

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

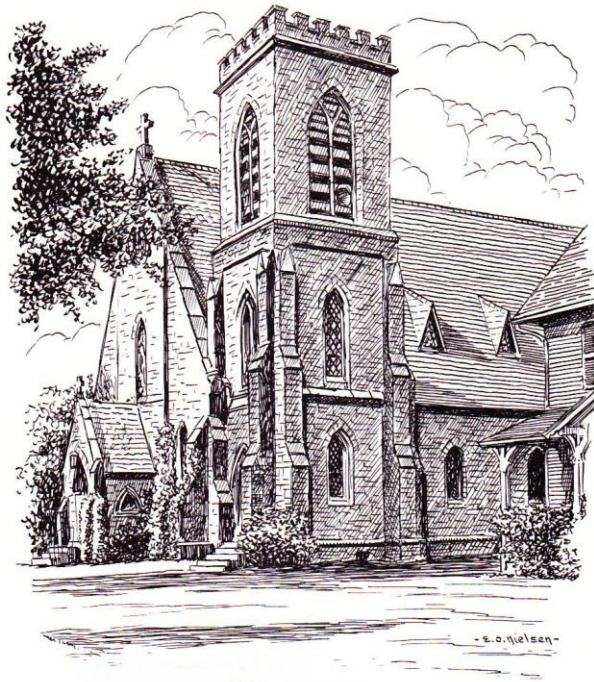
September 13th, 2026 10:00am

Grace Episcopal Church

Old Saybrook, CT

Online Service

Facebook/YouTube



PRELUDE

THE ENTRANCE RITE (pg. 355, BCP)

OPENING HYMN

HYMN #410

PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;
Praise him still, the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

The Celebrant says:

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

Hymn #S-280

by: Robert Powell

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God.
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD *of* GOD

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

 The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:1-13

The congregation remains seated

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *

and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *

and forget not all his benefits.

He forgives all your sins *

and heals all your infirmities;

He redeems your life from the grave *

and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

He satisfies you with good things, *

and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness *

and judgment for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

THE EPISTLE:

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

HYMN #671

AMAZING GRACE! HOW SWEET THE SOUND

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
‘tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Then, all still standing, the Minister reads the Gospel, first saying:

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Canon Dr. Ellendale Hoffman

THE NICENE CREED *The congregation stands*

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.

THE PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

Leader: Father we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: **That we all may be one.**

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: **That your name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons.

People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; for an end to racism; and for peace in Ukraine and Russia and all other areas where war and hostilities are occurring.

People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake.

People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble. Please add your own petitions either out loud or in silence. (Pause). We pray for those in need.

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: We remember those who have died, especially Peter Conrad Hoffman, for whom the altar flowers are given and add your own petitions either out loud or in silence. (Pause) Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader: Let us pray, either out loud or in silence, for our own needs and those of others.

(The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect).

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

ABSOLUTION

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 Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

HYMN #439

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

Bill Benway, soloist

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

THE OFFERTORY PROCESSION *The People stand and sing*

Doxology, Old 100th

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **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.**

Then, 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

HOLY HOLY HOLY IS THE LORD OF HOSTS

by: Nolene Prince

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
 The whole earth is full of His glory, the whole earth is full of His glory,
 the whole earth is full of His glory, Holy is the Lord.**

CCLI #21538, License #338180

The people stand or kneel.

Then 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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.

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**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

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 SONGS

HYMN #304

I COME WITH JOY TO MEET MY LORD

**I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread.**

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
That love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known: we see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,
And as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

HEAL ME, HANDS OF JESUS
by: Michael Perry; Sharpe: Carl Haywood

Heal me, hands of Jesus, and search out all my pain:
restore my hope, remove my fear and bring me peace again.

Cleanse me, blood of Jesus, take bitterness away;
let me forgive as one forgiven and bring me peace today.

Know me, mind of Jesus, and show me all my sin;
dispel the memories of guilt, and bring me peace within.

Fill me, joy of Jesus: anxiety shall cease
and heaven's serenity be mine, for Jesus brings me peace!

PRAYER of SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(For those unable to receive communion today)

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

HYMN #336

COME WITH US, O BLESSED JESUS

Come with us, O blessed Jesus, with us evermore to be;
and though leaving now thine altar, let us nevermore leave thee.

Be thou one with us forever, in our life thy love divine
our own flesh and blood has taken, and to us thou givest thine.

Come with us, O mighty Savior, God from God, and Light from Light;
thou art God, thy glory veiling, so that we may bear the sight.
Now we go to seek and serve thee, through our work as through our prayer;
grant us light to see and know thee, in thy people everywhere.

