



Grace Episcopal Church

January 11, 2026  
10:30 am

## First Sunday after Epiphany

### The Holy Eucharist

#### Prelude

*Chorale Preludes*

Healey Willan  
(1880-1968)

#### Opening Hymn

116 "I come," the great Redeemer cries

1. "I come," the great Redeemer cries,  
"To do thy will, O Lord!"  
At Jordan's stream, behold!  
He seals the sure prophetic word.

2. "Thus it becomes to fulfill  
all righteousness," he said.  
Then, faithful to the Lord's commands,  
through Jordan's flood was led.

3. Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks  
from heaven's exalted height:  
"This is my Son, my well-beloved  
in whom I take delight."

4. The Savior Jesus, well-beloved!  
His Name we will profess,  
like him desirous to fulfill  
God's will in righteousness.

5. No more we'll count ourselves our own  
but his in bonds of love.  
Oh, may such bonds for ever draw  
our souls to things above!

#### The Opening Acclamation

*Priest* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Collect for Purity

*An ancient prayer for centering ourselves at the beginning of the service.*

*All* 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.**

## Gloria S 236 A Song of Praise Canticle 13

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord

God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;

glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you

for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will

praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your

tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to

you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed be -

tween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

*Descant*

5. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ be -

5. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; \_\_\_\_\_ in the high vault of

depths; \_\_\_\_\_ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_

you. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther,

\_\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will

Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; \_\_\_\_\_ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you. Glo - ry to you! \_\_\_\_\_

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: John Rutter (b. 1945)

## **The Collect of the Day**

*The prayer of each Sunday, which 'collects' or summarizes the theme of the liturgy this week.*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Let us pray.

*Celebrant* Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

*People* **Amen.**

## **The Readings**

*All may sit.*

### **The First Lesson Isaiah 42:1-9**

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.  
He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

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:  
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,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the Lord, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

<i>Reader</i>	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
<i>People</i>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

**Psalm 29**     *Afferte Domino*

George Elvey (1816–1893)



- 1 Ascribe to the <sup>1</sup>LORD, you <sup>1</sup>gods, \*  
ascribe to the <sup>1</sup>LORD <sup>1</sup>glory and <sup>1</sup>strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the <sup>1</sup>glory <sup>1</sup>due his <sup>1</sup>Name; \*  
worship the <sup>1</sup>LORD in the <sup>1</sup>beauty of <sup>1</sup>holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of <sup>1</sup>glory <sup>1</sup>thunders; \*  
the LORD is up- <sup>1</sup>on the <sup>1</sup>mighty <sup>1</sup>waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a <sup>1</sup>powerful <sup>1</sup>voice; \*  
the voice of the <sup>1</sup>LORD is a <sup>1</sup>voice of <sup>1</sup>splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD <sup>1</sup>breaks the <sup>1</sup>cedar trees; \*  
the <sup>1</sup>LORD breaks the <sup>1</sup>cedars of <sup>1</sup>Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon <sup>1</sup>skip like a <sup>1</sup>calf, \*  
and Mount <sup>1</sup>Hermon like a <sup>1</sup>young wild <sup>1</sup>ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the LORD <sup>1</sup>shakes the <sup>1</sup>wilderness; \*  
the <sup>1</sup>LORD shakes the <sup>1</sup>wilderness of <sup>1</sup>Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the <sup>1</sup>oak trees <sup>1</sup>withe \*  
and <sup>1</sup>strips the <sup>1</sup>forests <sup>1</sup>bare.
- † 9 And in the <sup>1</sup>temple of the <sup>1</sup>LORD \*  
all are <sup>1</sup>crying, <sup>1</sup>“Glo- <sup>1</sup>ry!”

10 The LORD sits enthroned a-<sup>1</sup>bove the<sup>1</sup> flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as<sup>1</sup> King for<sup>1</sup> ever-<sup>1</sup> more.

11 The LORD shall give<sup>1</sup> strength <sup>to his<sup>1</sup></sup> people; \*  
the LORD shall give his<sup>1</sup> <sup>people</sup> the<sup>1</sup> <sup>blessing</sup> of<sup>1</sup> peace.

### **The Epistle Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All may stand.*

### **Sequence Hymn 139 When Jesus went to Jordan's stream**

1 When Jesus went to Jordan's stream his Father's will obeying,  
And was baptized by John, there came a voice from heaven saying.  
"This is my dear beloved Son upon whom rests my favor."  
And till God's will is fully done he will not bend or waver,  
For he is Christ the Savior.

