YOU ARE WELCOME!

Grace Episcopal Church is a place for all – the curious, the hurting, the imperfect, the joyful. We gather as a lively and visible group of Christians dedicated to social justice and positive change in Chicago’s South Loop neighborhood and beyond.

Whoever you are, whatever you bring to God’s table today, you are in the right place this morning. Welcome!

**How can I be respectful while at church?**
In the interest of creating a peaceful and prayerful space for worship, please mute yourself once the prelude begins.

**Can I receive Communion?**
Those at home may unwrap their host and consume it. If you do not have communion at home, you are invited to pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion following the Great Thanksgiving. You can always request communion hosts to be delivered to your home by the Grace clergy.

Find Grace online at gracechicago.org and sign up for our weekly e-newsletter. Email prayer requests to prayers@gracechicago.org. Follow Grace @graceplacechi

*Cover Artwork by Rajat Verma on Unsplash*
Prelude  

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated, arr. S. Nielson

Opening Hymn

Voices Found #98

The Presider welcomes the congregation.
The Word of God
The congregation says all **bolded** text aloud.

Blessed be the + one, holy, and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever.

There is one Body and one Spirit;
**There is one hope in God’s call to us;**
One God, one Faith, one Baptism;
**One God and Creator of all.**

God be with you.
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

_Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ’s glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen._

The Hebrew Bible Lesson
from the New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV), one of 14 Bible translations authorized by the Episcopal Church for use in worship and by most major Christian churches

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. 3 Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. 4 The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” 5 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 6 The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. 7 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” 8 So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

9 Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
**Thanks be to God.**
Psalm 29  

online worshipers proclaim all the verses

1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *  
   you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
   you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *  
   and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *  
   but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

4 You press upon me behind and before *  
   and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *  
   it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

6 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *  
   you knit me together in my mother's womb.

7 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *  
   your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

8 My body was not hidden from you, *  
   while I was being made in secret  
   and woven in the depths of the earth.

9 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
   all of them were written in your book; *  
   they were fashioned day by day,  
   when as yet there was none of them.

10 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *  
    how great is the sum of them!

11 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *  
    to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

The New Testament Lesson

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

12 "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. 13 "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." 17 But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the
fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The Gospel

You are invited to cross yourself at the + below.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Christ.

John 1:43-51

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon  silence follows the sermon beginning and ending with a bell
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,
    was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
    and became truly human.
    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,
    who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
    who 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

Gracious God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son.

In confidence and trust we pray for the Church:
    Father, enliven the Church for its mission.
    That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.
Breathe fresh life into your people. 
Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.

We pray for the world:
Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace.  
That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.  
Teach us to care creatively for its resources.

We pray for the community:
God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others.  
That all may act with integrity and courage.

Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours and all who delight in your blessings, especially

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kevin (Malone – 9)</th>
<th>Donna (Cutler – 12)</th>
<th>Louise (LeBourgeois – 13)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grace's Straut Legacy Fund grant recipients</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace's faith partners (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Onnuri Church, &amp; Hope's Table Chicago)</td>
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May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

We pray for those in need:
God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially

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<tr>
<th>The people of the Holy Land &amp; all those in conflict zones</th>
<th>Cynthia (wife of Marvin Foltz)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Larry (Kim Callis’ uncle)</td>
<td>Arthur (Craig Bivins’ uncle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel (Anderson)</td>
<td>Brody (grandson of Mary Lou Wade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernard &amp; Brenda (Monique Patterson’s family)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

May they know the power of your healing love.

Make us willing agents of your compassion.  
Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.

We remember those who have died and those who mourn:
We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone.  
God, into your hands we commend them.

We pray for ourselves and our ministries…

We pray for the needs and concerns of this congregation.

People may add their own prayers.  
Online worshippers are invited to unmute and offer their prayers first.  
Those in the sanctuary are invited to come to the microphone.

Holy One, you have called us to serve you.  
Grant that we may walk in your presence:
your love in our hearts,  
your truth in our minds,  
your strength in our wills;
until, at the end of our journey,
we know the joy of our homecoming
and the welcome of your embrace,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, +forgive you all your sins through our Savior Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life in beloved community.

