

Lessons & Carols

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ELKRIDGE

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

First Sunday After Christmas Day
December 29, 2019 - 10 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.graceelkridge.org or call the office at 410-796-3270.

Entrance Rites

Opening Hymn - Angels, from the Realms of Glory - WR189

Verse 1

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing
your flight o'er all the earth; you who
sany creations story, now proclaim
messiah's birth:

Chorus

Come and worship, Come and
worship,
Worship Christ
the new born King.

Verse 2

Shepherds, in the field a biding, watching
o'er your flocks by night, God with us is
now residing, yonder shines the infant
light:

Chorus

Verse 3

Sages, leave your con-tem-pla-tions, brighter
visions beam afar
seek the great desire of nations, you have
seen the natal star:

Chorus

Verse 4

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord descending in his
temple shall appear:

Chorus

A Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this *city*.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

Our Father...

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen*.

First Lesson

Read by Jonathan Nation

Isaiah spoke long ago of Christ to be a Light to the Nations of the World

A reading from The Book of Isaiah (42:1-7).

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I
have put my spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry or lift up his voice, or
 make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he
 will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed

until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
7 to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem WR180

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight

Verse 2

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep
The angels keep their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together

Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to all on earth

Verse 3

How silently how silently
The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him still
The dear Christ enters in

Verse 4

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

CCLI Song # 27879 (adapted WR 180)

MUSIC: Lewis Henry Redner | WORDS: Phillips Brooks

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Second Lesson

Read by Robert Puppa

*Isaiah prophesies concerning the birth of the child called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

A reading from The Book of Isaiah (61:10-11; 62:1-3).

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
 my whole being shall exult in my God;
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he
 has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as
a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the
Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her
vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication, and
all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name that the
mouth of the Lord will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol - The Birthday of a King – WR 224

Verse 1

In the little village of Bethlehem
There lay a Child one day
And the sky was bright with a holy light
O'er the place where Jesus lay

Chorus

Alleluia O how the angels sang
Alleluia how it rang
And the sky was bright with a holy light
'Twas the birthday of a King

Verse 2

'Twas a humble birthplace
But oh how much God gave to us that day
From the manger bed what a path has led
What a perfect holy way

Chorus

Third Lesson

Read by Rita Chelton

The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary the she will bear the son of the Most High.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (1:26-55).

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. ³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?" ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by

the Lord.”⁴⁶ And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

47and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and
holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and
lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in
remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol - It Came Upon the Midnight Clear - WR191

Verse 1

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
Peace on the earth good will to all,
From heaven's all gracious King:
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

Verse 2

Still thro' the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;

Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing

Verse 3

For lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years,
shall comethe time fortold,
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

CCLI Song # 31078 `(adapted to WR 191)
Edmund Hamilton Sears | Richard Storrs Willis
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Fourth Lesson

Read by Jody Nation

An angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream to tell him of the impending birth of the Messiah.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (1:18-25).

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the

Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³
“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and
they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol – Glory to God in the Highest – Choir

Fifth Lesson

Read by Rose Gloth

Following the star, wise men from the East came to Bethlehem to pay homage to the child born King of the Jews.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (2:1-12).

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for
from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol - Away in a Manger - WR203

Verse 1

Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head The stars
in the sky looked down where He lay The little Lord
Jesus asleep on the hay

Verse 2

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes But little
Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky And
stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

Verse 3

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay Close by
me forever and love me I pray Bless all the dear
children in Thy tender care And fit us for heaven to
live with Thee there

CCLI Song # 38583

James Ramsey Murray | John Thomas McFarland | Martin Luther

Sixth Lesson

Read by Elaine Puppa

The Angel Gabriel Returns and Tells Joseph to Flee Bethlehem and Take his Family to Egypt

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (2:13-22).

¹³ After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷

Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol - What Child is This? - WR184

Verse 1

What Child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

Verse 2

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christian fear for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
Nails spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me for you
Hail hail the Word made flesh
The Babe the Son of Mary

Verse 3

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh
Come peasant king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him
Raise raise the song on high
The Virgin sings her lullaby
Joy joy for Christ is born
The Babe the Son of Mary

The people stand as they are able.

Gospel

Read by Rev. Mimi Mathews

John proclaims Jesus to be the Word of God incarnated and the true Light that overcomes the darkness.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:1-18).

Glory to you, Lord Christ

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, ^[a] and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, ^[b] and his own people ^[c] did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son ^[d] from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ^[e] ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, ^[f] who is at the Father's side, ^[g] he has made him known.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

A period of silence is kept.

Carol - Good Christian Friends, Rejoice - WR198

Verse 1

Good Christian men rejoice With heart
and soul and voice Give ye heed to
what we say Jesus Christ is born today
Ox and ass before Him bow And He is
in the manger now Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Verse 2

Good Christian men rejoice With heart
and soul and voice Now ye hear of
endless bliss Jesus Christ was born for
this He has opened heaven's door And
man is blest for evermore Christ was
born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Verse 3

Good Christian men rejoice With heart
and soul and voice Now ye need not
fear the grave Jesus Christ was born to
save; Calls you one and calls you all To
gain His everlasting hall Christ was
born to save!
Christ was born to save!