2 The Holy Spirit then was shown, a dove on him descending;  
The Triune God is thus made known in Christ as love unending.  
He taught, he healed, he raised the dead, yet in his great endeavor  
To save us, his own blood was shed; but death could hold him never.  
He rose, and lives for ever.

3 He came by water and by blood to heal our lost condition;  
He cleanses, reconciles to God, and gives the Great Commission.  
Then let us not heed worldly lies nor rest upon our merit,  
But trust in Christ who will baptize with water and the Spirit  
That we may life inherit.

## **The Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17**

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

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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

*All may sit.*

## **The Sermon**

*A message usually based on the readings and their relevancy to life today.*

*All may stand.*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*Creed comes from the Latin 'Credo', 'I believe.'; The Nicene Creed was created in the formative years of the Church, to be a symbol of common faith. It pertains to the Holy Trinity – a core belief which distinguishes Christianity from other faith traditions.*

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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.

### **The Prayers of the People**

Form IV (BCP,

p.388)

*The community of the Church is called to pray in Christ's name for the needs of the world. Standing for the Prayers is a sign of our calling to be a corporate priestly community (the priesthood of all believers), praying for those needs.*

*During the prayers, at the phrase "Lord, in your mercy," you are invited to respond  
"Hear our prayer."*

### **Confession of Sin**

*In preparation for receiving Holy Communion, we acknowledge our failings with God and with each other, and seek healing and forgiveness.*

*The Deacon or Priest says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Clergy 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 Bishop, when present, or 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**

*The Peace is meant as an encounter with Christ in others, and a reconciliation with one another and with ourselves in anticipation of the kingdom of God.*

*Priest*    The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People*    **And also with you.**

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

*All may sit.*

Greeting

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Offertory Anthem**

*The White Dove*

Derek Healey

Lorie Healy, Sarah Boy, sopranos

(b. 1936)

*Alleluia.*

*The White Dove hovered in the still, clear air, with such celestial beauty,*

*While God's dear Son stood in the water cool. Alleluia.*

*The White Dove hovered in the still, clear air, with such ethereal beauty,*

*And there did John baptize our Lord Jesu. Alleluia.*

*The Dove descended through the still, clear air, with such transcendent beauty,*

*And rested on our Savior, Lord Jesu. Alleluia.*

### **Offertory Hymn**    135 Songs of thankfulness and praise.

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star to the sages from afar;  
Branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
Anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

2 Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana, wedding-guest; in thy God-head manifest;  
Manifest in power divine, changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

3 Manifest in making whole palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

4 Manifest on mountain height, shining in the resplendent light,  
Where disciples filled with awe thy transfigured glory saw.  
When from there thou leddest them steadfast to Jerusalem,  
Cross and Easter Day attest God in man made manifest.

## The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C (BCP, p.369)

*This is the prayer of blessing over the bread and wine, based on Jewish table prayers. It begins with the priest inviting the people to join giving thanks, since the whole congregation are together "celebrants."*

*The People remain standing.*

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and accidentals.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

***By your will they were created and have their being.***

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and you blessed us and created us in your image, and you made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

***By his blood, he reconciled us.***

***By his wounds, we are healed.***

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Sanctus**    *Spoken at 8:00*

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.

*Sung at 10:30 – S 125 Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

*People:* **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Together we pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. This prayer is common to all Christians.*

*Priest* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Priest*

**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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*This is a sign that the bread is to be shared by all.*

*Priest:* We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

*People:* **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

## Fraction Anthem *Sung at 10:30 – S 157 Lamb of God*



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Music: John Merbecke (1518?-1585?); adapt. *Hymnal* 1982; acc. Thomas Foster (b. 1938). Melody: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

## The Communion of the People

*All who seek God, and are drawn to Christ, are welcome at his table. If you do not wish to receive Communion, but desire a blessing from the priest, simply cross arms across your chest to indicate this, and the priest will say a prayer of blessing your over you. If you require a gluten-free communion wafer, please go to one of the Communion stations at the front of the church. Wine may be consumed from the chalice. Intinction, the dipping of the bread into the wine, is NOT allowed.*

## Communion Hymn 120 The sinless one to Jordan came

1 The sinless one to Jordan came,  
and in the river shared our stain;

God's righteousness he thus fulfilled,  
and chose the path his Father willed.

2 Uprising from the waters there,  
the Father's voice did then declare  
that Christ, the Son of God, had come  
to lead his scattered people home.

3 Above him see the heavenly Dove,  
the sign of God the Father's love,  
now by the Holy Spirit shed  
upon the Son's anointed head.

