



Grace Episcopal Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

Everyone is welcome here at Grace! If you are our guest this morning, see Rev. Milly after worship. If you are tuning in online, please email or call us and tell us a bit about yourself. You may reach us through the church office at 828-254-1086 or at grace.church.asheville@gmail.com. Also feel free to email our Rector Rev. Milly Morrow at Rev.Milly4Grace@gmail.com or call her between 7 am and 7 pm at 828.772.1429.

*We begin our service on **page 355 of the red Book of Common Prayer**; you can find that in your pew rack. Please feel free to ask your neighbor if you have any questions about how to follow along in our common worship. Welcome to Grace!*

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

PRELUDE Psalm 23

Emma Lou Diemer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the tolling of the tower bell, the congregation is asked to stand.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God's mercy endures for ever.**

OPENING HYMN: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (vs 1-5)

493

KYRIE

Cassarino

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have

mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 219

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23 (*Chanted*)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be / **in want.**
He makes me lie down / **in green pastures**
and leads me **be-side still waters.**
He **re-vives my soul.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow / **of death,**
I shall / **fear no evil;**
for you / **are with me;**
your rod and your staff / **comfort me.**

You spread a table **be-fore me**
in the presence of / **those who trouble me;**
you have anointed my / **head with oil,**
and my cup is / **running over.**

Your mercy shall follow me all the days / **of my life,**
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD, for / **evermore.**

THE EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

Rev. Milly and Rev. Guy, a conversation

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM I

BCP 383

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy.
 For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls,
 let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our lives, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

THE CONFESSION

BCP 360

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.
Medical Advocacy Team Announcement-AED Demonstration*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *The Lord of Love My Shepherd Is....American Folk Hymn/arr. K. Lee Scott*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A (*standing*)

BCP 361

SANCTUS

David Hurd



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high-est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional Version)*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

David Hurd

[organ.] O Lamb of God, that
ta-kest a-way the sins of the world,
have mer-cy up-on us.
O Lamb of God, that
ta-kest a-way the sins of the world,
have mer-cy up-on us.
O Lamb of God, that
ta-kest a-way the sins of the world,
Grant us thy peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(Gluten free wafers are available upon request at the altar rail)

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM: *Nearer, My God, to Thee* Lowell Mason/arr. W. Knapp & R.E. Schram

Post Communion Prayer *(standing)*

Celebrant Let us pray.

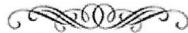
All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* 142

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* Ashley Grote



The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Tricia and Keith Hargrove in thanksgiving for the blessing of family and friends.

The greenery is given to the Glory of God by Jeff and Bea Russell in memory of their parents, James and Irene Russell and Peter and Marjorie Smolka.

LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Nancy Walters Chalicerist: Susan Robinson
Lectors: OT Elaine Potter NT Elise Cassarino Intercessor: Sally Withers

Ushers: William and Nate Potter Greeters: Lorie Tola and Jocelyn Medina
Vestry Member of the Day: Kim Hayes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONNECT WITH US IN-PERSON AND ONLINE! Sunday Services are open to all in the Sanctuary with masks optional, and by Live Stream on our YouTube Channel. Service links are at the top of our website graceavl.com. Click on "[YouTube Services](#)" for the service, on "**Sunday Service Bulletin**" for the bulletin, and on "**Sunday Hymns**" to sing along with the choir.

ART SHOW

"Diamonds in the Rough" – You're Invited! Artist Joerob and friends (including our own Anne Jarema!) invite you to join a celebration of sculpture, mixed media, live music, video and more. Through our participation in the Winter Safe Shelter, many of us have come into relationship with Joerob and are eager to support him in his work of restoring dreams and bringing community together through the arts. Please join us Saturday, March 25, 3-8pm, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 587 Haywood Road, in West Asheville, for Diamonds in the Rough, presented by the Restored Dreams Project.

"If God gave me a second chance using my creativity and my art, then I wanted to give that same thing to other people. Through my art, maybe I can inspire someone to use their art to find their way. That's restoring.

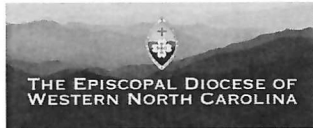
[Learn more here.](#)

MEDICAL ADVOCACY MINISTRY

The Medical Advocacy Ministry (MAM) will hold a 30 minute important meeting after church on March 26 in the Parish Hall. All ushers, acolytes, vestry and any other interested parties are invited to attend. This will be to demonstrate the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and Blood Pressure Monitor (BP) donated by the MAM to those who may be involved with the use of both items when needed. Information will

be available on a follow up inservice clinic for AED and BP monitor use along with CPR that Red Cross provides.

AED CERTIFICATION IN ASHEVILLE, NC - RED CROSS



EPISCOPAL AND DIOCESE PROGRAMS:

SIGN UP FOR THE WNC DIOCESE NEWSLETTER [HERE](#).

