

# PENTECOST

Sunday, May 23



#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Live stream Worship 10:30 am Find Grace Church Seattle's page on <u>YouTube</u>

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Front cover artwork: Pentecost Heejoo Bruce, 2021 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

#### **Psalm 95:6**

No matter who you are—a committed follower of Jesus, a person curious about Christianity, or a skeptic of spirituality—God is calling you to worship him. Wherever you are on the journey, we hope that you feel welcomed and at home. Perhaps you have never been to church (or not in a long time) and fear that you will not know what to do, how to act, or what to say. Be assured: God's grace is for people just like you.

In our congregation, we follow an ancient liturgical pattern in our worship, drawing from the wisdom of Christians who have gone before us. Every Sunday we renew our commitment to God, offer him our prayers and gifts, confess our sins, receive forgiveness, and hear from God's word.

We find worshipping this way liberates us from our culture's obsession with that which is novel. We have also found worshipping this way to be deeply and profoundly formative over time. If you are not used to worship, or not used to worshipping in this manner, give yourself some time to get acclimated. We also make every effort to explain things as we go along.'

Although we are committed to worshiping in this manner, we realize that the danger of liturgical worship is that it can become an empty ritual. We understand that, at its heart, worship is profoundly relational. It encompasses both our relationship with God and our relationship with one another. Every week we gather to meet with God, strengthen our ties to one another, and welcome strangers into our congregation.

For these reasons, although our worship is structured and informed by ancient practices, we also strive for it to be warm and personal.

In all of this, our great confidence is that God enjoys meeting with us.

Let us worship!

# **REFLECTION QUOTES**

Grace bats last.

#### **Anne Lamott**

I raise a hallelujah, in the presence of my enemies I raise a hallelujah, louder than the unbelief I raise a hallelujah, my weapon is a melody I raise a hallelujah, heaven comes to fight for me

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar Up from the ashes, hope will arise Death is defeated, the King is alive!

Jonathan David Helser and Melissa Helser, "I Raise a Hallelujah"

The Christian world of the book of Revelation, like that of much of the New Testament, is a world of cities....And since this was a world in which cities were commonly personified as women, Rome appears in Revelation, not as the goddess Roma, the form in which she was worshipped in the cities of Asia, but as 'the great whore' (17:1)...Babylon is the city of Rome, built on seven hills (17:9), but she also represents the corrupting influence which Rome had on all the cities of her empire....

There is [also] the New Jerusalem which comes down from heaven in the new creation. Like the harlot Babylon, the New Jerusalem is both a woman and a city: the bride and the wife of the Lamb (19:7; 21:2,9) and the 'holy city the New Jerusalem' (21:2), 'the city of my God' (3:12).

Richard Bauckham, The Theology of the Book of Revelation

The small symbols you will see throughout these pages correspond to a "Key to Liturgy" available here



Text in **bold** is read together by the entire congregation. Plain text is read by one of the worship service leaders

Our worship begins each week with a call to worship. We are gathered here today because God, our Creator, desires to have a relationship with us. Whether we realize it or not, he is the one calling us to himself—today and every day.

Benjamin Beddome, 1900.

#### WELCOME

#### **PRELUDE**

Standing

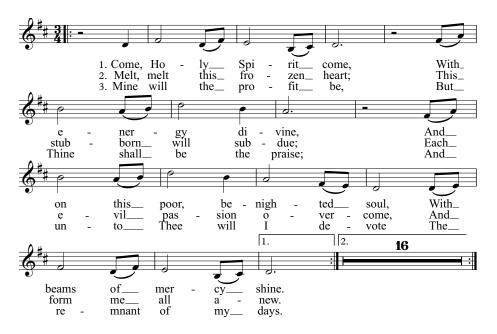
#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Adapted from Acts 2:17-21

God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh, and our daughters and sons shall prophesy. Our old ones shall dream dreams, and our young ones shall see visions; and all who call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

# Come, let us call upon the name of the Lord!

# Come, Holy Spirit Come



Seated

#### **LECTIO SACRA**

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians-we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

"'And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;
the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



"Lectio Sacra" means "sacred reading." It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the bible read during worship services. The assumption behind this practice is that we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's word.

#### INTERLUDE

Standing



#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

# Spirit of God,

you are the breath of creation, the wind of change that blows through our lives, opening us up to new dreams and new hopes, new life in Jesus Christ.

Forgive us our closed minds,

which barricade themselves against new ideas, preferring the past

to what you might want to do through us tomorrow.

Forgive our closed eyes,

which fail to see the needs of your world, blind to opportunities of service and love.

Forgive our closed hands,

which clutch our gifts and our wealth for our own use alone.

Forgive us our closed hearts,

which are overrun with shame, fearfulness, and pride.

Spirit of new life,

forgive us and break down the prison walls of our selfishness, that we might be open to your love and open for service in your world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



#### RECEIVING OF GRACE

Adapted from Ezekiel 36:24-28

Brothers and sisters, hear the word of the Lord:

"I will take you out of the nations.

