

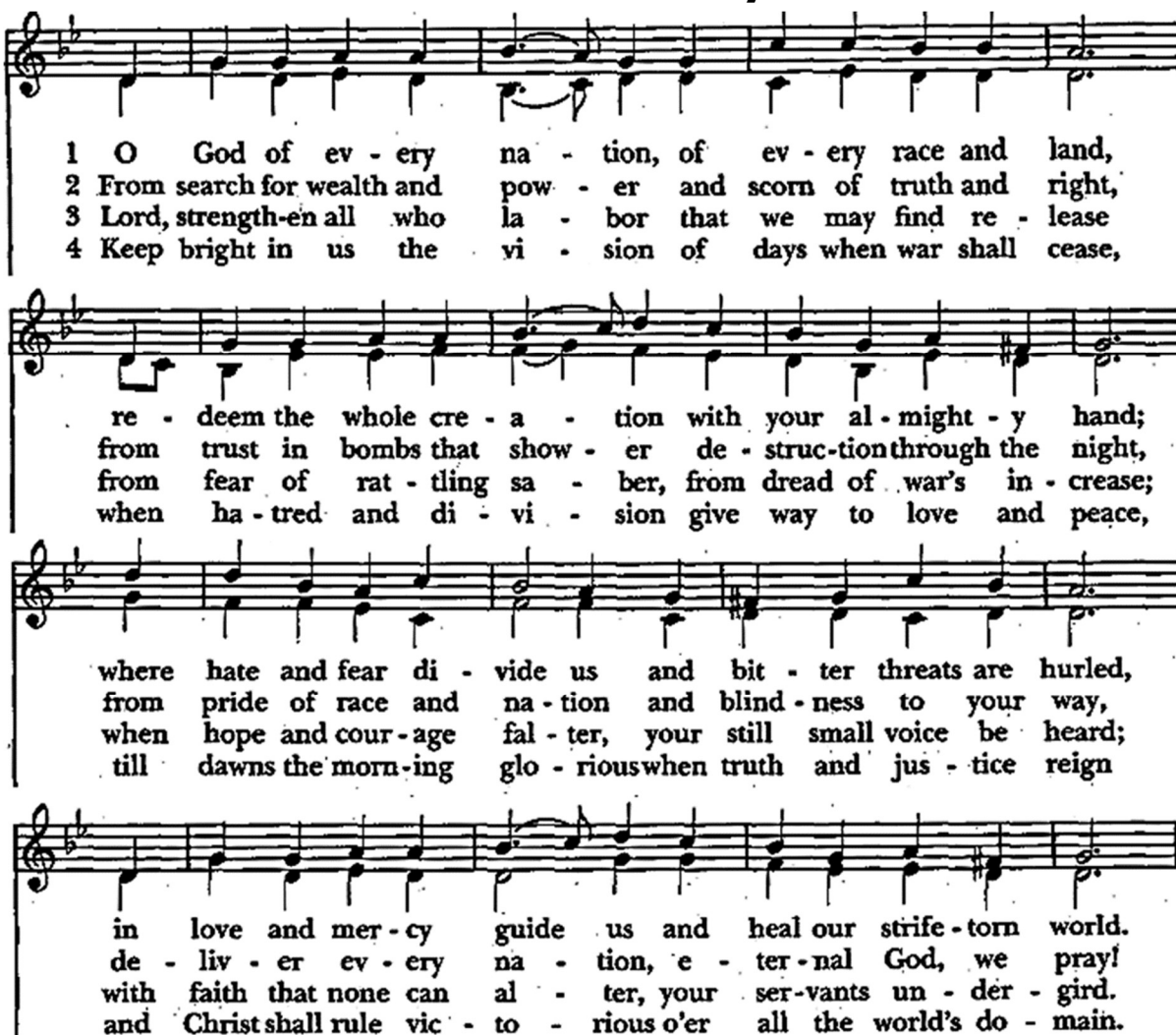
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