Come with us, O King of glory, by angelic voices praised;
in our hearts as in thy heaven, be enraptured anthems raised.
Let the mighty chorus ever sing its glad exultant songs;
let its hymn be heard for ever – peace for which creation longs.

THE DISMISSAL

After the Recessional the Priest or Deacon says

Alleluia, Alleluia, Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Celebrant and People

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

OUR PARTICIPANTS TODAY

PREACHER/CELEBRANT:	The Rev. Dr. Bill Veinot	8 am
	The Rev. Canon Dr. Ellendale Hoffman	10 am
PIANIST/ORGANIST:	JoAnn Eaccarino	10 am
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:	John Klages	8 am
	Jason Howey	10 am
LECTOR:	Barbara Harms	10 am
USHERS:	Michelle Briggs, Jacquelyn Mitchell	8 am
	Cal & Joyce Baker	10 am
NURSERY:	Angel McDonough, Betty Jo Stosse	10 am
CAMERA TECH TEAM:	Sue Board	10 am
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Kneen Hensarling, Susan Yovino	10 am
ALTAR GUILD:	Betty Salldin, Joan Trzcinski	

GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Rector: The Very Rev. Charlie Hamill
Priest Associate: The Rev. Dr. Charles “Chuck” Hoffman
Priest Associate: The Rev. Canon Dr. Ellendale Hoffman
Priest Associate: The Rev. Dr. William “Bill” Veinot
Music Director: Bethany Hamill
Parish Administrator: Kate McKinney
Sexton: Sherry Schiavone

GRACE CHURCH VESTRY

Senior Warden: Jason Howey
Junior Warden: Matt Stosse
Treasurer: David Condren
Clerk: Julie Peace
Vestry Members: Sue Board, Ryan Earley, Tom Fuller,
Michelle Kapp, Peter Knox, Mary Matthews

336 Main St., Old Saybrook, CT 06475
860-388-0895/ www.graceoldsaybrook.org
OFFICE E-Mail: gracechurcholdsaybrook@gmail.com
FIND US on Facebook and YouTube (for more info & livestream 10am services)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH: September 13th – September 20th

Today	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Sanctuary) w/music
	4:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)
Monday		OFFICE CLOSED
	6:30 pm	Con Brio Choral Group (Merrill Hall)
	7:00 pm	Healing Ministry Bible Study (Sanctuary)
Tuesday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens -- Volunteers in Garden behind church
	3:00 pm	GriefShare (Hudson Room)
	7:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)
Wednesday	12:00-1pm	Shoreline Soup Kitchens Community Lunch (Merrill Hall)
Thursday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens -- Volunteers in Garden behind church
Friday	12 noon	Men's Bible Study (Parthenon Diner in Old Saybrook)
Saturday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens -- Volunteers in Garden behind church
Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Sanctuary) w/music
	4:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

Fall Parish Picnic Sunday September 27th after 10am service (Merrill Hall)
Grace Church Ministry Appreciation Dinner Friday October 2nd 6-830pm (Merrill Hall)
Blessing of the Animals Sunday October 4th at 2pm (in front of church)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Either during the service or during prayer time at home, please keep the prayers of Grace Church and the people going! Please keep us up to date on names to add and remove.

WE PRAY FOR: Myra, Lisa, Bryan, Barbara & Jon Zakhar, Deidra & George Labelle, Earlene Bell, Aurelia Knox, Sarah, Len Pass, James, Penny, Emily, Mary, Doug Hamill, JJ Evola & family, Jane Hamill, Kathi Jones, Cheryl Dudek, Debra Sticht, Elsie, Alicia Winalski and family, Marilyn, Dean, Barbara Bowie, Dick & Suzanne Watson, Judy & Clive Cowper, Alan, The Benways, Carol Wilson, Kate, Coral, Kirsten, Joyce Brinley, Curtis, Annaliese Harms, the Igelbrinks, Carol, Rory, Gianna Porcelli, Jan, Kathleen Lemelin, Mike DeLisa, Patti & Missy Matto, Jennifer Baker Elizabeth Davey, Faith Drechsler, Josh, Walt & Jack.

FOR THOSE IN SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY: Travis Board, Todd Buroff, Adam Randle, Susan Eaccarino, Madeline Sheahan, Matthew Auger & Eve Inglis.