The EPISCOPAL PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK (EPPN) is a grassroots effort of The Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations to educate, equip and engage individual Episcopalians in federal public policy advocacy, guided by the resolutions of the General Convention and the Executive Council. To sign up for EPPN Action alerts that come to your personal email AND to receive a unique code to listen in on the fast-paced, 30-minute Zoom call every Thursday at 1 pm ("Congress Weekly"), [register here](#) as an EPPN network member.

Here is the latest resource prepared by EPPN for your information and use:



- Tell Congress to Permanently Protect the Arctic Refuge

Legislation in both the House and the Senate has been introduced in Congress that would alter current law that permits oil and gas exploration and would permanently protect the area as wilderness. Click [here](#) to share an email that has been prepared for your use and will be addressed to your elected officials by EPPN. You can also revise that email to add your personal thoughts.

- Taking Stock of U.S. Engagement in Africa Join EPPN on March 21st at 2pm for a special conversation on advocacy and church engagement across the continent. Click [here](#) to register for the Zoom presentation.
- Join Refugee Council USA for National Advocacy Days May 2nd - May 3rd, 2023, in Washington, DC. Click [here](#) to register for this “in-person” event. Registration ends April 10th, 2023. Participants will also be able to attend a number of special training sessions to help build and expand their advocacy toolbelt for advocating for refugees. The event is free to attend, but participants traveling from out of the area will be expected to cover the cost of their travel and accommodation.

PLAN, GIVE, IMPACT!

Please consider making a lasting impact on Grace Episcopal Church by creating a legacy gift for the Grace community that lasts for generations!

To learn more about planned giving and make Grace Episcopal Church part of your estate planning, please meet fellow parishioners and endowment committee members in the Church library following the March 19 Sunday service. Grace member John Chastain will lead the conversation.

ALTAR GUILD

Have you considered joining the Altar Guild?

Members of the Altar Guild carry out the meaningful ministry of preparing our church for worship, especially setting the altar each Sunday, as well as preparing for baptisms, weddings, and funerals, and making sure the linens, silver, and brass are in tip-top shape. We need to add two more people to each of our four groups that serve one Sunday a month. Would you serve with us? Please connect with Shannon Townsend or just walk into the sacristy and speak to the member serving.

GRACE BACKPACKERS

DEADLINE APPROACHING FAST! Your food donations for Backpackers are needed no later than **Wednesday, March 22!** Thanks to all who have already donated non-perishable items. We can still use more – and here’s another thought: In these last few days, we could also add fresh fruit (apples, oranges, etc.) and bread. All donations will be used to fill bags for 50 families from Jones Elementary and will be delivered

directly to homes on March 25, just in time for Spring Break. Your help counts! Thank you!

ECW SAVE THE DATE!

The ECW will hold its Spring Potluck Luncheon on *Saturday, April 22nd, at noon* in the parish hall. We will have a business meeting to discuss our goals for the upcoming year. We encourage newcomers to join us!

Financial News

Dear Grace Family,

Your Finance Team has completed its portion of the annual Parochial report for our Friends at the Diocese. The submitted results reflect Grace's operating and general financial position for 2022. Grace's profile reflects a very positive uptrend from 2021 and these results are a testimony to the generosity of the Grace community and talent of Grace's leadership. Please be mindful of your annual pledge for 2023 to help sustain the Grace mission and ministry. The Parochial Report will be published upon completion by all parties and then will be submitted to the Diocese.

Peace, Katie Douglas (Financial Reporting) and Steve Birkhofer (Treasurer)



PRAYING TOGETHER Rev. Milly holds open spiritual direction sessions for individuals or couples weekly by appointment Wednesdays 1-3 pm in the sanctuary. *Please email Rev. Milly to schedule your time with her.*
Rev.Milly4Grace@gmail.com.

WEEKLY TAIZÉ What if . . . as part of a Lenten practice this year we set aside one hour of time just to listen for God — just be available to listen?

Why not take a short break on the way home from the pressures of the office or a few moments away from the hustle and bustle of the demands of home? The weekly Taizé service offers just such a respite. Please consider the Tuesday evenings of Lent at 6pm as an opportunity to experience a brief slice of peace . . .

And as Milly has reminded us — to Slow Down. For more information on Taizé at Grace visit: www.graceavl.com/taize-grace

THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM AT GRACE Reach out to us with any pastoral care needs you, or your family, may have, by emailing the team at pastoralcare@graceavl.com. You can also email, text or call Fr. Mike at 860-771-1656 or Rev. Milly at 828-772-1429, Sunday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., unless it's a pastoral emergency.



WOMEN WALKING THE WAY Thursday at 8:00 a.m. meet at the Bird Sanctuary parking lot. Women of Grace, please consider joining Rev. Milly for a weekly walk at Beaver Lake. This time together is devoted to deep listening to how we as women walk the way of Jesus, in the world and in our community of Grace. No need to register or even email her,

just show up!