I will gather you from all the countries.

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you.

I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

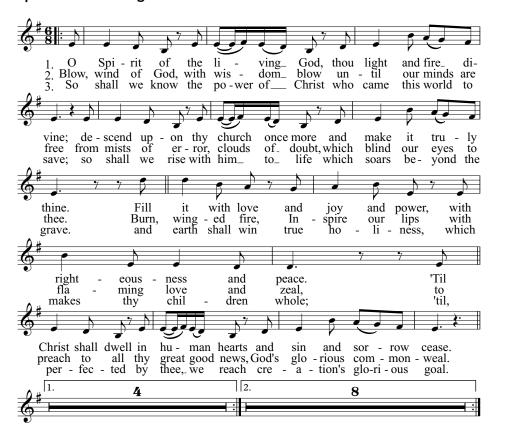
And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees.

You will be my people, and I will be your God."

May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

# Spirit Of The Living God



Audrey Assad 2013 © Audrey Assad Inc. (Admin. by Audrey Assad / Fortunate Fall Publishing)

# O Worship The King



Words: Robert Grant (1833) Music: LYONS

#### Seated

#### Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.



#### Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

#### Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Share with us your visit and prayer requests.

#### PASSING THE PEACE

As recipients of God's grace, we gladly receive peace from him. In response to his grace, we also extend that grace to one another. Traditionally, Christians have greeted one another during this time in the service with the phrase, "May the peace of Christ be with you" and receive back the greeting "And also with you."

# **GOSPEL LESSON**

A Tale of Two Women

Revelation 19:1-8 (NIV)

Rev. John Haralson

Sermons can be streamed and downloaded at graceseattle.org/resources.

#### **SERMON TEXT**

[19:1] After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:

"Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,

[2] for true and just are his judgments.

He has condemned the great prostitute

who corrupted the earth by her adulteries.

He has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

[3] And again they shouted:

"Hallelujah!

The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever."

[4] The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried:

"Amen, Hallelujah!"

[5] Then a voice came from the throne, saying:

"Praise our God.

all you his servants,

you who fear him,

both great and small!"

[6] Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

"Hallelujah!

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

[7] Let us rejoice and be glad

and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

(Continued on next page)

[8] Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)

[9] Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God." [10] At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus."

# SENDING AND BLESSING

Jess Alldredge Jeremy Herring Sean Hill

#### OFFERING

To give to the Grace General Fund, you can give several ways:



- To give via text message, text GODISLOVE to 206.859.9405.
  - To give via the Grace app, look up "Grace Church Seattle" on the App Store or Google Play and click the giving tab within the app.
- Give via Venmo (Give to @graceseattle.org; all transactions are private)
- Give via PayPal (Give to bookkeeper@graceseattle.org)

(This will take you to our on-line giving page)

- To gift stock, contact our bookkeeper@graceseattle.org
- Mail to check to:

Grace Church Seattle 400 E Pine St, #215 Seattle, WA 98122

To give to the Serving the City Fund or Deacons Fund, you can give several ways:

- For text, online, and app giving, specify "Serving the City" "Deacons Fund" in the "Fund" field.
- For all other giving, Indicate "Serving the City" or "Deacons Fund" in the memo or comments field.

#### MUSICAL OFFERING

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



#### THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic\* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,

"Catholic" refers to the true Christian church at all times and in all places.



# Prayer for Receiving Communion

Lord Jesus, your perfect life, death, and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Communion wafer ingredients: wheat flour, water, vegetable shortening (soybean oil, cottonseed oil).

Gluten-free wafer ingredients: Flour mix (garbanzo bean, tapioca, sorghum, fava beans, potato starch), water, canola oil, salt. Seated

#### THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

and the life everlasting. Amen.

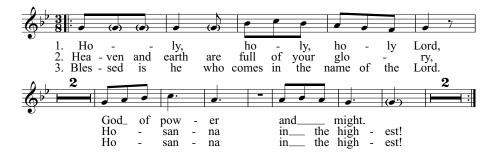
#### Introduction to the Lord's Table

You are invited to come to the church (1300 E Aloha Street, Seattle WA, 98102) from 12:00 to 12:30pm to safely receive the communion elements.

#### The Words of Institution

# Standing

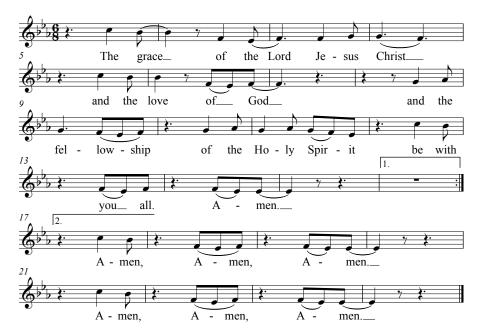
# Sanctus



Arranged by Jess Alldredge, 2018.

# BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14





Arranged by Jess Alldredge, 2012.

