2:1-12**

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

PSALM 50:1-6

(alternately by verse as directed by the lector)

Deus deorum

The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.

Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.

He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.

"Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."

Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.

THE EPISTLE

Lector: A reading from **2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to **Mark**.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Gloria Hopewell

We affirm our faith

THE CREED

(Please stand as able.)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and 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] who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

We offer prayers

Deacon: Mysterious and gracious God, you have created all things and fill them with your glory; bring your light into our darkness, that all creation may be transfigured into a reflection of your majesty, as we pray: Proclaim the greatness of our God; for God is the Holy One.

Intercessor: Grant to your church, O Mysterious One, eyes to see your wonderful manifestation and ears to hear your voice of grace, that we may be witnesses of your glory and servants of your compassion. Proclaim the greatness of our God;

People: **for God is the Holy One**

Lector: Almighty One, guide our nation and all in authority with a vision of your benevolent purpose for all people, that we may be a light of justice and peace for all the world. Proclaim the greatness of our God;

People: **for God is the Holy One.**

Intercessor: Compassionate One, look upon the suffering of your creation and with your divine touch remove all fear, that out of the cloud of despair your presence may bring healing and hope. Proclaim the greatness of our God;

People: **for God is the Holy One**

Lector: Loving One, inspire this community with enlightenment and grace to live with such compassion and generosity that all may fulfill their highest aims and deepest potential. Proclaim the greatness of our God;

People: **for God is the Holy One**

Intercessor: Gracious One, hear our prayers for this parish family on behalf of our community and all for whom we intercede, especially xxxx. Others? ____.
Proclaim the greatness of our God;

People: **for God is the Holy One**

Lector: Multiply our gladness for the abundance of your goodness as we present our thanksgiving and praise, especially for Matthew (Morel) and Max (Vollkommer) serving in the military; the Birthdays of *Elizabeth (Ludescher) and *Jae (Hezlep); our Outreach partners: Glory Parish in the Diocese of Renk and La Santa Cruz parish in the Diocese of SE Mexico; the United Thank Offering, the Galena ARC, the United Churches Food Pantry, Episcopal Relief and Development, Shelter Care Ministries, Dubuque Rescue Mission; all who worship in this place and those who have not yet walked through these doors. Others? ____.

Embrace into the heights of your heavenly dwelling those who have died, especially Austin (McDermott), Christian (Nielsen), Fannie (Bell) and Kenneth (Vaughn). Others? ____.
Lift our hearts to your presence where we may behold your face.

People: **for God is the Holy One**

Deacon: O Holy God, as our ancestors witnessed your glory in the cloud and upon the mountain, so open our eyes to see your presence manifest in all creation, that following the example of Moses and Elijah, we may faithfully live in your Spirit, obey your will and proclaim your glory, until all the world is transfigured with the light of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

Stand or kneel.

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People: ***Amen.***

We share the Peace of Christ

Presider: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

We share the ministries of the Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

ANNIVERSARY/BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase;
bless and guide them wherever they may be.

Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful;
raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding
abide all the days of their lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Holy Communion

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

For those who have received the consecrated wafers and communion items, you may prepare your worship area as the priest prepares the table.

PRESENTATION HYMN

Father, We Praise Thee

Dearmer/from Antiphoner

As the hymn is played, and the altar is prepared for Communion, you may reflect on these words:

Father, we praise thee, now the night is over,
Active and watchful, stand we all before thee;
Singing we offer prayer and meditation:
Thus we adore thee.

Monarch of all things, fit us for thy mansions;
Banish our weakness, health and wholeness sending;
Bring us to heaven, where thy saints united
Joy without ending.

All holy Father, Son, and equal Spirit,
Trinity blessed, send us thy salvation;
Thine is the glory, gleaming and resounding
Through all creation.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the
company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your
Name:

(Stand or kneel as able.)

Presider and People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.

