



FIRST SUNDAY OF

Advent

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 1, 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.graceelkridge.org or call the office at 410-796-3270.

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

ENTRANCE HYMN: Prepare Ye The Way Of The Lord

Prepare ye the way of the Lord
Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Long live God, long live God
Long live God, long live God

From "Godspell", Words & Music by Stephen Schwartz

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People *You come to your people and set them free.*

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.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Genesis 1-2:4

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and

let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 122

Remain seated.

¹I was glad when they said to me, *
 "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

²Now our feet are standing *
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³Jerusalem is built as a city *
 that is at unity with itself;

⁴To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, *
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment, *
 the thrones of the house of David.

⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
 "May they prosper who love you.

⁷Peace be within your walls *
 and quietness within your towers.

⁸For my brethren and companions' sake, *
 I pray for your prosperity.

⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

SEQUENCE HYMN: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus - WR153

Verse 1

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a Child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

CCLI Song # 2529464 (adapted to WR153)

Charles Wesley | Ken Bible | Rowland Hugh Prichard

© Words: 1998 LNW hymns.com (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) // Music: Public Domain

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

[Jesus said to his disciples,] ³⁶"About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of

the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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 THE FAITH: Human Nature

- Q. What are we by nature?
 - A. We are part of God's creation, made in the image of God.

- Q. What does it mean to be created in the image of God?
 - A. It means that we are free to make choices: to love, to create, to reason, and to live in harmony with creation and with God.

- Q. Why then do we live apart from God and out of harmony with creation?
 - A. From the beginning, human beings have misused their freedom and made wrong choices.

- Q. Why do we not use our freedom as we should?
 - A. Because we rebel against God, and we put ourselves in the place of God.

- Q. What help is there for us?
 - A. Our help is in God.

- Q. How did God first help us?
 - A. God first helped us by revealing himself and his will, through nature and history, through many seers and saints, and especially through the prophets of Israel.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Eugene our Bishop, Travis our Rector, and Mimi our Deacon and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Donald our President, Larry our Governor, Calvin our County Executive, Benjamin and Chris our Senators, Guy, Clarence and Katie our State Senators, Dutch and John our Representatives, Eric, Terri, Vanessa, Shane, Jennifer and Jessica our State Delegates, Opel and Elizabeth our Council Members, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city of Elkridge, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air [or through outer space], let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

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.*

CONFESSiON OF SiN

The Deacon or Celebrant 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: **Comfort , Comfort , Now My People - WR 155**

Verse 1

Comfort comfort now my people
Tell of peace so says our God
Comfort those who sit in darkness
Mourning under sorrow's load
To God's people now proclaim
That God's pardon waits for them
Tell them that their war is over
God will reign in peace forever

Verse 2

For the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near
Calling us to true repentance
Since the kingdom now is here
Oh that warning cry obey
Now prepare for God a way
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him

Verse 3

Straight shall be what long was crooked
And the rougher places plain
Let your hearts be true and humble
As befits His holy reign
For the glory of the Lord
Now on earth is shed abroad
And all flesh shall see the token
That God's Word is never broken

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 HYMN: 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.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: The King Of Glory Comes - WR159

Refrain

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.

Verse 1

Who is the King of the glory: what shall we call him?
He is Emmanuel, the promised of ages. (refrain)

Verse 2

In all the Galilee, in city or village,
he goes among his people, curing their illness.(refrain)

Verse 3

He gave his life for us, the pleade of salvation,
he took upon himself the sins of the nation.(refrain)

Verse 4

He conquered sin and death; he truly has risen,
and he will share with us his heavenly vision. (refrain)

WORDS: Willared F. Jabusch (1930 -)

MUSIC: Israeli folk song; arr John Ferguson (1941 -)

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

From riteplanning.com.

Copyright © 2019 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Announcements

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 of 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 Scouts will be cooking.

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: 01 – Meg Magee, Elaine Puppa, Rita Chelton, Ginny Stickles
 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 1, 2019

Monday, Dec 2nd

Office – 9am – 2pm

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

7:30 pm AA meeting @ FLC

Tuesday, Dec 3rd

Office 9am – 2pm

9:00am - Discernment Study (All Welcome)

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

6:00 pm AA Social Gathering @ FLC

8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ FLC

Wednesday, Dec 4th

Office 9 am – 2 pm

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 432 Meeting @ FLC

Thursday, Dec 5th

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 6th

Office Hours CLOSED

10:00 am GELC – Jump Bunch

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

Saturday, Dec 7th

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

12 noon – Coram Funeral @ HSC

1 pm – Coram Reception @ FLC

Sunday, Dec 8th

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 1 – Dec 7

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St John's, Havre de Grace; St Mary's, Abingdon; St John's, Kingsville; Resurrection, Copley Parish

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for mission agencies and their work throughout the Anglican Communion

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 Ubert, Jean Williams, Cory Woodall

Birthdays: Don Cohen, Kelsey O'Planick, Joshua Guerke, Keith Cameron, Doug Williams, Alex Gerus Jr.

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, ...)