4 How blest that mission then begun  
to heal and save a race undone!  
Straight to the wilderness he goes  
to wrestle with his people's foes.

5 O Christ, may we baptized from sin,  
go forth with you a world to win:  
grant us the Holy Spirit's power  
to shield us in temptation's hour.

6 On you may all your people feed,  
and know you are the Bread indeed,  
who gives eternal life to those  
that with you died, and with you rose.

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

*This prayer gives thanks for the gift of Communion, that it may bear fruit in daily life.*

*All*      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.

### **The Blessing**

*The traditional ending of the service. We are reminded that God is with us and empowering us.*

**Recessional Hymn**    121 Christ, when for us you were baptized

1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,  
God's Spirit on you came,  
As peaceful as a dove and yet  
As urgent as a flame.

2 God called you his beloved Son,  
Called you his servant true,  
Sent you his kingdom to proclaim,  
His holy will to do.

3 Straightway and steadfast until death  
You then obeyed his call

Freely as Son of Man to serve  
And give your life for all.

4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,  
Your cross on us be signed, that,  
likewise in God's serve we  
May perfect freedom find.

**Dismissal**

*At the point of leaving, the Church sends us forth. In Christ's name we are sent out for mission and service in daily life.*

*Deacon*            Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

*Allegro from Organ Concerto #2*

G.F.Handel  
(1685 - 1759)

## Serving at the Altar Today

8:00 am	Celebrant	The Rev. Thomas N. J. Synan
	Preacher	The Rev. Eliot Moss
	Deacon	The Rev. Rebecca Grant
	Lectors	Janet Teng, Nina Scott
	Eucharistic Ministers	Carlton Ho, Gail Gnatek
	Ushers	Lou & Cecil Currin
10:00 am	Celebrant	The Rev. Thomas N. J. Synan
	Preacher	The Rev. Eliot Moss
	Deacon	The Rev. Rebecca Grant
	Lectors	Marsha Hertel, Joan O'Brien
	Eucharistic Ministers	Karen DeSantis, Henry Maxey
	Bell	Trent Maxey
	Ushers	Tony Jewell, Diana Rogers

## Please remember in your prayers

***For strength and healing:*** Lisa, Marc Hamel, David LeSage, Emrys Bond, Leo, Mia, Trish Callard, Janet Teng, Rick Read, Joan Dunn, Tommy, Melissa Charest, Cherie Feeley, Gretchen Gerzina, Laura Klock, Cara Crandall, Meg Kelsey Wright, Robin, Scottie Faerber, The Rev. Maggie Minnick, Carl Miller, Lauren & Stephen, Greta, Sara Stelzner, Jon Zobel, Bob Moran, Sophie Gergley, Jona Hammer, Kay Gregory, Nancy Rose, Norah, Zen Latimore-Dallas, Roberta Olsen, Janet Moore, Ramona & Warren Hebert, Paul Pesenti, Carla Shanahan, Loy Harris, Mary Sidney Treyz, Wally Rodriguez, Roberta & Dennis Kirby, Thomas, Anne Neely, Peter, Alan Musgrave, Lorie Healy, Penny Lane, Stephen Dogero, Doug Adler, Chris & Deanne Riddle, Patricia Tillona, Pam Wilkinson, Carmen Lee, Maida, Amy, Steve, Jessie, Kenneth Page, Tim Callard, Castor Moss, Marion, Cyndee & Dennis Grader, Reynolds Winslow, Annmargret Wobst Wille, Joey Baker, Jane Pemberton, Michael Baker

***For the repose of the soul of*** Renee Nicole Good

***For all those having birthdays this week including*** Tatjana Wanninger, Tori Ash, Abigail Goff, Emma Wilburn, David Williams, Sandra Lillydahl, Lisa McDonald, Ruthie Ireland

***For peace with justice in*** *Ukraine, Palestine and Israel, Venezuela.*

***For our partners in*** *Haiti:* St. Matthieu, Bayonnais—its priest, teachers, students and their families

***For our partners at the Episcopal Technical & Vocational Training Center in*** *Ramallah, Palestine*

***According to the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:*** Grace Episcopal, Amherst; Building Bridges Veterans Initiative

***According to the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:*** Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

*Please note that names are removed from the prayer list after one month unless you specify otherwise.*

## Parish Announcements January 11, 2026

### No nursery staff this week

Unfortunately, due to nursery staff being unavailable, we cannot provide childcare until February.