September 28, 2025 – The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 Bulletin

LITURGICAL SEASON EXPLAINED

The Season after Pentecost is not actually a liturgical season with a common focus, rather, it is just the weeks between the Day of Pentecost and the First Sunday of Advent. This period is often referred to as “Ordinary Time” and the liturgical color is **green**. These are the ordinary days in which we live our Christian faith in the regular routine of daily life. This seems simple enough, but the way the Sundays are counted on the calendar gets a bit confusing. It begins with the First Sunday after Pentecost and then counts sequentially until the 24th Sunday after Pentecost which is Christ the King, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If it stopped here that would be clear, but each Sunday during this time is also given another title: Proper 7-29 where the numbers do not coincide with the numbered Sundays after Pentecost. This proper numbering system is based on the moveable date of Easter. Honestly, there is no need to be concerned about this numbering framework, just focus on the ordinary daily life of Jesus as he goes about teaching, healing, and loving people as you live your ordinary life each day!

OPENING HYMN: O God Of Every Nation



1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that we may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and na - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray!
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

ACCLAMATION *BCP p. 355*

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.
AMEN.**

GLORIA *BCP p. 356*

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

*This Week's Reader: **Karen Davenport** † Next Sunday's Reader: **Cheryle Kahl***

FIRST READING Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth

year of Nebuchadrezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours." Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

PSALM 91:1-6, 14-16

*(Verses read alternately by the reader and people, breaking at the *)*

¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,*
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

²He shall say to the Lord,

“You are my refuge and my stronghold,*
my God in whom I put my trust.”

³He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter*
and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings;*
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.

⁵You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,*
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

⁶Of the plague that stalks in the darkness,*
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.

¹⁴Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him;*
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

¹⁵He shall call upon me, and I will answer him;*
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

¹⁶With long life will I satisfy him,*
and show him my salvation.

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 6:6-19

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into

temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL Luke 16:19-31

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And

at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

NICENE CREED *BCP p. 358*

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.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE *BCP p. 387, Form III*

The Leader and people pray responsively:

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

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

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant adds a Concluding Collect (BCP p. 394, #4):

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebrant and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP p. 361, Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For with your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. 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 Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *BCP p. 364*

Celebrant:

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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 *BCP p. 364*

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Celebrant The Gifts of God, for all of us, the holy people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

Communion at Grace is Open to Everyone

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you at God's table. You may choose to receive bread (gluten free wafers available upon request). You may choose to receive wine in the silver chalice or grape juice in the white and blue chalice. You may drink from either cup or intinct (dip) the bread into the chalice. You may refrain from the bread and chalice and just receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *BCP p. 366*

After Communion, the Celebrant says:

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. AMEN.



BLESSING

May Christ, who is human and divine, who is of heaven and earth, give you strength to do God's will in this world; and may the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and forever. **AMEN.**

CLOSING HYMN #552: Fight The Good Fight With All Thy Might

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might, Christ is thy
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace, lift up thine
 *3 Cast care a - side, lean on thy Guide; his bound-less
 *4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near; he chan-geth

strength and Christ thy right; lay hold on life, and
 eyes and seek his face; life with its way be -
 mer - cy will pro - vide; trust, and thy trust - ing
 not, and thou art dear; on - ly be - lieve, and

it shall be thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
 fore us lies, Christ is the path and Christ the prize.
 soul shall prove Christ is its life and Christ its love.
 thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee.

DISMISSAL *BCP p. 366*

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia,
 Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**



The Prayers of this Congregation

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; our Bishop, Bonnie Anne Perry; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig A. Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod. Our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; our retired community, spouses, and companions. Our diocesan household: Committees, commissions, ministries, agencies, priests, deacons, lay leaders, volunteers, and staff members; Steven Steinberger-Domienik; Grace Church Mt. Clemens; Bonao, DR Church of the Pentecost.

