



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 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 5, 2020

*Before the Service — Speak quietly to God
During the Service — Let God speak to you
After the Service — Speak to one another*

Opening Hymn: Take My Life and Let It Be (Listen to this hymn on our website)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; 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

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.'

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

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

The Response

Psalm 45: 11-18

Eructavit cor meum

- 11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; *
forget your people and your father's house.
12 The king will have pleasure in your beauty; *
he is your master; therefore do him honor.
13 The people of Tyre are here with a gift; *
the rich among the people seek your favor."
14 All glorious is the princess as she enters; *
her gown is cloth-of-gold.
15 In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; *
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.
16 With joy and gladness they are brought, *
and enter into the palace of the king.
17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; *
you shall make them princes over all the earth.
18 I will make your name to be remembered
from one generation to another; *
therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."

The Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church .

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN: Come to the Water (Listen to the hymn on our website)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, from Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

At the Early Service: 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.

At the Later Service: 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, Sirune, Odin, Thor, Genevieve, 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.**

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.**

Second Service: Listen to the pre-recorded Lord's Prayer

The Blessing

People Amen.

Closing Hymn: They'll Know We are Christians (Listen to this song on our website)

The Dismissal

Priest The Peace of the Lord be always with you. 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. John's in Westland, St. Timothy's in Nizao 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.

***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

May total expenses: \$16,137.31

May total income: \$20,305.05

June pledge income: \$15,262.10

June outreach income: \$1,435.20

June rental income: \$1,690.00

Capital Campaign

Goal for 2020-22: \$150,000.00

Pledged to date: \$52,350.00

Received to date: \$18,600.00

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 2:00 pm on Zoom

(Meeting info will remain as follows each week)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732417015?pwd=Z0NkeFQ4L2FFSExYelB3WXoyUmFvZz09>

Meeting ID: 897 3241 7015 Password: 683930

Or call: 312-626-6799

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on Tuesday, August 25 at 7 pm at Grace.
They will be discussing *A Good Neighborhood* by Therese Anne Fowler.
If you have any questions, please call Ann Strevel.

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

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

115 South Main Street, Mt Clemens, MI 48043

Office 586-465-4573 Fax 586-463-9162

Email: gracemtclemens@yahoo.com

Visit us on the web at

www.gracechurchmtclemens.org