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The people greet one another.

Announcements

Some announcements will be given; more information is at the end of this bulletin.
Giving to Grace
You can give online to Grace during worship (or anytime) using your phone; simply scan the QR code and the church’s online donation provider VANCO will appear in your browser. Thank you for supporting Grace’s ministries!

On the first Sunday of each month, the cash offering is designated for Grace Church’s Discretionary Fund.

Offertory Hymn

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on. And when from death I’m free I’ll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a-side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I’ll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay a-side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I’ll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I’ll sing on.

The Hymnal 1982 #439
The Table of God

The Great Thanksgiving  all gather around the altar; chairs are available if needed

(Book of Common Prayer, Eucharistic Prayer A)

God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Almighty One.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ. 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious God: 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 Creator of all. Christ 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 Holy One, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his life, 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.
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Cantor sings,  
all echo each phrase.

1 & 2. O Light of the world, you take away  
3. Emmanuel  
the sin of the world: Have mercy on us.

Grant us your peace.  
Grant us your peace.

God’s holy gifts, for God’s holy people.

Instrumental Interlude  
while the people receive communion

The invitation to Communion comes from Jesus himself; everyone, without exception, is welcome to receive. Those at home may unwrap their host and consume it. If you do not have communion at home, you are invited to pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion below.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, dear Jesus, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, I offer you my praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament and that you are able, even when received by faith alone, to heal, enrich, and sanctify me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you and you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.
Communion Hymn

1. I have decided to follow Jesus,
2. Though no one join me, still I will follow,
3. The world behind me, the cross before me,

1. I have decided to follow Jesus,
2. Though no one join me, still I will follow,
3. The world behind me, the cross before me,

No turning back, no turning back!

Lift Every Voice & Sing #136
Sending Forth

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

we thank you for feeding us with the holy food
of the Body and Blood of your Son,
and for uniting us through him
in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit.
We thank you for raising up among us
faithful servants for ministry.
Grant that we may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Savior,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

At the + below, you are invited to cross yourself.

May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in all things you may do God’s will in the service of the kingdom of Christ; and the blessing of the +Holy Trinity be upon you now and always. Amen.
Closing Hymn

Verses

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the
people's cry. All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will
people's pain. I have wept for love of them, they turn a -
poor and fame. I will set a feast for them, my hand will
save. I who made the stars of night, I will break their hearts of stone,
save. Finest bread I will provide

I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my
give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my
till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my

light to them? Whom shall I send? ______
word to them? Whom shall I send? ______
life to them? Whom shall I send? ______

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have
heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord,
My Heart Sings Out #77

Dismissal

Our worship has ended. Now our service begins.
Go in peace to love and serve God.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude   *This Little Light of Mine, arr. C. Curry*

Please remain online for conversation and coffee hour.

**TODAY’S MINISTERS**

**Presider & Preacher**  Amity Carrubba

**Deacon**  Andrea Billhardt

**Minister of Music**  Marilyn Haverly

**Online Host**  Janet Harper

**Servers**  Kim Callis (lead), Wynette Edwards, Tom Haverly, Chris Wenderoth

**Bread Baker**  J Burger

**Vestry**

2024 Paula Morrow (Co-Warden), Aled Roberts (Treasurer), Rosita Sands, Emma Koch (Clerk)
2025 Wendy Manning (Co-Warden) and Nolan Cooper
2026 Melissa Moore and Ted Otto

**Building Committee**  Tim Paprocki, Ted Otto, Kate Eakin, J Burger, Craig Bivins
**Communications Committee**  Gail Purkey, Wendy Manning

**Liturgy Committee**  Melissa Moore, Emma Koch, Kim Callis, Andrea Billhardt, Kevin Malone, Marilyn Haverly

**Service & Advocacy Committee**  Marilynn Rochon, Tom Healy (Hope’s Table liaison), Andrea Billhardt, Doreen Baker, Wynette Edwards

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Announcements

Sabbatical Adult Forum Part II -- Next Sunday, January 21
Next Sunday, January 21 Pastor Amity invites you to a second adult forum on her sabbatical. The first adult forum was more of a travelogue. This forum will focus more on the theology and spirituality of the Celtic Christian tradition. Plan to attend, in person or on Zoom.

