

Psalm 25:1-9 Ad te, Domine, levavi

Antiphon

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, * **and teach me your paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * **for they are from everlasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love, and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; * **therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right * **and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Epistle A Reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians [3:9-13]

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Hymn 59 Hark a thrilling voice is sounding

The Gospel: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke [21:25-36]

Response: Glory to You Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee

Please stand.

The Baptismal Covenant

BCP 304

Because we begin a new liturgical year today, we renew our Baptismal Covenant

Prayers of the People

Priest: As we keep awake for the coming of the Lord, let us pray for the church and the world, that God may prepare a light for our path:

Intercessor:

We give thanks for gathering us together in this community; grant your church a discerning spirit and a watchful eye that we may make good use of this holy time and bear witness to your presence hidden among us. *[Pause]*

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming**

We give thanks for the resources you have given our nation; grant us wisdom to share them generously and to be the light in darkness for all who are hungry in body, mind, and soul. *[Pause]*

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming**

Grant that our leaders and the leaders of all nations use their powers wisely and compassionately. Strengthen those who are struggling for justice and stability throughout the world. Guide us toward the unity, peace, and freedom that we find only in you. *[Pause]*

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming.**

Comfort those who are separated from their loved ones during this holiday season. Watch over those who are travelling, and those who have nowhere to go. Shelter the homeless and guide those who are lost. *[Pause]*

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming**

Give your healing grace to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those for whom the holiday season is a time of loss, and those we now name, silently or aloud. *[Pause]*

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming**

Watch over our children, that they may know the peace, as well as the excitement, of your presence.

[Pause]

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming**

Gather into your joyful presence those who have died especially those whom we now name, silently or aloud . . . [Pause]

O Come, Emmanuel, **Your people await your coming.**

Priest: O Rising Sun, brightness of light eternal, sun of justice, come and shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Glory to you forever. **Amen.**

The Confession

BCP 360

The Peace

Announcements

Anthem *Rejoice O Jerusalem Behold Thy King Cometh*

Healey Willan

The night is far spent the day is at hand.

Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness and let us put on the armor of light.

Behold the Lord shall come and all His saints with him; and in that day the light shall be great.

Rejoice O Jerusalem, Behold Thy King Cometh Alleluia!

Hymn 57 *Lo! He comes with clouds descending*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Lord be with you

Response **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

Response **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response **It is right to give God our thanks and praise**

We praise you and we thank you, O holy and living God, Creator of heaven and earth, for the gift of a world full of wonder and for our life, which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe; through Jesus Christ you gather us into one great family. Therefore with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name as we sing:

Sanctus

Missa Marialis

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 our Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

O God, from before time you made ready the creation. Through your Wisdom, your Spirit moved over the deep and brought to birth the heavens: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; growing things, both plants and animals; and finally humankind. You made us in your image, male and female, to love and care for the earth and its creatures as you love and care for us, your children. You graced us with freedom of heart and mind, but we were heedless and willful. You took us by the hand, and taught us to walk in your ways. And although you led us with cords of compassion and bands of love, we wandered far away. 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.

Then you acted anew in Creation. In order that we might see and know the riches of your grace, your Spirit entered into Mary, the maiden of Nazareth, that she might conceive and bear a Son, the holy child of God. The world had waited long in pain and hope, and at last our Savior came to birth, fulfilling the promise of the reign of God in love.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we would not. We were heedless of his call to walk in love.

At last the time came for him to make the sacrifice of himself, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying: 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. Again he gave thanks to you, and gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

As we gather to share the bread and the cup, we remember his loving gift to us:

**We remember his death on the cross,
We proclaim the resurrection to new life,
We await the return of Christ in glory.**

And we join together in the love of Christ to give thanks and praise to you, our God. Here at this table, we offer to you all that you have made: this bread and this cup, our time and our selves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your love and your blessing on all we offer here. Breathe your Spirit onto these gifts of bread and wine, to make of them the Body and Blood of Christ. Let your Spirit who broods over the whole creation dwell within us. Gather us to be your holy people, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. Draw us, O God, to your heart at the heart of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

At the Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated Bread. After a brief silence, all say together:

We are one bread, one body. We love one another as Christ loves us.

Agnus Dei

Missa Marialis

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Holy Communion

You are invited and welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Anthem *E'en so, Lord, quickly come*

Manz

Hymn 61 *Sleepers awake*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Celebrant: Let us pray

We have heard your word, O God, and we have broken bread together. May this be a sign for us that you are very near, that we are your people, nourished and loved by you. Never forsake us, but be the light around us and our firm ground; and even more be our future, our father, today and forever. Amen.

