



Grace Episcopal Church

Historic Church: 5805 Main Street, Elkridge, MD 21075

Family Life Center & Offices: 6725 Montgomery Road, Elkridge, MD 21075
(410) 796-3270 ** Graceelkridge.org

Rev. Travis K Smith, Rector

Rev. Mimi Mathews, Deacon

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Sunday, December 8, 2019 – 10:00 am

Welcome to Grace Church

We're glad you are here! The center of all that we do at Grace is the worship of God as revealed to us in the person of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is our principle call as Christians and is the means by which we are nourished so that we might be the hands and feet of our Risen Lord in our community and the world.

- We invite everyone in worship to **come to our Lord's Table** during worship to receive communion or a blessing. The bread is received with an open hand; the wine by guiding the chalice to your lips or by dipping the wafer into the cup. If you do not wish to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead.
- An opportunity for **healing prayer** is offered during worship at the kneeler located under the heart banner in Grace's Wellness Corner. Prayers can be offered for any part of your life that needs it—physical, mental, spiritual. You can come seeking healing for yourself or for someone else in any part of their life.
- **Angels of Grace Nursery** is located upstairs. We love to have children at the services and welcome their energy with open hearts and arms. While not staffed, the nursery is a place parents can take a child if quiet time is desired. Go through the double doors, up the stairs, and follow the signs. A changing table is available in the nursery and in the women's restroom.
- **Children's Chapel** is offered during worship. After the Gospel, children process upstairs and celebrate God's love of them and their neighbor. Children rejoin the service during the Peace.

Join us for further refreshment after worship concludes. If you're looking for a spiritual home, exploring your faith, searching for ways to serve your community, or seeking to make a difference in God's world, you are welcome at Grace Episcopal Church.

Mission Statement of Grace Church

- We are called by God to be a community of faith committed to knowing Jesus and making Him known to the world.
- We believe we are called to seek Christ in all persons and to love our neighbors as God loves us.
- We believe as the body of Christ we are called to reach out to our local community and the world, to invite all people to know the joy of God, and to welcome all persons into fellowship.
- We believe we are called to nurture each other in the faith and to be a fellowship of grace and renewal.

Looking for a church that loves people? Come as our guest and leave as one of the family! Church services are held at 7:30a.m. at the **Historic Stone Church** in downtown Elkridge off of Main Street and at 10 a.m. at the **Holy Family Chapel** at 6725 Montgomery Road. For more information about Grace Episcopal Church, check the website at www.graceelkrige.org or call the office at 410-796-3270.

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Prepare The Way O Zion – WR 152

Verse 1

Prepare the way O Zion
Your Christ is drawing near
Let every hill and valley
A level way appear
Greet One who comes in glory
Foretold in sacred story

Chorus

Oh blest is Christ that came
In God's most holy name

Verse 2

He brings God's rule O Zion
He comes from heav'n above
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice truth and love
Lift high your praise resounding
For grace and joy abounding

Chorus

Verse 3

Fling wide your gates O Zion
Your Saviour's rule embrace
His tidings of salvation
Proclaim in every place
All lands will bow before Him
Their voices will adore Him

Chorus

CCLI Song # 1958603 (adapted WR152)
Charles P. Price | Frans Mikael Franzen | Jeffrey Rickard
OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say

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.

SONG OF PRAISE: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - WR 154

Verse 1

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus 1

Rejoice Rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

Verse 2

O come thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thy justice here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

Chorus

Verse 3

O come thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go

Chorus

Verse 4

O come Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill the whole world with heavens Peace.

WORDS: Latin, 9th c.; tr John M Neale(1818-1866) vss 3&4 tr Henry S Coffin (1877-1954)

MUSIC: French melody, 15th c.; harm. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Genesis 3

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the

garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸They heard the sound of the Lord GOD walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord GOD among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord GOD called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate."¹³Then the Lord GOD said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The Lord GOD said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶To the woman he said,
"I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children,
yet your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you."

¹⁷And to the man he said,
"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,
and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,
'You shall not eat of it,'
cursed is the ground because of you;
in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return."

²⁰The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the Lord GOD made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

²²Then the Lord GOD said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" — ²³therefore the Lord GOD sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Remain seated.

¹Give the king your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

²That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

³That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

⁴He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

⁵He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

⁶He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *

who alone does wondrous deeds!

¹⁹And blessed be his glorious Name forever, *

and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

SEQUENCE HYMN: Jesus Name Above All Names - WR 177

Jesus, Name above All Names

Jesus, name above all names,

beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.

