

Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026 7pm
Online Service
Facebook/YouTube



Grace Episcopal Church
336 Main St, Old Saybrook, CT

PRELUDE

Who Am I
by: Mark Hall, arr. Bethany Hamill
CCLI #4196651, License #338180

THE ENTRANCE RITE (pg. 355, BCP)**OPENING HYMN**

HYMN #150

FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

Forty days and forty nights thou wast fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.

Should not we thy sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,
Fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with thee to suffer pain?

Then if Satan on us press, Jesus, Savior, hear our call!
Victor in the wilderness, grant we may not faint nor fall!

So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;
Round us, too, shall angels shine, such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by thy side;
That with thee we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.

THE COLLECT *of the DAY*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near--
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them
in ages to come.
Yet even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.
Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the Lord, your God?
Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.
Between the vestibule and the altar

let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:8-14

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.

For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.

THE EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in

anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see--we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

IN THE SECRET

by: Andy Park

In the secret, in the quiet place, in the stillness You are there.

**In the secret, in the quiet hour I wait only for You,
'cause I want to know You more.**

Chorus: **I want to know You, I want to hear Your voice, I want to know You more.**

I want to touch You, I want to see Your face, I want to know You more.

I am reaching for the highest goal, that I might receive the prize.

**Pressing onward, pushing every hindrance aside, out of my way,
'cause I want to know You more. (Chorus)**

CCLI # 1810119, License # 338180

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

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.**

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Charlie Hamill

EXHORTATION TO A HOLY LENT

After the Sermon, all stand,

and the Celebrant or Minister appointed invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent, saying

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.

If ashes are to be imposed, the Celebrant says the following prayer

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The people approach the altar

The ashes are imposed with the following words

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

PSALM 90

by Paul Zach

From the dust we came, to the dust we shall return,

From the dust we came, to the dust we shall return.

God everlasting, age unto age the same.

We are a moment, then like a breath we fade.

Mmm, mmm, mmm, mmm.

From the dust we came, to the dust we shall return,

From the dust we came, to the dust we shall return.

God everlasting, we are cut down as the grass,

Seeds in the morning, and by night we pass.

Mmm, mmm, mmm, mmm.

O Lord have mercy,

O Lord have mercy,

O Lord have mercy.

CCLI # 7192358, License #338180

PSALM 51 *The Leader and People say together*

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *

and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, *

and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned *

and done what is evil in your sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak *

and upright in your judgment.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *

a sinner from my mother's womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.
15 Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
16 Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Litany of Penitence

The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling

Most holy and merciful Father: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

The Celebrant continues

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
We confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

The Bishop, if present, or the Priest, stands and, facing the people, says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel. Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *All stand.*

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

THE HOLY COMMUNION



All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.



THE OFFERTORY

SUNDAY'S PALMS ARE WEDNESDAY'S ASHES

by: Rae E. Whitney, The Sacred Harp: Benjamin F. White, Alfred V. Fedak

Sunday's palms are Wednesday's ashes as another Lent begins;
thus we kneel before our Maker in contrition for our sins.

We have marred baptismal pledges, in rebellion, gone astray;
now, returning, seek forgiveness; grant us pardon, Lord, this day!

We have failed to love our neighbors, their offences to forgive,
have not listened to their troubles nor have cared just how they live;
we are jealous, proud, impatient, loving (over-much) our things;
may the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offerings.

We are hasty to judge others, blind to proof of human need;
and our lack of understanding demonstrates our inner greed;
we have wasted earth's resources; want and suffering we've ignored;
come and cleanse us, then restore us; make new hearts within us, Lord!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

RITE 1: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 1 (BCP pg. 333)

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them unto our Lord God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. n Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Sanctus (said)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

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.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread

and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then the Celebrant says

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The following may be said

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **grant us thy peace.**

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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 SONG

PURIFY MY HEART

by: Jeff Nelson

God be merciful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea;
Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse O cleanse me from my sin.

I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art, teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, Wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by Thy wrath and judgement just;
Let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;
Cast me not away from Thee, let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me, and return O God to Thee;
 Savior all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love.
 Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

CCLI # 1314323, License #338180

BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL

by: Jacques Berthier, the Taizé Community

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (pg. 339, BCP)

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and ever-living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

HYMN #142 LORD WHO THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passontide,
Yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus! with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering overpast,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!