The Sending forth of the Eucharistic Visitors:

In the name of this congregation I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Hymn LEV&S II #14 *Soon and Very Soon*

Dismissal

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in C*

Böhm

Celebrant & Preacher The Rev Dr. Judith Lee
Assisting Priest The Rev. Adolfo Moronta
Organist Peter Roberts
Lectors **8AM** Barbara Wiggins, Linda Heusser
10AM Karen Southwick, Linda Gallo **Intercessor:** Cecile Fray
Eucharistic Ministers
8AM Paola Carmago
10AM Ray Williams, Andrea Spencer
Acolytes **10AM** Rudy Breach, Anna Kristina O'Hanlon, Vika O'Hanlon, Maya Daughtry, Shane Daughtry, Jordan Acevedo
Ushers **10AM** Carmen Greenidge, James Henderson, Maria Lewis, Matthew Reid, Jane Washington, Camille Worrell
Eucharistic Visitors Audrey Taylor, Cynthia Cole
Nursery Care is available during the 10:00 AM service.
Vestry Greeter Amy Auld Owens
Coffee Hour Hosts: Ronak & Augustina Kumar **Assistant** Cecilia Peagler

If you are visiting with us for the first time, we welcome you to Grace Church!

Our liturgy is found in the Book of Common Prayer.

Our communion is open to all baptized Christians.

Please take the time to fill out one of our visitor cards which the ushers have available.

Your presence is a blessing to us; may our worship together be a blessing to you.

Grace Church Prayer List: We hold the following people in prayer:

Corine Bradley, Norene Bueti, Bernice Burton, Cynthia Cole, Cindy Courtien, Inez Dale, Jimmy Delaney, Carol DiGilio, Vincent Doria, Bill Dunphy, Cathy Dunphy, Deacon Edgar Ervin, Sandra Esannason, Lydia Green, Kristopher Hambas, The Hambas Family. Biff Henderson, Kate Hedstrom, The Hite Family, Sylvia Howard, Marie Huckabry, William Jackson, Jr., Jackie Jansky, Ivy John, Evgeniy Kaufman, Manoris Long, Paxton Louis, Gail and Dave Matthew, Trisha McGuinness, Janice Moore, Giovanna Mustac, Selena Perry, Gladstone Reid, Leroy Reid, Renee Reid, Uriel Reid, Thomas Russo, Phil Sawyer, Marilyn Seimia, Norman Stanton, Susan Stanton, Laura Stix, Barbara Vigliotti, Stacey Vitale, Natasha Vodyanitskaya, The Walsh Family, Emma Wainwright, Marthe Watkins

Bethel Nursing and Rehabilitation Center: Verna Brown

Cedar Manor, Ossining: Robert Auld

The Grove at Valhalla: Marie Huckabry

Serving in the Armed Forces: Kenny Duffy, Denny J. Edmondson, Christopher P. Halstead, David Packer, Sgt. Christopher Vigliotti, Gunnery Sgt. Les Yearwood.

Please call the Parish Office or contact Sandy Gadsden McAllister if you would like to place someone's name on our prayer list