FOR OUR MINISTERS AND MISSIONS: Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our presiding Bishop; Jeff and Laura, our Bishops; Charlie, Ellen and Bill, our priests; and for: Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, Common Good Gardens, Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services, Early Head Start, the AA groups that meet at Grace Church, Patrick Dominguez and his church planting effort and Kateri Medical Services in Nigeria. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for L'Eglise de L'Epiphanie, Stamford; St. Andrew's, Stamford; St. Francis', Stamford; and for Province 1; the Dioceses of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont & Western Massachusetts. For Provincial Synod & all Provincial Networks.

GRACE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Healing Miracles of Jesus

A Prayer & Healing Ministry Bible Study

Grace Church, Old Saybrook

Monday evenings, September 14th – December 14th, 7–9 PM

Grace Church, Old Saybrook, CT & the International Order of St. Luke the Physician, an ecumenical prayer & healing ministry, invite you to attend a 3-month long weekly Bible study of Jesus' healing miracles in the Gospels. The class includes practical training, healing prayer ministry for those who would like to learn how to deepen their own prayer ministry or start a healing ministry in their church.

Time: Monday evenings, September 14th – December 14th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM.

Location: Hybrid options include both Zoom online & also an in-person group at Grace Church: 336 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT.

Leaders: On Zoom: The Rev. Donald Parker, Retired Priest, St. Peter's & St. Andrew's, Providence RI

IN-Person: The Rev. Dr. Ellendale Hoffman, Priest Associate, Grace Church, Old Saybrook CT

Registration: www.osltoday.org Registration \$50, which can be applied to a membership in the International Order of St. Luke the Physician following completion of the class. Scholarships available.

Men's Bible Study is NOW meeting in-person at the Parthenon Diner in Old Saybrook on Fridays at 12noon.

For more information you can email Charley Bates: charley.bates@yahoo.com or go to our website: <https://www.graceoldsaybrook.org/mens-bible-study>.

Currently the men are studying the book of Acts.

Parish Picnic, Sunday September 27th at 11:30am

There will be a beginning of fall Church Picnic outside (weather permitting!) following our September 27th 10am service! There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin-board in the entryway. Bring a chair, your friends & family, & please bring a side dish, salad or dessert. Contact JoAnn Eaccarino at (860) 961-9832 or jeaccarino@comcast.net for any questions, or if you'd like to help!

**Grace Church Ministry Appreciation Dinner on Friday October 2nd
from 6-830pm**

Join our parish ministry leaders and teams for a night of fellowship, food and thanksgiving for all who serve the people and church services at Grace Church. Ministry leaders will share information and thanks for the work of their ministry teams, and Grace Church will provide dinner. ALL are welcome, not just those involved in ministry! Please sign-up on the entryway bulletin board so we can have head count for dinner.

**Grace Church Men's Discipleship:
Meeting in Merrill Hall at Grace Church 8am-10am
NEXT Gathering: Saturday October 17**

Once a month from 8am-10am, Pastor Charlie gathers w/the men of Grace Church for fellowship & deeper discipleship in Jesus Christ. The 1st hour we gather for light breakfast & fellowship to get to know each other. In the 2nd hour we delve into whatever book/video series we're working on. February 21, we began an 8-week video program on discipleship called *Practicing the Way*. Through the program, we hope to strengthen our walk with Jesus, grow in the grace & knowledge of God, and support one another as brothers in Christ. For more info contact Pastor Charlie at gracechurchrector@gmail.com.

Women of Grace (WOG) will begin a new study on Friday, September 25 at 10:00am. We will be studying the Bible book Song of Songs. This is a 7 week video Bible Study by Lisa Harper. Through relatable stories and gut-level honest teaching, you'll discover how intimacy with Jesus isn't based on our deservedness or lack thereof. It's about letting our guards down and leaning into the unconditional love He initiates with us. All Grace Church women are welcome. We meet at 10:00 a.m. on Friday mornings in the Hudson Room. No personal invitations are necessary. We are hoping to have some new members join us for lively conversation, prayer and most importantly sharing the importance of having Jesus as our guide in the modern world.

Grace Church Choir starts back up this Fall

Do you enjoy singing and are you able to carry a tune? If so, we would love to have you sing in our choir! Grace Church Choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm, and we meet on Sunday mornings prior to the 10am service each Sunday (Fall, Winter, and Spring seasons). Whether you are new at singing in a choir or are a seasoned singer, you are welcome to sing in our choir. Our first choir rehearsal this Fall will be on Wednesday September 23rd. If interested in singing in the choir, please contact the Music Director, Bethany Hamill, at

GraceChurchMusicDirector@gmail.com , or feel free to have a quick chat with Bethany after the 10am service.

