



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 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2020 — 8:30 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: 881 8016 9300

Password: 246040

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The First Reading

Genesis 45:1-15

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Response

Psalm 133

Ecce, quam bonum!

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

The Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church .

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, from Matthew 15: 21-28

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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 Nicene Creed

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

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, Sirune, Odin, Thor, Genevieve, Rosy, Cindy, Deborah, Jeanne, Michelle, Pam, Liz, Janice, Charlotte, Pam, Sue, Frank, Carol, Candy, Taylor, Amy, Joan, Mark, Emily, Nathan, Jennifer, Sherie, Riley, Nina, Sabria, Susan, Mike.**

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

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:

**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 Blessing

People Amen.

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 Church of the Incarnation in Pittsfield Township, Divine Grace in Mosovi DR; 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.

*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.

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=Z0NkeFQ4L2FFSExYe1B3WXoyUmFvZz09>

Meeting ID: 897 3241 7015 Password: 683930

Or call: 312-626-6799

BOOK CLUB

Postponed indefinitely.

Originally scheduled Tuesday, August 25.

If you have any questions, please call Ann Strevel.

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!

Grace's Income and Expenses

Capital Campaign

July total expenses: \$24,508.17

Aug. pledge income: \$8,355.29

Goal for 2020-22: \$150,000.00

July total income: \$16,306.27

Aug. outreach income: \$992.70

Pledged to date: \$84,350.00

Aug. rental income: \$1,200.00

Received to date: \$28,600.00

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH
Currently

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, online 8:30 & 10:30 am. Visit our website for more information.
Bible Study: Thursdays at 10 am.

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*

