

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

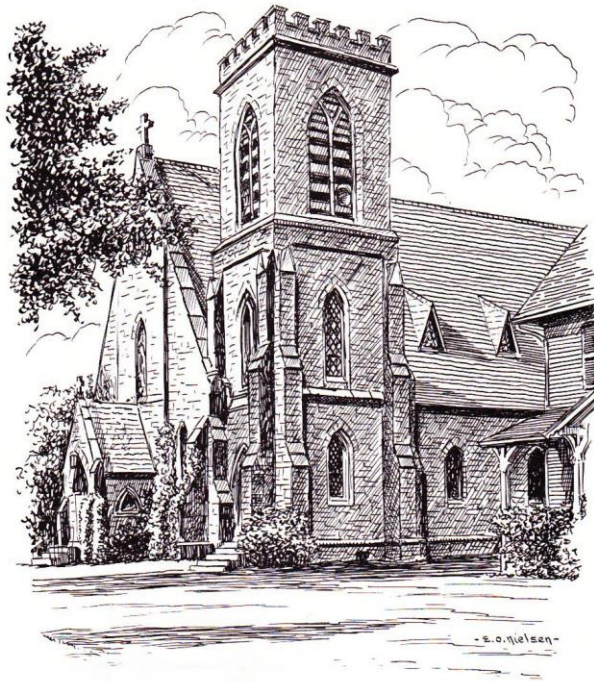
September 27th, 2026 10:00am

Grace Episcopal Church

Old Saybrook, CT

Online Service

Facebook/YouTube



PRELUDE

You Have Been Given + Be Still And Know
by: Bob Kauflin + Lee Herrington, Tom Fettke, Anonymous; arr. Bethany Hamill
CCLI #23983 + 583265, License #338180

THE ENTRANCE RITE (pg. 355, BCP)

OPENING HYMN

HYMN #450 ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME, vs. 1–3, 6

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Crown him ye martyrs of our God, who from his altar call:
Praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
Praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!

Hail him, the Heir of David's line, whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, Man divine, and crown him Lord of all!
The God incarnate, Man divine, and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

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, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD *of* GOD

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-8

The congregation remains seated

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *

**let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

THE EPISTLE:

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says
The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

COME NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP

by: Brian Doerksen

Chorus: **Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.**

**One day every tongue will confess You are God.
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
who gladly choose You now. (*Chorus*)**

**Willingly we choose to surrender our lives,
willingly our knees will bow.
With all our heart, soul, mind and strength,
we gladly choose You now.**

**One day every tongue will confess You are God.
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
who gladly choose You now. (*Chorus*)**

Come. Come.

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THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

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.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into

the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Charlie Hamill

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 William 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

ACROSS THE LANDS

by: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began;
every star and every planet has been fashioned by your hand.

All creation holds together by the power of your voice.
Let the skies declare your glory; let the land and seas rejoice.

You're the author of creation, you're the Lord of everyone,
and your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet you left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost
and exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer you fed the hungry, with a word you calmed the sea;
yet how silently you suffered, that the guilty may go free.

With a shout you rose victorious, wresting victory from the grave,
and ascended into heaven, leading captives in your way.
Now you stand before the Father, interceding for your own;
from each tribe and tongue and nation you are leading sinners home.

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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.

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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

COME SHARE THE LORD

by: Bryan Jeffery Leech

We gather here in Jesus' name,
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame.
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one.
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

We'll gather soon where angels sing,
we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King.
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait.
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

For He will feed us with His presence here,
this bread and wine will do us good.
Our deepest hungers He will satisfy,
for He is life and peace and rest and drink and food.

He joins us here, He breaks the bread.
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead.
The One we love the most is now our gracious host.
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs.
Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.
We are now the family of which the Lord is head.
Though unseen He meets us here in the breaking of the bread.

We gather here in Jesus' name,
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame.
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one.
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

We'll gather soon, where angels sing,
we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King.
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait.
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

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HE IS LORD

by: Anonymous

He is Lord, he is Lord, he is risen from the dead, and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

He is King, he is King, he will draw all nations to him; he is King!
And the time shall be when the world shall sing that Jesus Christ is King.

He is Love, he is Love, he has shown us by his life that he is Love!
All his people sing with one voice of joy that Jesus Christ is Love.

He is Life, he is Life, he has died to set us free, and he is Life!
And he calls us all to live evermore, for Jesus Christ is Life.

JESUS NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

by: Naida Hearn

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God;
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Praise him, Lord above all lords, King above all kings, God's only Son.
The Prince of Peace, who by his Spirit comes to live in us, Master and Friend.

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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 #344

LORD, DISMISS US WITH THY BLESSING

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace:
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for thy Gospel's joyful sound:
May the fruits of thy salvation in our hearts and lives abound:
Ever faithful, ever faithful to thy truth may we be found;

So that when thy love shall call us, Savior, from the world away,
Fear of death shall not appall us, glad thy summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with thee in endless day.

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

He Is Exalted

by: Twila Paris; arr. Bethany Hamill

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OUR PARTICIPANTS TODAY

PREACHER/CELEBRANT:	The Very Rev. Charlie Hamill	8 & 10 am
MUSIC DIRECTOR:	Bethany Hamill	10 am
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:	Elizabeth Davey	8 am
	Tom Larco	10 am
LECTOR:	Devin Carney	10 am
USHERS:	Nick & Lynn Iacovelli	8 am
	Penny Coleman, Elaine Seaforth	10 am
NURSERY:	Christina Gleason, Karen Mulvihill	10 am
CAMERA TECH TEAM:	Kyle Trask-Kuchta	10 am
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:		10 am
ALTAR GUILD:	Kathy Bartus, Melissa Culbert	

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

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FIND US on Facebook and YouTube (for more info & livestream 10am services)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH: September 27th – October 4th

Today	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Sanctuary)
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (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 (Hudson Room)
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)
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens -- Volunteers in Garden behind church
Friday	10:00 am	Women of Grace (WOG) (Hudson Room)
	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)
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Sanctuary) w/music
	2:00 pm	Blessing of the Animals (sidewalk in front of church)
	4:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)

Office Hours:

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

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

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 Christ Church, Stratford; Trinity, Tarifville; St. Peter's Trinity, Thomaston; and for youth & youth ministries, J2A & all preparing for confirmation.

GRACE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

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) began 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.

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.

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

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