For Nina DiGaetano; Donna Hanes; Katherine Domienik; Jasmine Gardner; Tom & Sandy Krell; Frankie Dion; Elliott Belair; Charlotte Kalligeros; Tom Stotz; Jennifer Holland; Joan Walsh; Elizabeth Gage; Logan & Teresa Davidson; Jeanne Nowak; Donna Powell; Pamela Sherry; Linda Fields; Michael Woodard; Pat Greenwood; Sara Mattocks; Gene Skladnowski; Sherie Borsa; Joan Donald; Rob Haynes; Andy Jaeger; Scott Kadets; Brenda Steinberger-Domienik; Laurisa; Jason Zadorski; Pat Ruditis; Jean & Terry Hitchcock; Laura Mary Lake; Allen Clay; Mary Anne Jackson; Beth Smith; Martha Wehba; Carolyn Siewert; Holly Quintero; Jody Gorney; Tammy Murphy; Eka & Kiana Bassey; Joshua R.; Suzanne LaMontagne; John Schober; Vito Fontana; Christa Carpenter; Ernie Simon; Nancy & Bob Johnson; John Kelvin; Rick Gherisi; Rory Heinz; Lynn Vineyard; Erica Fields; Emily Lau-Ward & Josh; Sue Sargent; Jim, Sean, Seth, and Jason Cueny; Dave Otto; Alessandro Biehl; Louise Lambert; Carole Schwertman; the St. Peter family; the Schlanbusch family; Tish Germain; Julie Saph; Shirley & Nelson Rumpel; Nicoletta Palazzolo; Lucy Smith & family; Helen Fitzgibbon; Joyce & Roy Schafer.

***Please note: Names will remain on the prayer list
for one month.***

***In order to add someone or keep someone on the prayer list,
please call the office.***

***Do you know someone who is ill? Please contact the office
and we will add them to the prayer list.***

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send all bulletin submissions to bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org

DINNER FUNDRAISER

Stop by River Crest Family Dining (on the west side of Harper just north of Metro Parkway) on **October 2** from **4 to 8 PM** for good food and fundraising fun, including a 50/50 raffle and gift baskets. We are currently collecting items for the baskets; you can create your own or bring in items for us to whip something up!

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Next **Sunday, October 5**, is Cereal Sunday! Please bring donations of breakfast cereal to help stock Father Bob's Food Pantry. Thank you for supporting this crucial ministry.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Bring your pets to church next **Sunday, October 5** as we celebrate the feast day of Francis of Assisi with our annual Blessing of the Animals. A ReJoyceful Animal Rescue will be joining us with adoptable pets as well. Stop by and meet your new best friend!

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the sanctuary.

COFFEE HOUR

Please volunteer to host a coffee hour; the sign-up sheet is in the hallway. The host(s) makes and sets up the coffee and any snacks and then cleans up afterwards. You may also be reimbursed for any money you spend for snacks—just let

Marchea (in the office) know! Thank you for sharing in the hospitality ministry of our parish!

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on **Sundays** at **9:30 AM** in the Guild Room for our Bible study. No preparation needed; just come and listen and join in the conversation. Each session is self-contained so you do not have to attend each week; come when you can. We learn a great deal about Scripture, our faith, ourselves, and each other! Hope to see you there!

CHOIR

Please join us for choir rehearsal on **Wednesdays** at **6:30 PM** in the sanctuary, as we prepare for Bishop Perry's visit on All Saints Day, November 2. No experience required; just bring your spirited heart and a friend! Thank you

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be **Thursday, November 13** at **6 PM** at the church. The book we will discuss is *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup*, by John Carreyrou. Elizabeth Holmes, CEO of the Theranos Company, deceived many brilliant scientists and investors with the Unicorn, a lab machine purported to make blood testing faster and easier. The author, John Carreyrou, worked for the Wall Street Journal and, through tips from former Theranos employees, was able to expose Holmes and her secrets, leading to her conviction and prison sentence. Please join us for a very interesting discussion.