ELECTRONIC GIVING MADE EASY Grace Church receives electronic giving via our website at www.graceavl.com. There is a "Give to Grace"

button on the top blue banner of our home page. To give to our "virtual collection plate" you can also use the Simple Church app or the Venmo app.



THIS WEEK'S SERVICES AND MEETINGS



<u>Date and Time</u>	<u>Service or Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday Mar 19 9a	Adult Formation	Parish Hall
Sunday Mar 19 9:15	Children's Sunday School	Atrium
Sunday Mar 19 10:30a	Holy Eucharist Service*	Sanctuary/YouTube**
Sunday after church	Liturgical Training	Sanctuary
Mondays, 10:30a	Monday Morning Bible Study	Zoom **
Mondays, 3p	Pastoral Care Team Meeting	Zoom
Monday 3/20 5:30-7p	Vestry meeting	Library
Tuesdays 6p	Taizé Service	Sanctuary
Wednesdays, 1-3p	Praying Together with Rev. Milly - by appointment	Sanctuary
Wednesdays, 5:30p	Centering Prayer	Zoom**
Wednesdays, 6:30p	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Thursdays, 8a	Women Walking the Way	Beaver Lake
	* BULLETIN AVAILABLE **LINK AT TOP OF HOME PAGE	graceavl.com

OUR PRAYER LIST

For Parishioners: **Pat Davis; Rusty Herman; Daniel and Hannah Johnston; Shari Lane; Joan Mahon; Laura and Tsz-yan (GN) Snyder; Kelly and Sydnor Thompson; Barbara Wilcox; Tim Wrinn....**

For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities: **Bill Coward; Ed Denison; Bobbie Eblen; Dorothy Engel; Eunice Ferguson; Cys (Sis) Hayes; Marion Mayfield-Johnson; Deb Pegel; Rita Spragg; Shirley Turner....**

For Others: (Names will remain on the list for 6 weeks unless we hear otherwise.) **Linda Adams** (neighbor of Cliff and Anne); **Angela** (sister of Steve Booth); **Wes Auret** (godson of Elaine Potter); **Gene Bowen** (brother of Larry Bowen); **Gabriel and Lara Brongel and family** (grandson and daughter of Jackie Schauer); **Cathy** (friend of Elaine Potter); **Porter Claxton** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Jimmy Cole** (lifelong friend of Sonny Rawls); **Ann Derwort** (sister of Jeanne Sims); **Cody Ervin** (friend of Hannah Pennell); **Woody Geizentanner** (friend of Pat & George Davis); **Patricia Grace** (friend of Gael Paschal); **Jackie Haines** (sister of Carol Booth); **Angela High** (friend of Vicki Vest); **Cherry Howe** (friend of Rusty Herman & Janice Orson); **Laury Keen** (friend of James Cannon's sister); **Candy Kelly** (friend of Dodie King); **Gene Mahon** (brother of Pat Mahon); **David Moltke-Hansen and Patricia Poteat** (friends of Jeanne and Ron Sims); **Molly Breslin** (friend of Gary Coffey and family); **Bob Noble** (brother of Walt Noble); **Pam** (neighbor of Mike Reardon); **Matthew Pennell** (son of Hannah Pennell); **Sharon Prater** (friend of Lorie Tola); **Michele and Kevin Randall** (niece and nephew in-law of Jeanne and Ron Sims); **Sarah and Bo** (friends of Amy & Phillip Trees); **Wilma Wilson** (mother of Debbie Jones)....

We Grieve and Pray with the families of **Robert Giles** (brother of Nancy Walters); and **Yogi Ayer** (friend of Jeanne and Ron Sims).

For Those in Service to Our Country: **Tommy & Danny Brown** (grandsons of Ed & Marla Woeckener); **Martha and Matt Cardenas** (daughter & son-in-law of Hannah Pennell); **Matthew George** (son of Zoe Davis); **Jason Marino** (son of Lynda McCredie); **Sarah Jane Wilkey** (daughter of Diane & Tony Wilkey).

For Those in the Episcopal Church: Michael (our presiding Bishop); José (our Bishop); the clergy, vestry, staff, ministries, and people of this parish; Church of the Advocate. For our President Joe Biden, his Cabinet, Congress & our country; for victims of violence across the world; for local agencies & those who work for relief of the poor; for better stewardship of the environment; for resolution of crises throughout our world.

Get permission from anyone you would like to add to this list and contact our Pastoral Care Ministry at pastoralcare4grace@gmail.com or contact the church.

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The Right Reverend José McLoughlin, *Bishop*
The Reverend Milly Morrow, *Rector*;
The Reverend Mike Reardon, *Associate Rector*
James Cassarino, *Director of Music*;
Cathy Adkins, *Organist*
Jill Stevenson, *Office Manager*;
Angel Stoudt, *Sexton*
Archie Clarkson, *Tech Director*;
Katherine Johnson, *Wedding Coordinator*