Emmanuel, God is with us,

blessed Redeemer, Living Word

Worship & Rejoice # 177 // Words & Music Naida Hern

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,

²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy

Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

THE SERMON: Rev Travis K Smith

THE CREED

All stand.

*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.*

Outline of our Faith: God the Father

- Q. What do we learn about God as creator from the revelation to Israel?
- A. *We learn that there is one God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

- Q. What does this mean?
- A. *This means that the universe is good, that it is the work of a single loving God who creates, sustains, and directs it.*

- Q. What does this mean about our place in the universe?
- A. *It means that the world belongs to its creator; and that we are called to enjoy it and to care for it in accordance with God's purposes.*

- Q. What does this mean about human life?
- A. *It means that all people are worthy of respect and honor, because all are created in the image of God, and all can respond to the love of God.*

- Q. How was this revelation handed down to us?
- A. *This revelation was handed down to us through a community created by a covenant with God.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Eugene our Bishop Travis our Rector and Mimi our Deacon; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

We pray for Donald our President, Larry our Governor, Calvin our County Executive, Benjamin and Chris our Senators, Guy, Katie, and Clarence our State Senators, Dutch, and John our Representatives, Terri, Vanessa, Jennifer, Jessica, Eric and Shane our State Delegates, Opel and Elizabeth our Council Members.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Hasten, O Father, the coming of *thy* kingdom; and grant that we *thy* servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold *thy* Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

CONFESSON OF SIN

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

*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.*

The Priest stands and says

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. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

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

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.
Psalm 96:8

OFFERTORY HYMN: Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates -WR 176

Verse 1

Lift up your heads, O mighty gates: behol, the
King of glory waits! The King of kings is
drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

Verse 2

Fling wide the portals of your heart: make it a
temple set apart from earthly use for
heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Verse 3

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to
you: here, Lord abide! Let me your inner
presence feel? your grace and love in me reveal.

Verse 4

So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and
nobler life begin! Your Holy Spirit
guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

WORDS: George Weissel (1590-1635; tr Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878);
MUSIC: Thomas Williams'

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<i>And also with you.</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<i>We lift them to the Lord.</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	<i>It is right to give him thanks and praise.</i>

PROPER PREFACE

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

SANCTUS

Celebrant 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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 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.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

COMMUNION HYMNS:

GLORY TO GOD IN HIGHEST - GRACE CHOIR

LIKE A CHILD - WR 162

Verse 1

Like a child love would send
To reveal and to mend
Like a child and a friend
Jesus comes
Like a child we may find
Claiming heart soul and mind
Like a child strong and kind
Jesus comes

Verse 2

Like a child we will meet
Ragged clothes dirty feet

Like a child on the street
Jesus comes
Like a child we once knew
Coming back into view
Like a child born anew
Jesus comes

Verse 3

Like a child born to pray
And to show us the way
Like a child here to stay
Jesus comes
Like a child we receive
All that love can conceive
Like a child we believe
Jesus comes

CCLI Song # 1702313
Daniel Charles Damon // © 1993 Hope Publishing Company

WAIT FOR THE LORD - WR 166

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Worship & Rejoice #166 // Word & Music Taize Community

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*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.*

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

May He whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

PROCESSION OUT

WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLES - WR 175

Verse 1

We light the Advent candles against the winter night,
to welcome our Lord Jesus who is the world's True Light,
to welcome our Lord Jesus who is the world's True Light.

Verse 2

The first one will remind us that Christ will soon return.
We light it in the darkness and watch it gleam and burn,
We light it in the darkness and watch it gleam and burn.

Verse 3

We light the second candle, and hear God's holy Word,
it tells us, cling to Jesus, prepare to meet your Lord,
it tells us, cling to Jesus, prepare to meet your Lord!

Verse 4

Three candles now are gleaming and show us the true way,
rejoice, the Baptist cries out, your Lord has come today,
rejoice, the Baptist cries out, your Lord has come today!

Verse 5

Four candles burning brightly announce that Christ has come,
prepare, my heart, believe it, and give the Christ child room,
prepare, my heart, believe it, and give the Christ child room.

WORDS: Gracia Grindal (1943-)

MUSIC: German Folk Tune

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God.*

From riteplanning.com.

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Announcements

Christmas Schedule

12/24 Christmas Eve	4pm @ HSC Family Service 9 pm @ HSC Christmas Eve Service
12/25 Christmas Day	9 am @ HSC
1/1 New Years Day	9 am @ HSC

Envelopes will be available 12/15 in the back. If you do not see your family name and would like envelopes, please contact the office.