Feeding the hungry one donation at a time...

SSKP Food Pantry Donation Basket at Grace Church

Grace Church is always accepting non-perishable food donations throughout the year. A basket is present outside the main side entrance to Grace Church 24/7 to place donations in, or you can bring donations into the church entryway by the patio and place them in the colored bins. If you are curious as to what kind of foods, they are in need of most you can go to their website <https://www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org>. In addition, you can always make a cash donation to SSKP. Thank you for your ongoing donations to feed those in need along the shoreline!

GriefShare at Grace Church

A new GriefShare session will be starting soon for those who wish for some support to help grieve the death of a loved one. Sessions will be held weekly as follows:

In the Hudson Room at Grace Church

Tuesdays, September 15-November 24

3:00PM-4:30PM

Contact Jeannette Barone for more info

gracegriefshare@gmail.com

Autumn Soiree

Grace Church will be hosting a unique Fall evening: a delicious pairing of warming soups, with an exclusive exhibition of artwork & music. A night of fundraising, fellowship, food & fun!

Saturday, November 7th

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

In the Parish Hall at Grace Church

Contact Gretchen North for more info

saybrookartworks@gmail.com

In addition: we are seeking artists (of any medium) and soup makers to share their talents from the studio or the kitchen to help make the evening a success. If you are an artist in the parish, please consider donating a piece or two of your work for sale to benefit Grace Church. If you are a chef with soup making skills who can offer delicious soup to sell at the event, please reach out to Gretchen North to sign up for a space for either art or soup. The sooner we know who is interested, the more effectively we can plan the evening to make it the liveliest event of the year.

Rector's Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark

Join Pastor Charlie in October and November in the Hudson Room for an 8-week study on the Gospel of Mark beginning on Wednesday October 7 (or Thursday October 8). There will be TWO options for study running at the same time: Wednesdays 10:30am-12pm OR Thursdays 6:30pm-8pm.

Each option will look at two chapters a week focusing on the Gospel of Mark and seeking to ask, "Who is Jesus?". There will be coffee and tea and cookies at both options but NO meals will be served. The Wednesday study group is invited to stay for the 12pm SSKP lunch. If you are interested in joining the Bible Study, please sign-up in the church entryway for ONE of the two options, either Wednesday or Thursday. If during the study you need to switch days, that is fine. For more info, please talk to Pastor Charlie.

Altar Flower Memorials

The Altar Guild is always accepting donations for Sunday altar flowers made out to "Grace Church Altar Guild" in memory or in celebration of loved ones. For more information, please contact Betty Salldin at bettrysalldin@gmail.com.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Line

Here's how it works...If you need prayer for something, call one of the Prayer Line Chairpersons (Joyce Brinley & Penny Coleman). Use your directory or call the church office for contact info. Please briefly tell them your request. The Prayer Line will take it from there. Once a member hangs up the phone, the intercession begins! The Prayer Line is available to receive requests from **9:00am to 8:30pm**. Typically the Prayer Line requests for the day go out to members about 7:00pm. However, requests of an emergency nature will be passed on immediately. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to have your brothers and sisters in Christ lift up your requests to God

Grace Episcopal Church in Old Saybrook

We are a community of faith, rooted in Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, following God's call to feed the hungry in both body and spirit.

Our intention is to know Jesus and to make Him known.

You are welcome regardless of where you are on your spiritual journey.

Currently our in-person worship services are Sundays at 8am and 10am with Holy Communion (the 10am is also live-streamed onto Facebook and YouTube). Go to our website graceoldsaybrook.org for more info and for bulletins to download for the 10am live-stream service.

Whether you are just exploring a new spiritual direction, curious about the Episcopal Church, or are ready to find a new church home, feel free to fill out a welcome card and place it in the collection plate, sign our guest book, or contact the church by phone or email for more info.

Grace Church is a close-knit community called by God to share the healing love of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. We are also engaged in the greater local and regional community in various outreach ministries as well. If interested, ask us how you can get involved in what Christ is doing at Grace, in Old Saybrook and Connecticut!! Or better yet, tell us where you find God at work in your life, and tell us how we can help!

If you have any questions feel free to call, email or Facebook us.

We hope your visit to Grace was Spirit-filled, welcoming and meaningful.

In Christ,

The Rev. Charlie Hamill, Rector, and the People of Grace Church

RECTOR E-Mail: gracechurchrector@gmail.com

OFFICE E-Mail: gracechurcholdsaybrook@gmail.com

336 Main St., Old Saybrook, CT 06475

860-388-0895/ www.graceoldsaybrook.org