Birthdays

December 2nd Valentine Parkinson, Aailyah M. Rouse

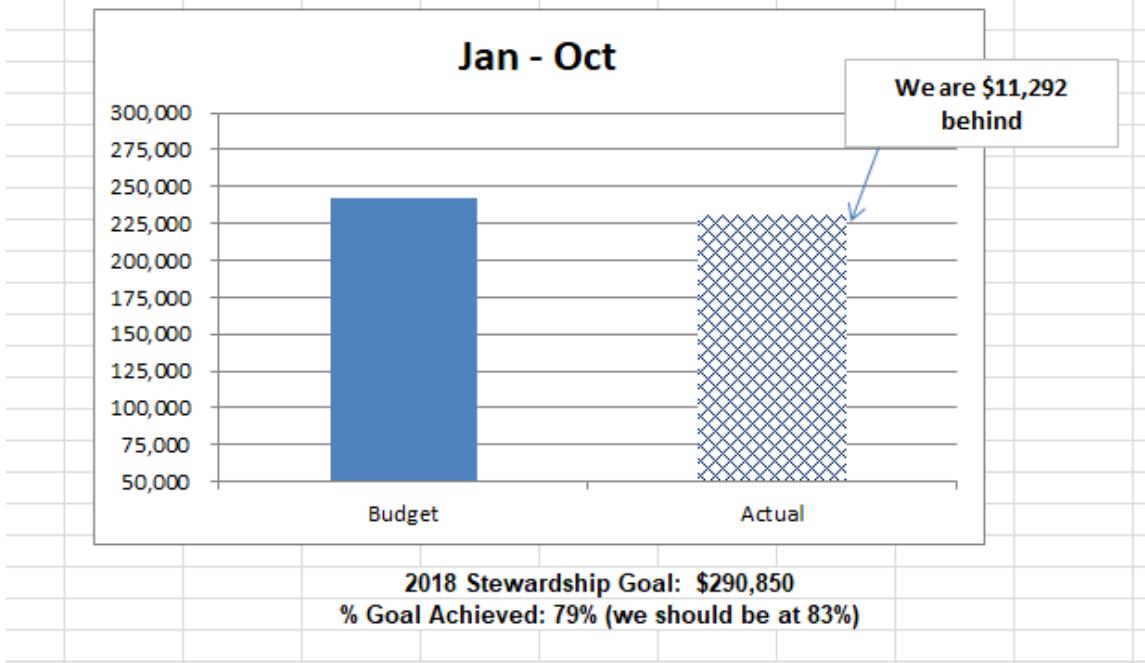
December 3rd Judy Hutton

December 4th Verna Brown, Dawn M. Edwards, Roy Salvatierra Familia,

December 7th Gwendolyn Hutchins

December 8th Carlos R. Muñoz

In the effort to communicate to the congregation about our progress toward meeting our 2018 Stewardship Goal, the below chart shows Total Pledges for January - Oct (actual vs. budget) for Grace and La Gracia. This chart will be updated each month.



Announcements for the Week of December 2nd

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Tuesday- December 4th

12:05 PM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Wednesday- December 5th

12:10 PM Downtown Music at Grace

1:30 PM SAGE – in the Library

6:30 PM Labyrinth in the Parish Hall

7:30 PM Bible Study in the Library

Thursday- December 6th

12:05 PM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

7:30 PM Santa Eucaristía in the Church

Saturday December 8th

9:00 AM-3:00 PM Latino Ministries Retreat

5:00 PM Jazz Vespers for Blue Christmas

What's New:

Stewardship Campaign update: As of November 25th:

Total number of pledges (Grace & La Gracia): 132

Total pledge amount (Grace & La Gracia): \$212,017

ECW RAFFLE

ECW will start selling raffle tickets for two holiday baskets starting on **Sunday, December 2nd**.

Tickets are six for \$5.00 sold during Coffee Hour. Drawing held Sunday, December 23rd. The proceeds are going towards Samaritan House Gift Cards.

FILL SOMEONE'S GROCERY BAG WITH JOY. Beginning November 18th through December 16th, Grace/La Gracia once again has the opportunity to provide a \$25 gift card to be placed in a grocery bag with Christmas staples for dinner. As a parish, we have been very generous in providing these gift cards to help over 500 families who receive the gift of personal food choices before Christmas from Lifting Up Westchester. Please give what you can in the form of a gift card (generic, Stop & Shop, ShopRite, Target), cash or check (made to Lifting Up Westchester). Collection will be on Sunday's between 9-9:45 AM and after the 10:00 AM service in the Parish Hall. Questions? Please speak with Linda Gallo. Thanks!

TOYS FOR LA GRACIA – Every year La Gracia distributes toys to children on January 6th, the Feast of Epiphany/Three Kings Sunday. Please see Fr. Adolfo about ways you can contribute toys or financial donations for this tradition. Thank you.

THIS WEDNESDAY: December 5th, 1:30-3:00 PM SAGE Meeting. Maria Lewis will introduce us to the new labyrinth.

THIS SATURDAY: December 8th at 5:00 PM Blue Christmas Jazz Vespers

The Alex Auld Jazz Quartet will play for a service of Jazz Vespers. This service is designed to provide comfort and hope to those for whom the Christmas season is a “blue” season of sadness, loss, or discouragement. We will ask for a Free Will Offering to benefit our Organ Fund.

Looking Ahead:

Tuesday December 11th - 8:30 PM Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe -This is a major annual festival in the Latino community and at Grace/La Gracia. (Last year, almost 300 people attended the service and dinner!) Everyone is welcome to join in any or all the celebration. We will process from the Parish Hall to the Church at 8:30 PM, and the festival ends with prayers at midnight.

Book Club Update: Tuesday December 11th at 7PM Next on our agenda – **We Are Called to Rise** by Laura McBride We will meet in the Library. Interested in the Book Club? Contact Karen Odom at karenodom@yahoo.com

Saturday, December 15th - 4PM Caroling at Grace Church

Please join us for informal caroling in front of Grace Church on Saturday, December 15th at 4pm. We encourage you bring your family and friends. Hot beverages will be served. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the Parish Hall. For more information please contact Walter Simon.

Bible Study: 7:30 PM Wednesdays in Advent: December 5,12, & 19. The Labyrinth will be set up on the Parish Hall for Meditation 6:30-7:30 on Wednesdays.