Community Listening Session with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church -- Thursday, January 25
Grace’s faith partner Holy Trinity invites Grace to join in a ‘Community Listening Session’ on Thursday, January 25. A panel of three guests will discuss the changes, challenges, and opportunities facing the South Loop and the role of religious communities in addressing these needs. Panelists will include Alderman Lamont Robinson, Dennis McClendon of South Loop Neighbors, and Jamie Brown from the District One Police Council. The Listening Session will take place on Zoom (link coming soon) from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Please plan to attend!

Hospitality Highlight – Wednesday, January 17 Community Meeting
South Loop Neighbors and The Community Builders, Inc. will be holding a community meeting discussing the proposed YMCA development on Plymouth Court and Van Buren next Wednesday, January 17. Doors will open at 5:30 with the presentation beginning at 6:00pm.

Grace’s Directory Update
Each January at the Annual Meeting we distribute updated Parish Directories to the congregation. Help us make sure your information is correct by reviewing your contact information on the spreadsheet located on the Welcome Table. You can also email Sara in the church office (sara@gracechicago.org) with any updates or changes to your information.
Consider Running for Grace Vestry in 2024
Are you curious about how big decisions at Grace are made, or how parish leaders set goals and work to achieve them? Then you might be ready to serve on the Vestry!

The Vestry functions similar to the board of a non-profit organization. Each year at the Parish Annual Meeting, new members are elected to the Grace Vestry. Terms are typically three years. Meetings are held at Grace on the third Monday of each month from 6-8pm, with an online attendance option.

You are invited to prayerfully consider nominating yourself or another Grace member for election at our parish 2024 Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28. Contact the Grace Wardens (Paula Morrow or Wendy Manning) for more details about service on the vestry.

Serve as a Delegate for the 2024 Diocesan Convention
Are you curious about how the Episcopal Church works? Are you a nerd for Robert’s Rules of Order? Then nominate yourself for Delegate to Diocesan Convention! The convention, which takes place the weekend before Thanksgiving (Saturday, November 23, 2024), includes both practical business as well as learning and vision-setting of the wider church. Three lay people plus one alternate are elected during the Annual Meeting to represent Grace at the 2024 Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago. Contact Pastor Amity for more details about being a convention delegate.

Meet the Vestry Nominees
Kevin Malone, nominee for At-Large Member (3 years)
Kevin moved to Chicago from Scranton, PA in December, 2008 with his partner (now husband) Frank to start a new job. He was raised in upstate NY in a pentecostal church and joined the Episcopal Church after moving to Illinois. He was drawn to a church that accepted him as a complete person. He was very involved in his previous parish, even serving on the vestry, but commuting to Lincoln Park became more difficult during the pandemic. Walking to Grace was familiar since he had done it on his wedding day in 2014 (at Grace.) Over the past two years, Kevin has grown to love the community and call Grace his spiritual home.

Kevin works as a podiatrist in clinics on the southside. Once a month, he helps run a foot clinic for unhoused Chicagoans. Over the past year, Kevin joined the Windy City Gay Chorus and has had a great time sharing his love of singing with Grace.

Tim Paprocki, nominee for At-Large Member (3 years)
Tim has lived in Chicago for over 20 years and he along with his wife Sara have been members of Grace for over 10 years. They happily welcomed their daughter Samantha into this community where she was baptized and received her first Communion. Tim and his family live in Little Italy and love exploring the neighborhoods of Chicago, especially in the summer.

Tim is an electrical engineer and grew up working on projects with his father who was a mechanic & carpenter. He has been a member of Grace’s Building Committee for several years and is looking forward to participating in more ways to give back to the Grace community.

Emma Koch, nominee for Vestry Clerk (1 year)
A member of Grace since 2017, Emma works as a Healthcare Chaplain at Ascension Saint Joseph Hospital in Lakeview.

Originally from Baltimore, Emma first moved to Chicago to attend the University of Chicago for college. She was active in the Episcopal campus ministry, Brent House, serving as a peer minister. Emma serves on the Liturgy Committee and is part of Grace’s Preaching Guild.