Outreach Nov & Dec – Angel Tree

Our Angel Tree gift card collection has started for needy families in ELKRIDGE. The Angel Tree will be up at the FLC on December 1st. All Donation are DUE BACK December 8th.

Donations of gift cards from: Walmart, Target, Giant and Green Valley Market Place in denominations of \$10, \$25 or \$50. The donations can be given to Jody Nation or put in an envelope labeled for the Angel Tree and placed in the collection plate or taken to the church office.

Please contact Jody Nation (410) 207-9870 with any questions. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

We are to understand that last year was such a success they were able to help families through the end of the school year with their supply collected at Christmas.

Greening of the Stone Church & plant sales

POINSETTIA Order forms are out. Please consider purchasing a plant or two for decorating the stone church and FLC, you may purchase a plant in Memory or in Honor of a loved one. ***All orders must be in church office before December 18 for names to be printed in the bulletin.***

The Greening of the church is scheduled for December 22nd after the 10 am service. Everyone is welcome to come.

Pizza for lunch is provided. You can bring gloves, Hand clippers and wear old clothes. If you have any bushes or trees we can take clippings from, to make the greens look more festive, let us know. (holly, magnolia, pretty pine or other evergreens) Thanks!

Grace Early Learning Center

Grace Early Learning Center is now enrolling for the following rooms: Toddlers & PreK. We now offer ***Before & After Care*** (We provide transportation to Elkridge Elementary and Duckettes Elementary. The bus for Rockburn Elementary picks up and drops off at our center.)

We believe in hands on learning, teacher and child guided activities and helping children strengthen their social skills. We continue to serve breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack.

Please share with your friends & family. If you would like more information about our program, please email(geccdirector@gmail.com) or call 410-796-4561.

Just for You: Care Note Booklets are available!

The Care Notes cover a variety of topics to assist people when they are struggling with different aspects of their lives. They provide Hope, Help and Healing with the information about how you might deal with different topics like bullying, illness, hospice, death, marriage, just to name a few. and they cover all ages- Children, Youth, Adults and Seniors. They are near the front door of the FLC on the bookcase. Help yourself- they are for you and they are free compliments of the Pastoral Care Ministry committee.

Tuesday Suppers

Thank you to Jean Schutt who has volunteered to coordinate the dinners for 2019 - 2020 year. If you would like help by doing a supper on a Vestry night, please contact Jean.

Dinner will be December 17th at 6pm

Ladies Night (Day) Out

Ladies of Grace meet the last Sunday of each month for food & fellowship.

December 29th – *Enjoy December with Family. No Lunch out this month See you Jan 26th*
RSVP to Jody Nation (410)207-9870

Gluten Allergy??

Grace now has Gluten Free Host. If you are in need of the Gluten Free Host please let Fr. Travis or Rev. Mimi know and they will be happy to serve you.

Tithing via your Credit Card – web or text

We have an agreement with Vanco, our online stewardship/giving company, to accept Credit Card (MC, Visa, Amex & Discover) contributions. You can register your credit card via online or via text message option. You can choose to make your contribution one time, weekly or monthly.

- Online option – graceelkridge.org – go to top right corner click on “Stewardship/Giving” and follow prompts.
- GIVE + Text – text 410-618-1877 and a link will be sent to you for donating. Follow prompts after the link is open.
- We also purchased a “Mobile Card Reader” so we can use credit cards at events.

See flyer in back of the church to log in or just to check it out.

Please Use Store Cards-Help The Local Poor

In the fall 2017, The Vestry decided that on behalf of Grace Church, Fr. Travis Smith can and should continue helping indigent families approaching the church for assistance. While this is often overlooked, The Vestry is proud of this outreach and the judicious use of resources by Fr. Travis Smith. Put in simplest terms possible, the “profit” from the store card program will be used to continue this outreach; deficits will be covered by the Rector’s Discretionary Fund, (supported by loose plate offering 1st & 5th Sundays) surpluses mean more aid available to the community.

Please consider using store cards as a way to brighten the world, just a little bit for those who need it most.

Mustard Seed Thrift Shop

<https://graceelkridge.org/thrift-shop>

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

The Mustard Seed is now on the Net! Our web site is presently in development. Please visit our site. The more visits we get, the more exposure we will be given on the Net. If you have ever shopped with us, please write reviews for us on Google and Yelp.