Sundays at 9:00-9:30 AM – Informal Bible Study in the Library

Advent and Christmastide at Grace / La Gracia

Saturday December 1st	10 AM – 6 PM Parish Day of Renewal 5 PM First Saturdays at Grace: Ecumenical Prayers for Peace with the TransJazz Gospel Group
Sunday December 2nd	First Sunday of Advent 12:30 PM We welcome in Holy Baptism Yoltzin Flores Pérez ECW Raffle tickets available
Saturday December 8th	9 AM-3 PM Latino Ministries Retreat hosted by Grace/La Gracia 3 PM – 7 PM Santa's Workshop hosted by J2A 5 PM Blue Christmas Jazz Vespers with the Alex Auld and the NYSB Quintet
Sunday December 9th	Second Sunday of Advent
Saturday, December 15th	4PM Informal Caroling in front of Grace Church
Sunday December 16th	Third Sunday of Advent 10 AM Family Service 11:30 AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 4 PM Advent Service of Lessons and Carols
Sunday December 23rd	Fourth Sunday of Advent 11:30 AM – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
December 24th	Eve of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord 2:30 PM Pageant participants arrive; lunch provided 4:00 PM Family Service with Christmas Pageant 7:00 PM Fiesta de la Natividad de Nuestro Señor 10:00 PM Festive Service of Holy Eucharist
December 30th	Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus (transferred) Mother Judith's last Sunday
December 31st	11 PM – Midnight The church will be open for private prayers.
January 6th	Feast of the Epiphany

General Information:

Elections: Annual Parish Meeting: January 27, 2019

Positions open for Election:

Junior Warden (Michael Heffner was appointed by the Vestry to serve until the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting)

Vestry: **One 2-year term** (Michael Heffner's seat)
Three 3-year terms (Expiring terms: Irene Alves, Sorraya Sampson Elliott, Karen Odom)

Qualifications for serving on Vestry

- 1) Must be a pledging member of Grace/La Gracia for at least 24 months.
- 2) Must be confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church
- 3) Must attend service regularly.
- 4) Must be able to attend the Vestry meetings regularly (currently scheduled on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm.)

Qualifications for voting [By Laws: Section 4. Qualifications for Voting]

Persons of the age of 18 years or more who have been baptized, are communicants of the Episcopal Church, belong to the Parish, are regular attendants of its worship and have contributed to its support for at least twelve (12) months prior to the Annual Election or Special Meeting at which they are in attendance, shall be qualified to vote. **For the January 2019 election, eligible voters must have pledged for both 2018 and 2019. Records will be updated before January 15, 2019.**

Vestry Highlights

November 27, 2018

Resolved

- ✓ Approved La Gracia application for a Diocesan Hispanic Ministries Grant
- ✓ Resolved to continue the practice of appointing voting Convention Delegates: Officers have first choice, Vestry members second, then members of the congregation will be invited to serve
- ✓ Resolved to table discussion about additional security measures until the new Rector begins and Buildings and Grounds submits a proposal for a comprehensive plan.

Discussion

- ✓ What have we done well?
 - The stewardship reflections have been inspiring
- ✓ What could we have done better?
 - Communication continues to need improving. Not everyone is receiving the e-news.
- ✓ Parish Day of Renewal – Reviewed the organization and themes of the day and Vestry members signed up to facilitate small group discussions
- ✓ Nominations and Elections: Marisol Ortega will be Chair of the Nominating Committee and a timeline for interviewing candidates and preparing materials was developed
- ✓ A draft of the Personnel Policy Manual was distributed for review. Vestry members will send proposed revisions to the Executive Committee, to be submitted for approval at the December meeting
- ✓ Vestry members were encouraged to attend the final two Las Posadas gatherings: December 21st at the Rectory and December 22nd in the Parish Hall



Where Hope Takes Flight—One Person At A Time



GRACE CHURCH

of the Episcopal Diocese of New York

The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche, Bishop
The Right Reverend Allen Kunho Shin, Bishop Suffragan
The Right Reverend Mary Glasspool, Assistant Bishop
The Reverend Dr. Judith Lee, Interim Pastor
The Reverend Adolfo Moronta, Associate Priest
Peter Roberts, Director of Music of Grace Church
Juan Carlos Abreu, Director of Music of La Gracia
Donna Louis, Youth Ministry Coordinator
Maria Campos, Secretary
Taurino Juárez, Sexton

The First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

33 Church Street
White Plains, New York 10601
914-949-2874

www.gracewhiteplains.org

VESTRY

Joseph C. Gallo, Senior. Warden
Michael Heffner, Junior Warden
Hillary Fleming, Treasurer
Sorraya Sampson Elliott, Clerk

Class of 2018: Irene Alves, Karen Odom, Amy Auld Owens, Sorraya Sampson Elliott

Class of 2019: Trisha McGuinness, Marisol Ortega, Charlotte Roberson

Class of 2020: Daisy Calderon, Hillary Fleming

Grace Church is a diverse congregation committed to a common life sustained by worship. We bear witness to God's love in Christ through our life together and our service to the wider community.

All are welcome.