

Morning Prayer
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 10rd, 2020

Grace Episcopal Church

Opening

Officiant Christ has no body on earth now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on the world; yours are the feet with which he walks to do good; yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world. *Theresa of Avila*

Prelude

Sonata IV Andante religioso

Mendelssohn

Opening Sentences

Officiant Alleluia, Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP 80

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Officiant Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:

People **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Christ our Passover, *Pascha nostrum*

BCP 83

1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Officiant and People

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

**Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

Officiant Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:
People Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16 *(Spoken in unison)*

**1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.**

**2 Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

**3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.**

**4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

**5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.**

**15 My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

**16 Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me."**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah, *Ecce, Deus*

BCP 86

Officiant and People

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Lector A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle S, A Song of our true Nature, *Julian of Norwich*

EOW 40

Officiant and People

**Christ revealed our frailty and our falling,
our trespasses and our humiliations.
Christ also revealed his blessed power,
his blessed wisdom and love.
He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need;
he raises us in spirit
and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.**

**God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature;
God is the true father and mother of natures.
We are all bound to God by nature,
and we are all bound to God by grace.
And this grace is for all the world,
because it is our precious mother, Christ.
For this fair nature was prepared by Christ
for the honor and nobility of all,
and for the joy and bliss of salvation.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Solo

The Lord's my Shepherd

Brother James' Air

The Gospel Lesson: John 14:1-14

Lector A reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt.; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929) Copyright © by permission of Church Society,
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The Prayers

BCP 97

The People stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Then follows one of these sets of Suffrages

BCP 98

Officiant Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant Day by day we bless you;

People **We praise your Name for ever.**

Officiant Lord, keep us from all sin today;

People **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, show us your love and mercy;

People **For we put our trust in you.**

Officiant In you, Lord, is our hope;

People **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 225

Officiant

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Social Justice

BCP 823

Officiant

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor In the power of the resurrection let us pray to the Living God saying: Raise us to new life in Christ.

For the whole bright earth, lovingly created and compassionately redeemed, that it may speak again of your glory and majesty, we pray:

O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor For all peoples and all nations of the earth, that we may be transformed by mercy and live together in hope.

O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor For the holy church, that in this bright season which brings joy to believers, we may commit ourselves to work toward the unity of the church, that Christ's body may be one, we pray:

O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor For all in authority, that they may govern with equity and justice, and work to bring life to those in the shadow of death, we pray:

O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor For all who seek to honor the gift of Christ's resurrected body, that we may rise up to serve a broken and hurting world.

O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor For all who live in poverty, sickness, loneliness and grief, that you will wipe the tears from their faces, we pray especially for:

Jeanette, Jane, James and Barbara, Kathleen and Caroline, Bo and Mary Minor, Helen, Nancy, David, Charlotte, Tyler, Jeff, Rebecca, J.R., Marcia, Major, Peggy, Jean, William, Timothy, Donald, Robert, Cooper, Sally, Charles, Jonathan, Steven, John, Libby, Rebecca, Elaine, Jean, Barbara, Elizabeth, John, Joyce, Jim, Mary Ruth, and Ann;

We pray for Wil, Jake, Jordan, Kevin, Tripp, Mike, Alexander, Russel, Logan, Jim, Sean, Evan, and all of our Armed Forces, here and abroad;

We pray for Shannon, Erin, Kerry and Lizzy, who are with child.

We pray for all who are treating the sick, staffing health care facilities, stocking shelves, transporting supplies, providing transit, suffering from illness, and adjusting to new ways of living in the midst of the current pandemic, we pray:

Intercessor O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor For all who have died, that they may share in Christ's Resurrection, redeemed and restored to everlasting life, we pray:

O Living God,

People **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

Intercessor Mighty God, in whom we know the power of redemption, you stand among us in the shadows of

our time. When our hearts are troubled and afraid, open them to your power moving around us and between us and within us, until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, in communities transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken. **Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP 102

Officiant and People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Then may be said

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Announcements

Postlude

Symphony V, Toccata

Widor

Worship Leaders

Officiants	The Rev. April Berends, The Rev. David Burman
Preacher	The Rt. Rev. Brian L. Cole, Bishop of East Tennessee
Lectors	Caleigh Jackson, Diana Peterson
Intercessors	John & Lizzie Stanislawski
Organist	Patrick Rice
Director of Music	David Long
Soloist	Lisa Lemza
Accompanist	Gail Dooley
Video	Richard Lanham, Linda Wideman

Announcements

Bishop Cole “Visits” Grace Today

Our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Brian Cole, was scheduled to make his annual visit Grace this Sunday. We are grateful for his ministry in the Diocese of East Tennessee, and thank him for his message of hope and healing today.

Join Us for Online Worship at 9am & 10:45am Sundays

During this time of Social Distancing, we will continue to stream videos for Morning Prayer worship on our [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) at 9am and again at 10:45am. Bulletins for each week’s service will be sent along with the Grace Notes weekend issue, and will be posted on the website alongside the video for the service. If you miss the 9am or 10:45am video streams, you can always go back and watch later.

Christian Formation Opportunities

“Dream, Think, Be, Do” Sundays at 10am

Beginning on Sunday, May 17th, we will begin a course produced by *Living the Questions*. “Dream, Think, Be, Do” provides an overview of progressive Christianity featuring the insights of over twenty-five theologians and teachers at the top of their game. With sessions covering a broad range of theological topics, this series invites us into a process of re-visioning Christianity that is translating what it means to follow Jesus in today’s world. Videos will be made available the week prior to each week’s session, and we will gather on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. via Zoom for discussion of the topics presented. Links to the video for each week, as well as the link for the Zoom Meeting will go out via GraceNotes. Please [email Sean McEwen](#) if you are interested in joining.

Parenting in Pandemic, Wednesday, May 13th at 8:30pm

Rev. April and Grace’s director of children’s ministry, Maria Hurt, invite all parents who have children home during the pandemic to join us for a conversation via Zoom on Wednesday, May 13th at 8:30pm. We’ll share challenges and wisdom, have the opportunity to pray for one another, and discern ways that we can support one another and our kids during this difficult time.

Queer Theology

The community of Grace has long maintained a commitment of embracing and affirming the gifts and the belovedness of all persons, including LGBTQ+ persons. Beginning the week of May 17th, the Rev. April Berends and Sean McEwen will be leading a Queer Theology class so that we might explore these commitments more deeply. We are still compiling the reading list for this class, but we expect that it will involve shorter articles, videos and podcasts. Material and content will be structured around the questions that participants bring to the class. Possible topics might include questions about heaven, hell and salvation, how we see God’s story reflected in our own stories (and vice versa), how we might wrestle faithfully with doubts and questions, and how queerness and Christianity intersect and inform one another. Sound interesting? [Email Rev. April](#) if you would like to join this conversation, and be sure to send along any questions or issues you might like to explore.

Community Care in Anxious Times

This coming week, we’ll have our Grace check-in teams begin checking on households. Team leaders for each check-in group will be contacting you via phone, text and/ or email. Please take a moment to pick up or write back to let them know if you’re okay and/or if you need help, pastorally or physically. The leaders of these groups will be in close communication with our priests and our network of volunteers. If you are a new member of Grace and we do not have your information in the directory, please fill out the New Member form [here](#) and let us know if you would like to be added to a check-in group. If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call the parish office at (423)243-3250 and leave a message on the **main line**. We will be checking these messages regularly even if we aren’t in the office.