Presider: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People:
We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Presider: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

People: ***Amen***

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

People: **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.***

FRACTION

Presider: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION MUSIC

For those who do not have the consecrated wafers, you may say this prayer as others receive.

PRAYER FOR WHEN WE ARE UNABLE TO SHARE COMMUNION

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. ***Amen.***

-- The Prayer Book for the Armed Services

Presider: Let us pray:

Celebrant and

People: 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 Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

THE BLESSING

Presider: Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among You, and remain with you always.

People: ***Amen.***

Deacon: Go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Jesus Loves Me

Bradbury/Johnston

The flowers today are given by Barbara Hooper in memory of Chip Hooper.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

for February 21, 2021

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17	1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15	Psalm 25:1-9

Music Copyright Information

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers are Requested: *Please include the following concerns during worship today and throughout the week:*

Cycle of Prayer:

The Most Rev. Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury and for our companion Parishes: Glory Parish in the Diocese of Renk and La Santa Cruz parish in the Diocese of SE Mexico.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Paula, our Bishop-Elect and all members of Grace Church.

We pray for those who are sick or in need:

*Ruth (Beegle), *Bob (Burton), Mark (Buttell), *Bill (Calvert), Olivia (Coponi), *Kathy (Doig), Matthew (Dowe), *Renee (Dowe), *Al (Elsbree), Keith (Ferguson), *Jennie (Fjelde), Susan (Haerle), *Barb (Hooper), Howell Family, Bishop Joseph, Ginger (Komiskey), Alden (Kuntz), Verity (Liljedahl), *Alice Maffit, *Diann & *Robert (Marsh), *Mary (Nelson), Sarah (Newton), *Bill (Norton), Lisa (Prindle), Bob (Rafter), Lois (Rafter), David (Schaller), Jason (Schaller), Gabriel (Serrano), Melody (Serwich), *Pat (Terry), *Tom (V.), Joe (Watts), Mina, Heather (H.), David (J.), Kathie (O.), Bruce (W.), Breckin, Marilyn and Dawn H.

We give thanks for the many blessings we have received:

Max (Vollkommer) and Matthew (Morel) serving in the military;
the Birthdays of *Elizabeth (Ludescher) and *Jae (Hezlep);
our Outreach partners: the United Thank Offering, the Galena ARC, the United Churches Food Pantry, Episcopal Relief and Development, Shelter Care Ministries, Dubuque Rescue Mission and all who worship in this place and those who have not yet walked through these doors.

We pray for those who have died and remember

the anniversary of the deaths of: Austin (McDermott), Christian (Neilsen), Fannie (Bell) and Kenneth (Vaughn).

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the week of February 14, 2020

Zoom Poetry Meeting

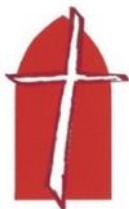
A Zoom Poetry group is meeting at Grace Church on Mondays at 2:00pm. If you are interested, write Carol Poston at poston@sxu.edu or call her at 815-777-0220 to receive the link to the meeting.

EfM Meeting is Monday, February 15th, at 6:30pm online.

Mid-Week Eucharist is this Wednesday, February 17th, at 7:30am in the church and online.

Wednesday Morning Study Group is Wednesday, February 17th, at 10:30am online.

Meditative Prayer meets Friday, February 19th, at 9:00am online. You are welcome to join, and gentle guidance will be provided for those unfamiliar with this practice.



grace episcopal church
galena, illinois

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop-Elect of Chicago
The Rev. Gloria G. Hopewell, D. Min., Rector
The Rev. Linda Packard, Priest Associate
The Rev. Diane Luther, Deacon
Nancy Kenney, Parish Administrator

Vestry

Lynn Giles	Sr. Warden	Richard Luther	Jr. Warden
Richard Luther	Treasurer	Diann Marsh	Clerk
Charlotte Stryker (2019-22)	Nancy Cook (2020-23)	Crystal Mason (2021-24)	
Elizabeth Ludescher (2019-22)	Eric Kallback (2020-23)	Phil Jackman (2021-24)	

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