Both traffic and sales are up in the past six months. We continue to work on improving our marketing and upgrading our inventory. Donations can be left off at any time in the brown shed next to the front door of the shop. Please pay us a visit and bring a friend.

Route One Resource Center - Grassroots

Thank you to all who have made donations to the Route One Day Resource Center. They are always appreciated very much. If you would like to make additional donations, bring them with you to Sunday worship. All donations must be ready to eat, no larger than 15oz cans. These are the items they are in need of currently: Bottled water-20oz size, Gatorade, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Tuna, Canned Chicken, Chef Boyardee-15oz can, Spaghettios-15 oz can, Chunky Soups, Dinty Moore Beef Stew, Baked Beans with meat, Underwood Deviled Ham, Libby's Canned Corned Beef, Vienna Sausages, Spam, Beef Jerky, Canned Fruit, Individually packaged snacks.

Please check out their new website: Daycenter.org

10:00 am Servers @ Holy Family Chapel

Please check the schedule for details or call Ginny Stickles @ 410 382 2184.

*Dec: 08 – Jack Applegate, Rita Chelton, Bob Puppa, Isobel Schum
 15 – Betty McMullen, Karin Greene, Karen Stewart, Rita Chelton
 22 – Jody Nation, Rose Gloth, Ginny Stickles, Rita Chelton
 29 – Ginny Stickles, Bob Puppa, Isobel Schum,*

Parish Calendar Week of December 8, 2019

Monday, Dec 9th

Office – 9am – 2pm

7:00 pm – Choir Practice @ FLC conf rm 2

7:30 pm AA meeting @ FLC

Tuesday, Dec 10th

Office 9am – 2pm

9:00am - Discernment Study (All Welcome)

10:00 am – 1:00 pm Mustard Seed Thrift Store

8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ FLC

Wednesday, Dec 11th

Office 9 am – 2 pm

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 432 Meeting @ FLC

Thursday, Dec 12th

Office 9am – 2pm

7:30am - Eucharist Service @ FLC

9:00 am – Eucharist Service @ HSC

10:00 am – 1:00 pm Mustard Seed Thrift Store

7:00 pm – Loving Embraces @ conf room 1 (3rd Thursday)

Friday, Dec 13th

Office Hours CLOSED

10:00 am GELC – Jump Bunch

10:00 am – Loving Embraces @ conf room 1 (2nd Friday)

7:30 pm - Yale Presbyterian in FLC

Saturday, Dec 14th

10:00 am – 1:00 pm - Mustard Seed Thrift Store

Sunday, Dec 15th

7:30 am - Holy Eucharist @ HSC

9:00 am – Adult Sunday School @ FLC conf Rm 1

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist @ FLC

11:00 am – Grace Family Fellowship @ FLC

11:00 am – 12:30 pm Mustard Seed Thrift Store OPEN (1st Sunday of Month ONLY)

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm - *Private Rental* @ FLC – Yale Presbyterian Church

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Team –next meeting February

If you are interested in joining the Pastoral Care, there are opportunities for someone to serve so if you feel called to serve at Grace please drop a line to the office, Fr. Travis or Rev. Mimi

Loving Embraces – Prayer Shawl Ministry

Please join us in making prayer shawls for those in need. We are looking for people willing to create knit, crochet, or even quilt prayer shawls to be donated to Grace members, St. Agnes ICU, Ronald McDonald House or anyone in need of comfort.

- If you have supplies you'd like to donate, please bring them to Grace.
- If you want to learn, please come we will be available if you have questions about your knitting or crocheting.
- We will meet on the 2nd Friday from 10-11 am and on the 3rd Thursday from 7-8 pm at Grace (except March & April)
- Please drop in and join us whenever you can or questions please contact Annie Burke afb1776@gmail.com.

Celebration of Life – next meeting TBD 9 am @ FLC Conference room

Caring Card - Ministry

~Have you ever wanted to let someone know that you are thinking of them? ~

- Now you can by using the new Grace “Caring Card”.
- These cards are available for you to take, write a message, and mail to someone.
- Grace provides the card, and you provide the “caring” and the postage.

There will be cards available at the Historic Stone Church & the Family Life Center.

*Please make sure you get permission of the person you are lifting up in prayer, before you add them to the prayer list.

Prayer / Visitation (Look for the Yellow Card)

Do you know someone in need of Prayers or Visit?

Fill out a yellow Prayer & Visitation cards located in the back of the FLC and the HSC, (4.5 x 5.5 yellow card). Please pass it only to the church via the offering plate, and the Pastoral Team will visit and or pray. Please make sure if requesting a visit or prayers the

person is aware you are giving their name. Thank you for your support on this addition to communication to the office.