THE DISMISSAL

After the Recessional the Priest or Deacon says

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Celebrant and People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Create In Me A Clean Heart
by: Keith Green, arr. Bethany Hamill
CCLI #3113130, License #338180

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: Kate, Myra, Lisa, Bryan, Barbara and Jon Zakhar, Deidra & George Labelle, Earlene Bell, Aurelia Knox, Sarah, Len Pass, James, Penny, Emily, Mary, Doug Hamill, JJ Evola and family, Jane Hamill, Kathi Jones, Cheryl Dudek, Debra Sticht, Elsie, Alicia Winalski and family, Marilyn, Dean, Barbara Bowie, Dick Watson, Clive & Judy Cowper, Alan, The Benways, Jim Donahue, Carol Wilson, Kate, Coral, Kirsten, Joyce Brinley, Daniella, Curtis, Annaliese Harms, the Igelbrinks, Carol, Rory, Chuck Hoffman, Gianna Porcelli, Gabby, Donell, Jacob, Jan, Lee, Jennifer Jaramillo, Karen, Christine, Susan Ogden, Kathleen Lemelin, Chuck MacBeth & Mike DeLisa.

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

FOR OUR MINISTERS AND MISSIONS: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our presiding Bishop; Jeff and Laura, our Bishops; Charlie, Bill, Chuck and Ellendale, 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, Russ & Heidi Smith in Chile, and Kateri Medical Services in Nigeria. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for Christ Church, Greenwich; St. Barnabas', Greenwich, Christ Church, Guilford; and for The Reparations Fund Board; the Racial Healing, Justice & Reconciliation Ministry Network.

OUR PARTICIPANTS TODAY

CELEBRANT/PREACHER:	The Very Rev. Charles Hamill	12 Noon & 7pm
MUSIC DIRECTOR:	Bethany Hamill	12 Noon & 7pm
EUCARISTIC MINISTERS:	Dale Schneider	12 Noon
	Jason Howey	7 pm
USHERS:	Penny Coleman, Bill Pssera	12 Noon
	Peter Knox, Fred Kmietek	7 pm
TECH BOOTH:	Lanny Kapp	7 pm

GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Rector, The 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, Michelle Kapp
Peter Knox, Ryan Earley
Mary Matthews, Tom Fuller

GRACE CHURCH DURING LENT

**Lenten Potluck Dinner & Bible Study on Matthew
Thursday Evenings from 6-8pm at Grace Church
February 26, and March 5, 12, 19 and 26.**

Our Lenten Bible study this year will be led by Chuck Hummel, a parishioner who grew up in a household filled with Bible teachers and theological conversations. Chuck has taught many Bible studies over the years at churches and with friends.

We will be studying five separate passages in Matthew during Lent using an approach called inductive Bible study. “Inductive” thinking means making generalizations based on specific observations. Inductive Bible study is studying Scripture by focusing carefully on the passage together, asking ourselves questions and coming to some conclusions based what we read and discuss: There are three kinds of questions we will be asking: Questions of observation: Who? What? Where? When? Questions of interpretation: What did this passage mean to the original audience? Questions of application: What does this passage mean for me today? This investigative and experiential approach allows the Bible to speak to us and gives us the chance to share what we are hearing and learning.

We will also have potluck dinners each Thursday evening that we gather & ask that if you are attending you **bring an entrée or side dish**. Grace Church will provide dessert & beverages. **For more info: contact Pastor Charlie.**

Healing Grace: A Lenten Day of Healing

Grace Church, Old Saybrook

Saturday, March 7, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Lead by The Rev. Canon Dr. Ellendale Hoffman

Jesus told his disciples to “*Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place*” (*Mark 6:31, NIV*), encouraging them to rest and retreat from busy times of caring for others. Our Lord often stepped away for quiet times. As followers of Jesus, we also need times of prayer and refreshment, believing that God can bring healing and peace, even during the most challenging of circumstances.

During this season of Lent, we invite you to a day of healing prayer at Grace Church. We begin our day in the parish hall for a time of teaching and reflection, followed by lunch and fellowship. In the afternoon, we continue with conversation and prayer, closing with a Healing Eucharist in the church with worship and laying on of hands for healing.

Lunch is provided by the Grace Church Hospitality Team.

For more information reach out to Pastor Charlie, or to the Rev. Ellendale.

We hope you join us!

Please **RSVP** by signing up on the bulletin board in the church foyer, or email the church office: gracechurcholdsaybrook@gmail.com.

“To Know Jesus...and To Make Him Known”

Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church in Old Saybrook

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), and we offer a Healing Service with Holy Communion and Laying on of Hands and Anointing on the First Wednesday of each month at 10am in the sanctuary. 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 or get involved!

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

Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church Old Saybrook