# SENDING

Let us go forth and serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

# Thanks be to God!



# SUNDAYS

**Sunday Worship 10:30 AM.** Please <u>pre-register here</u> for in-person worship or join us via <u>live-stream on YouTube</u>. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper each week at the end of the service. For people unable to attend in-person worship, you can pick up communion elements each week in the parking lot between Noon and 12:30 PM.

**Grace Kids.** Children's worship guide available every week. Limited Nursery (6 months to 36 months) available for parents who <u>Pre-register for Nursery</u> each week. A family room is also provided in the Upstairs Chapel with a Livestream viewing. For more information, check the Grace Kids Page on our <u>website</u>.

**Youth.** Youth Community Group (YCG) meets on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Thursdays of every month at 7 PM. We also meet every first Sunday of the month from 12-12:45 for prayer with parents of adolescents, (6th grade through 12th). For more information, please contact Pastor Jason at <a href="mailto:jason@graceseattle.org">jason@graceseattle.org</a>.

**Adult Christian Formation.** Adult class meets virtually every other Sunday at 9am (<u>registration</u> required). Current class is "Race, Whiteness, and the Church".

**Pastoral Care.** Please contact us if you have needs or if you have resources you would like to offer our community. We can be reached here (<u>pastoralcare@graceseattle.org</u>).

#### CONNECT

**Connect Groups.** We have a wide variety of groups: Community Groups, Bible Studies, Prayer Groups, Men's Groups, and Women's Groups. To find a group, or if you are interested in starting one, please contact our Director of Community Formation, Jamie Afshari <a href="mailto:jamie@graceseattle.org">jamie@graceseattle.org</a>.

# **SERVE**

**Congregation.** There are many ways to serve in the congregation. Please contact <u>Alyssa Werner</u> or go to our website for more information.

**City.** Grace partners with a number of great organizations in the city. To find out more, please contact <u>Pastor Jason</u> or go to <u>our website</u>.

## **GIVE**

You can give financially to Grace many ways.

- Our General Fund, which goes to support the mission and worship of our congregation.
- Our Deacons Fund, which goes to help those in our congregation and community who are facing unexpected financial need
- Our Serving the City Fund, which goes directly to our efforts to serve the hurting and marginalized in our city

For more information, please go to graceseattle.org/giving

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **Transitions, Gratitude, & Sending**

Please join us on Sunday, May 23, for coffee and donuts in the courtyard after the service as we thank Jess Alldredge, Jeremy Herring, and Sean Hill for their amazing service to our church. As Jess moves toward his sabbatical and as Sean and Jeremy transition to different jobs, we are so grateful for how they represent the Lord's provision to our congregation. Please join us as we thank them and send them with our blessing to their new adventures.

# **Sunday Volunteers Needed!**

With the return to in-person worship, we need people willing to help with ushering, check-in, reading, and audio-visual crew. Please contact Alyssa Werner (<a href="mailto:alyssa@graceseattle.org">alyssa@graceseattle.org</a>) to sign up!

**Nursery** is now available during the in-person worship service on a limited basis (6 months to 36 months) but does require parents to <u>Pre-register for Nursery</u> each week. For more information please contact, Linn@graceseattle.org.

# **415 Lowell-Westlake Project**

For the past several months, Lowell Elementary, Union Church, Seattle First Baptist, and Grace Church Seattle have been praying and planning to set up a remote educational site for unsheltered Lowell students who do not have equal access to technology and basic needs. Please prayerfully consider becoming a consistent tutor at least once a week, for a two-hour slot (high school-aged students who need service hours are welcome). Please email <a href="mailto:union415volunteers@gmail.com">union415volunteers@gmail.com</a> for more information.

# Moms' Group-Fridays at 10 AM

Join us for a time of connection between moms-both new and seasoned! We generally listen to a podcast prior to group then bring our thoughts to share. Expect a variety of discussion topics relating to motherhood and faith. Drop-ins welcome! Contact jenmartin@fastmail.com with questions or to join.

#### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

5/23 Day of Pentecost <u>Christian Formation Hour</u> 9 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM (In-Person & Livestream)

5/30 First Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service 10:30 AM (In-Person & Livestream)

6/6 Second Sunday after Pentecost <u>Christian Formation Hour</u> 9 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM (In-Person & Livestream)

6/13 Third Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service 10:30 AM (In-Person & Livestream)

#### STAFF

Rev. John Haralson, Pastor john@graceseattle.org
Rev. Jason Davison, Associate Pastor jason@graceseattle.org
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Darik Taniguchi on sabbatical
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#### REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP(RUF)

Rev. David Birnie david.birnie@ruf.org

#### MAKING DISCIPLES. SERVING THE CITY.

Grace Church Seattle is a worshipping community in Capitol Hill, Seattle rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and transformative.

Worship Location Livestream on Youtube
Office Location 400 E Pine, Suite 215 Seattle, WA 98122

graceseattle.org office@graceseattle.org pastoralcare@graceseattle.org