This yellow card is not in place of the weekly “Prayers of the People” to be read during services. We want to share with you, your concerns, joys & thanksgivings on the “Prayers of the People” sheet in the back of the HSC & Holy Family Chapel @ FLC.

Pastoral Care Team Reaches Out to Service Members

Grace's Pastoral Care Team has started a ministry of sending prayer books and commemorative medals to people serving in the military. If you have a loved one who might appreciate receiving this gift from Grace, please contact the church office.

Just a Spoonful of Love – Casserole Ministry

Grace's Pastoral Care team invites parishioners to join them in working to resume our Casserole Ministry to serve members during times of need, e.g., illness, hospitalization, arrival of new child, etc. To participate in this ministry, all you have to do is pick up a casserole pan (recipe included) from the back of the church, buy the ingredients, prepare the casserole, wrap it in plastic and aluminum foil, date it and attach the second copy of recipe card provided (so recipients can view ingredients for possible allergies), and return the casserole to the freezer in the FLC kitchen. Members of the Pastoral Care team will handle deliveries. Receipts may be presented to the church office for notation on individual's giving statement as donation in kind. If this experiment is successful, new recipes will be available monthly or seasonal. For information, see Rev. Mimi after services or contact her at 443-277-0068. Casseroles can be accepted during office hours M- F or bring them with you on Sunday to church.

Sonshine Card Ministry

Thank you for your support, we have received many cards to help with our mission. Please continue to drop extra cards to the office when you have them. This is very special mission to many people in our parish.

Grace Parish Prayers of Intercession

Dec 8 – Dec 14

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church, Columbia; Christ the King, Woodlawn; Grace, Elkridge

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the work of the Mothers' Union around the world

In our community: We pray that we may be devoted to your worship and directed and sustained in our ministries; that the Holy Spirit will guide and uphold this Parish in all its missions and in our individual spiritual journeys. We pray for the resident of Colonial Landing Apartments, give thanks and prayer for our visitors for whom have yet to walk in our doors. We bid prayers for all member of the Regular and Reserve Forces of the United States, especially *Brian Hesson (friend Rev. Mimi Mathews), Rachel Werts (Karen Stewarts daughter), Jason Werts (Karen Stewarts son in law), David Kinnamont (Karen Stewart son), John Lord (Betty McMullen grandson -in law), Matt Merritt (Amy Szekely son), David Shrewbury (Puppa's son in law), Marc Benson (Stickles nephew), Christen Kratz Woolford (Dennis Kratz daughter) and Tom Woolford (Dennis Kratz son in law)*. We also pray for all the men and women who risk their lives daily serving in law enforcement, fire and public safety. Prayers for the Military who have died and their families. We continue to keep all our military and public service casualties in your prayers for their continued recovery.

Repose of the Soul:

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers of Special Intentions: Brenda, Marilyn Bresnahan - Dunn, Ann Burt, Alberta Calvin, Jesse Crouch, Edward Dabeck, Dianne Lynn Davis, Vinnie Burke, Janet Farnsworth, Norah & Scott Kinderman, Katie Lingg, Jerry & Mary Maschino, Mauer Family, Dennis Miller, Mana Seera Edie Springuel, Gail Trinite, Ray Wilkerson

For the hospitalized, sick and home bound: Rev. Lloyd Aiken, David Behrens, Peggy Blackburn, Robin Blackburn, Pat Chelton, Doris Clay, May Davis, Barb Durham, Joe Flanery, Eleanor Gyr, Harry Sappington, Pam Stevens, Rebecca Uber, Jean Williams, Cory Woodall

Birthdays: Sara Maschino, Hani Andrews, Randolph Stewart, Sunny Bick, Karen Stewart,

Anniversaries: Lance & Nicole Cook

* Names will remain on the prayer list for 8 weeks unless requested longer

Welcome to Grace - Are you our guest today?

Please take a moment to tell us something about you. Share whatever you like. Please tear this off and put in the offering plate or give it to the rector.

At which location and service were you our guest? Date: _____

Historic Stone Church Holy Family Chapel @ the Family Life Center

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

How did you find us?

Friend Graceelkridge.org
 Signs Other: _____

Please check all that apply:

First time guest Returning guest New to the area

Would like information on Christian Education

Adult Children Youth Ministries

Would like to know more about Grace Episcopal Church

Would you like to be added to Constant Contact for Church announcements

Other: _____ (Seniors, Fellowship, ...)