(adapted to WR 198) CCLI Song # 85158
John Mason Neale // © Words: Public Domain // Music: Public Domain

Prayers of the People

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

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

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

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 [especially_____]. 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.

A period of silence is kept.

The Celebrant prays the following Collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Priest says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory Hymn - Hark! the Herald Angels Sing - WR185

Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing Glory to the
newborn King Peace on earth and
mercy mild God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies With
th'angelic hosts proclaim Christ is born
in Bethlehem

Hark the herald angels sing Glory to
the newborn King

Verse 2

Christ by highest heav'n adored Christ the
everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come Offspring
of the Virgin's womb Veiled in flesh the
Godhead see Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell Jesus our
Emmanuel

Hark the herald angels sing Glory to
the newborn King

Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace Hail the
Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings Ris'n with
healing in His wings Mild He lays His
glory by
Born that man no more may die Born to
raise the sons of earth Born to give them
second birth

Hark the herald angels sing Glory to
the newborn King

CCLI Song # 27738 // Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
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Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<i>And also with you.</i>
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<i>We lift them to the Lord.</i>

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

*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.*

Then the Celebrant continues

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

According to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People
*We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection, We await
his coming in glory;*

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 People respond Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Celebrant invites the people to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn - Mary, Did You Know? - WR192 (adapted to WR 192)

Verse 1

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would one day walk on water
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters
Did you know
That your baby boy
Has come to make you new
This Child that you delivered
Will soon deliver you

Verse 2

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would give sight to the blind man
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand
Did you know
That your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod
When you kissed your little baby
then you kissed the face of God.
The blind will see
The deaf will hear
The dead will live again
The lame will leap
The dumb will speak
The praises of the Lamb

Verse 3

Oh Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Will one day rule the nations
Did you know
That your baby boy
was heaven's perfect Lamb
This sleeping Child you're holding
Is the great I Am

The people stand as they are able.

Post Communion Prayer

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 Celebrant says

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Saviors birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

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

Hymn - Joy to the World! - WR179

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing

And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Verse 2

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns

Let all their songs employ

While fields and floods

Rocks hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy

Repeat the sounding joy

Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Verse 3

No more let sins and sorrows grow

Nor thorns infest the ground

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found

Far as the curse is found

Far as far as the curse is found

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love

And wonders of His love

And wonders wonders of His love

CCLI Song # 24016 (adapted WR 179)

MUSIC: George Frideric Handel | WORDS: Isaac Watts

© Words: Public Domain // Music: Public Domain Verse 1

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be God*

Announcements

*Fr Travis is on Vacation from Dec 27 – Jan 11.
If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact
Rev. Mimi Mathews @ 443-277-0068*

New Year's Day Service 9 am @ HSC

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

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 Duckett 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: 29 – Ginny Stickles, Bob Puppa, Isobel Schum,
Jan: 05 – Chris Fox, Michelle Matto, Rita Chelton, Karen Stewart
12 – Rita Chelton, Judy Fox, Bob Puppa, Ginny Stickles
19 - Meg Magee, Elaine Puppa, Karen Stewart, Isobel Schum
26 – Jack Applegarth, Rjita Chelton, Ginny Stickles, Rita Chelton*

Collections: November 2019

	<i>November 2019</i>		<i>December 2019</i>	
<i>Envelopes</i>	\$	9,189	\$	12253
<i>Loose:</i>				
<i>RDF</i>	\$	91	\$	87
<i>General Fund</i>	\$	80	\$	137
<i>Sabbatical</i>	\$	89	\$	114
<i>Online:</i>	\$	1,346	\$	
<i>Total Monthly</i>	\$	10,795	\$	7,670

Parish Calendar Week of December 29, 2019

Monday, Dec 30th

Office – 9am – 2pm

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

7:30 pm AA meeting @ FLC

Tuesday, Dec 31st

Office 9am – 2pm

9:00am - Discernment Study (All Welcome) – off this week

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

8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ HSC

8:00 pm – Yale Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, Jan 1

Office 9 am – 2 pm (OFFICE CLOSED)

9 am – Christmas Day Service @ HSC

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 432 Meeting @ FLC (No Meeting)

Thursday, Dec 2nd

Office 9am – 2pm

7:30am - Eucharist Service @ FLC

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

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

Friday, Jan 3rd

Office Hours CLOSED

10:00 am GELC – Jump Bunch

Saturday, Jan 4th

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

1:00 pm - Pack 432 Pinewood work shop

Sunday, Jan 5th

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 Feb 3, 2020

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 @ 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 29 – January 4

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St Mary's, Woodlawn; St Paul's, Mt. Airy; St Peter's, Ellicott City; Trinity, Elkridge

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Gambia (*West Africa*)

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, Fiona Rhys Jones, Harry Sappington, Pam Stevens, Rebecca Ubert, Jean Williams, Cory Woodall

Birthdays: Dennis Kratz, Bill Accardi, Isobel Schum, Ronia Skaanland-Smith, Duncan Schuster

Anniversaries:

* 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, ...)