



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide
Anglican Communion.

A LITURGY FOR HOME

When life's circumstances prevent us from attending Church

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2020 — 10:30 am Service

Before the Service — Speak quietly to God

During the Service — Let God speak to you

After the Service — Speak to one another

TO JOIN THIS SERVICE LIVE VIA ZOOM

To join this service online, visit our website at gracechurchmtclemens.org and follow the link.

To join this service by phone, call 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 899 8049 9374

Password: 382635

Officiant: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik
Cell: 203-641-2068

Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
Ms. Amy Saari, Minister of Music

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Visit us on the web at

www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

Opening Hymn: Wade in the Water (Listen to this hymn on our website)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The First Reading

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Response

Psalm 124

Nisi quia Dominus

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church .
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn: One Bread One Body (Listen to the hymn on our website)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, from Matthew 16:13-20

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ

The Homily: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik (Listen to this sermon on our website)

We observe a brief silence for reflection.

The Affirmation of our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I give my heart to God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I give my heart to Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried,**

And descended to the dead.

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I give my heart to the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic and apostolic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace we pray to you, O God.

We pray today for all people who struggle for survival: may you bless, comfort and strengthen them. **We pray to you, O God.**

For our faith community at Grace during this time of separation due to the pandemic and for all those who come to our building to be nourished by the food we provide. **We pray to you, O God.**

For the spirit of peace in our world: that all people, groups and nations in conflict may live in harmony. **We pray to you, O God.**

For the world's poor, destitute and homeless: Let not the needy be forgotten, or the hope of the poor be taken away. **We pray to you, O God.**

For the spirit of unity, forgiveness and reconciliation in our country: guide our elected officials to put aside political rivalry and work for the good of all our citizens. **We pray to you, O God.**

For all people of minority cultures and ethnic groups in the United States who continue to be trivialized and endangered by the pervasiveness of racism: may this national sin be acknowledged and cleansed from our hearts, institutions and nation. **We pray to you, O God.**

For all those who are sick or infirmed or who have asked for our prayers: **Ena, Cynthia, Michelle, Jeff, Samantha, Odin, Thor, Rosy, Cindy, Deborah, Jeanne, Michelle, Pam, Liz, Janice, Nina, Charlotte, Suzanne, Pam Z, Sue, Frank, Jean, Terry, Joan, Barbara, Frank, Wendy, Joan, Carol, Candy, Amy, Mark, Emily, Nathan, Jennifer, Sherie, Riley, Nina, Sabria, Susan, Mike, Ellen, Frank, Barbara, Dan, Donna, Jim.**

Are there others?

That they may receive your healing touch. **We pray to you, O God.**

For those whose lives are approaching death, and for those who have died, especially from COVID-19 that they and their loved ones may receive the comfort of your loving embrace. **We pray to you, O God.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Good and gracious God, send forth your Holy Spirit upon your people throughout our country and the world. Tear down the walls that divide us, and make us one through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLUTE SOLO: Brooke Lau

Friends in Christ, during this time of social distancing, we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist together. Many of us are feeling what St. Thomas Aquinas describes as an “ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him.” We are aware of this absence and our yearning for the real presence of Christ in that same experience we share with followers of Christ throughout the ages. Until we meet again in community we can practice a different Christian tradition in the practice of spiritual communion. We will now pray the prayer for spiritual communion from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

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

People **Amen.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to pray:
Listen to the pre-recorded Lord’s Prayer on our website.

Our Father
Which 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 debts
As we forgive our debtors

And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil

For thine is the kingdom,
And the power
And the glory
Forever
Amen

The Blessing

People Amen.

Closing Hymn: Jesus Loves the Little Children (Listen to this song on our website)

The Dismissal

Priest: Our worship has ended, let our service begin, 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

For all refugees, especially those at our southern border; for the farmers across our country who are struggling; for Bonnie Perry, our Bishop, for Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop; Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr., our retired bishop; 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 Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod; Stewart Wood, our retired bishop; and our whole diocesan household, including St. Aiden's in Ann Arbor, James the Apostle in Angelina DR, St. Peter's in Detroit; for Donald, our President, and all members of Congress.

For Ena Pederson, Cynthia Burdie, Michelle, Jeff & Samantha, Sirune, Odin & Thor, Genevieve & Rosy, Cindy, Deborah Pinto, Jeanne Nowak, Michelle Wisneski, Pam Sherry, Liz Morehouse, Janice Kibler, Nina DiGaetano, Charlotte Kalligeros, Suzanne Johnson, Pam Zawierucha, Sue Schlanbusch, Frank & Barbara Davenport, Joan Donald, Jean & Terry Hitchcock, Frank Laura, Wendy, Joan Walsh, Carol Bales, Candy Dixon, Amy, Mark, Emily, Nathan, Jennifer Holland, Sherie Borsa, Riley Burkholder, Nina DiGaetano, Sabria, Susan Fox, Mike Oakley, Ellen Laudicina, Frank and Barbara Davenport, Dan Davenport, Donna Hanes, Jim Smith.

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 fill out a new prayer card (from the back of the pews) and place it in the offering tray.

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

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH
Currently

WORSHIP SERVICES

Morning Prayer: On our website each Sunday

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Suppers:

Wednesdays at 4:00, take-out meals only

Food Pantry:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 am -12 noon, curbside pickup
Serving from 250 - 350 people every month

**All outreach ministries welcome volunteers,
financial donations, or food and clothing donations.**

***Call the office to learn about helping or giving:
586-465-4573***

Grace's Income and Expenses

July total expenses: \$24,508.17

July total income: \$16,306.27

Aug. pledge income: \$12,390.29

Aug. outreach income: \$2,172.70

Aug. rental income: \$1,590.00

Capital Campaign

Goal for 2020-22: \$150,000.00

Pledged to date: \$84,350.00

Received to date: \$28,600.00

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 10:00 am on Zoom

(Meeting info will remain as follows each week)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732417015?pwd=Z0NkeFQ4L2FFSExYeIB3WXoyUmFvZz09>

Meeting ID: 897 3241 7015 Password: 683930

Or call: 312-626-6799

BOOK CLUB

Our book club is an important time for us to meet to discuss our chosen book as well as share stories, laughs and fellowship. We don't want to let it go! We have decided to meet at the church on **Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30**, with a maximum of 10 in person. Additional members can join via phone conference at the same time. We will discuss A Good Neighborhood by Therese Anne Fowler. If you wish to join us in person, please call ASAP to reserve your seat. Once the 10 person limit is filled, others will be invited to join by phone.

Ann Strevel: amstrevel@gmail.com 586.463.5488

Ann Farrell: farrella16@gmail.com 586.899.0605

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

Are you receiving Pastor Steve's Constant Contact emails and our robocall updates and announcements? If not, please call the office and have your contact information added so you don't miss out.

FORWARD MOVEMENT DAY BY DAY

We still have several of these daily devotionals for Aug-Oct in both regular and large print. Please call the office to have one mailed to you. While supplies last!