**Climate Action @ Grace (caag)** welcomes you to our meeting: **Sunday, January 11, 12:15pm** in the Parker Room around the corner from the Connector.

**Joy of Living Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Mondays**



This group combines meditation, practices integrated in the flow of life, and discussion. Next meeting, in the Connector: **January 12, 2026**

**Grace Church Annual Meeting** will be held on Sunday, February 1st following a **single service at 9:30am**. All commission and committee reports should be sent to the Parish Administrator **no later than Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**.

**Raising the Questions, Tuesday, January 13 at 9:30am in the Connector**

Raising the Questions is a Grace Church reading and discussion group that focusses on theology and liturgy. We meet monthly on the second Tuesday at 9:30 am. Got questions? Come join us.

**2025 Pledge Envelopes**

If you requested envelopes, you may pick them up from the box on the table in the back of the church beginning this Sunday. They will (hopefully) be in alphabetical order. Note: if this is the first year that you have requested pledge envelopes, your pledge number may have changed.

**Lawn Sign Request**

Please remember to return the St. Nicholas Bazaar lawn signs for re-use next year. Thank you! (and thanks to those who have done so already!)

**The Grace Church Stewardship campaign for 2026**

To date 140 pledges have come in totaling \$534,372 – most encouraging, we have 5 new pledges. We are off to a good start. To those who have pledged God bless, to those who have yet to pledge please pray and pledge so our Vestry can budget for 2026. If you need a pledge card, they are available as you enter the church or you can contact the office (413) 256-6754.

**Publicity for your Event?**

Please let the Communications Committee know if you need help with your event. Please fill out this form: <https://www.gracechurchamherst.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Request-for-Event-Publicity-Form-2023.pdf>, also located on the "Outreach" page of the church website. The committee requests at least 6 weeks notice. Please forward questions to Patrick Kelly or Sarah Chadwick.

**Coffee Hour**

Coffee hour is a lovely tradition and we hope to see you there after the 10:30 service. The hospitality committee keeps a small supply of treats on hand but this often is not enough. Won't you please be so kind as to donate a baked good for all to enjoy? Coffee cakes, quick breads, muffins, or bagels are always appreciated as well as other baked goods. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness. Please see Sarah Chadwick if you have questions or want to help out further.

**You are welcome!**

We want you to know that you are welcome here. If you are new to Grace Church please reach out, because we are here to invite, embrace, and welcome you into our community.

Whether you are:

New to the area

New to our church (and perhaps new to the Episcopal faith)

A longtime resident in search of connection and community

Part of the LGBTQ community and are looking for a spiritual home where you are welcomed and affirmed

A New Student, looking for a place of safety and comfort during your time studying here

A Mom or Dad of a student and want a place that will support your child while they live and study here

We are here for you. Please fill out a blue Card, and reach out to someone wearing a WELCOME badge and come back **AGAIN !**

**Vestry Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the most recent Vestry meeting are posted on the bulletin board in the Connector just to the left of the door into the Church. If you wish to see past meeting minutes, please go to our website at <https://www.gracechurchamherst.org/our-church/parish-staff/>

**Calendar Donations** Please bring extra 2026 calendars to the food basket for the Survival Center.

## **Save the Date**

### **Soup Will Be On!**

**The Haiti Soup Supper Annual Extravaganza will be on Saturday, February 7.** The full list of soups will be available for purchase online on Monday, January 26. Although the list of soups won't be final until then, orders will be taken in the Connector after each service on January 18 and 25 and at the Annual Meeting on February 1 for soups that have been confirmed. As in the past, delicious soups made by parishioners as well as those donated by favorite local restaurants will be available. A meal will consist of a quart of soup, homemade bread, and cookies that will be enough for two. All proceeds benefit the St. Matthew's School in Haiti. Please consider donating soup or volunteering and contact Sarah Chadwick at [schadwick@verizon.net](mailto:schadwick@verizon.net). To donate bread or cookies, please contact Gail Gnatek at [ggnatek@gmail.com](mailto:ggnatek@gmail.com).

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering January 25**

The Outreach Commission has selected Craig's Doors to be the recipient of Grace's fourth Sunday offering.. Craig's Doors is a human services organization that serves vulnerable and unhoused members of our community. It believes that all human beings are deserving of safety, dignity, and a sense of belonging, and that access to housing, mental and physical health care, and nutritious food is a fundamental human right. It currently operates two year-round shelters and a Resource Center that is open to members of the community. If you write a check, please make it payable to Grace Church and add "outreach" on the memo line. Thank you for any gift you are able to give.