



Celebrating 116 Years of God's Grace!

GRACE NOTES – January 2018

The News from GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Note From Pastor Grace

Worship Changes

I know, I know...mentioning the word “change” in the church sends folks screaming for the hills! Nevertheless, worship can become stagnant and mindlessly rote if it’s the same all the time. We begin to repeat the prayers without needing to think very much about what we’re saying. It is wonderful to have a sense that worship is familiar, and that when we walk into an Episcopal Church in the US, or, indeed, in most places in the Anglican Communion, we will recognize the basic shape of the liturgy and many of the prayers, as well. Having said all of that, I’m going to be making a few changes to the liturgy during the Epiphany season between now and Ash Wednesday. Some will be familiar to most of you; others may not. These will be in effect at least until Ash Wednesday, and then we will shift some things for the season of Lent.

Announcements

This change has already been made, as you know, and I’ve tweaked it a bit, since the first week. We’ve moved the announcements to the end of the service so the Peace will have its intended place

in the liturgy, as a time when we share with one another the Peace of Christ rather than our latest favorite recipe! The transition wasn’t as smooth as it could have been, and people had some suggestions, so we will have the closing hymn with the procession out, as we’ve always done, and then I will ask the congregation to be seated for the announcements. After they are finished, I will ask the congregation to stand for the dismissal. I’ve done it this way twice, and it seems to work well.

The Psalm

There are several ways in which the Psalms may be approached in our worship, and we will be using one of the ancient methods during this season. Instead of a responsive reading between the lector and the whole congregation, as we have been doing, we will have the congregation read it verse by verse, alternating from side to side of the congregation. The lector will guide you in this. This was an ancient way of reading the psalms and is the way it is still done in monastic houses, both Roman Catholic and Episcopal.

The Lord's Prayer

For most of you, this will be the most uncomfortable change, and I would ask only that you enter it with a spirit of prayerful inquiry: how does the prayer speak to me now, with this wording? What things strike me in a new or different way? What do I really dislike—and why?

We will be using the contemporary version of the prayer, the one that appears opposite the traditional form in the Rite II service in the Prayer Book. It will, of course, be printed in the weekly bulletin. It is an ecumenical version that was agreed upon years ago by many Protestant denominations, as well as the Roman Catholic Church, and you will often find it being used in other denominations, as well in other Episcopal congregations. Many of our churches use it exclusively now. And before you object by saying we're tampering with Jesus' own words, remember that **every** version is a translation and that the versions in Luke 11 and Matthew 5 aren't even the same! (And neither of them uses the word "trespasses"!)

So pay attention to these changes; see what feels comfortable and what doesn't, and then ask yourself why. And let me know what you think. We'll have an opportunity in a few weeks to have some conversation with one another about this experience.



What's Happening In January

The Greene County Ministerial Association is sponsoring the annual Martin Luther King celebration on Sunday, January 14th, at 7:00 PM at *Grace Community Church*. There will be music by several church choirs, as well as a step dance team. The speaker will be the mayor of Charlottesville. There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted. This event raises money for the Ministerial Association's Scholarship Fund. Last year they were able to give five \$1000 scholarships to William Monroe seniors. The essay competition for the scholarships is open to all seniors.

There will be a Memorial Service at Grace Church on Saturday, January 13th, at 11:00 AM, celebrating the life of Eleanor Wabnitz's daughter, Ruth Shelton. Following the service there will be a potluck lunch. If you are able, please bring a covered dish to share. Drinks will be provided. If you cannot attend but would like to bring a dish, you can leave it in the kitchen on Friday, the 12th. We will be setting up on Friday afternoon.

The Grace Episcopal Church 2018 Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28th, 2018 after the 10:30 AM Service. New Vestry members will be elected, outgoing members will be recognized, and the past year will be reviewed. The new 2018 Budget will also be presented. Before the actual meeting, there will be a pot-luck lunch. Please bring a dish to share with fellow parishioners and join in on an informative gathering.

**† Birthdays, Baptisms, &
Anniversaries †
January 2018**

*Let us give thanks and praise to God for
these special days in the life of our
parish family*

Birthdays



09 Eleanor Cary

11 Ross Erikson
Lucie Mae Pattison

13 Matthew Fickes
Hannah Rees

20 Herb Fickes

26 Kathryn Thomas

Anniversaries



05 Roy & Ann Dye

15 Brian & Suzanne Pattison



Baptisms

Lay Participation Schedule for January 2018

	1/7 The Feast of the Epiphany	1/14 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany	1/21 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany	1/28 4th Sunday after the Epiphany
<u>1st Lesson</u>	Isaiah 60:1-6	1 Samuel 3:1-20	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
<u>Psalm</u>	72 1-7, 10-14	139: 1-5, 12-17	62: 6-14	111
<u>Epistle</u>	Ephesians 3:1-12	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
<u>Gospel</u>	Matthew 2:1-12	John 1:43-51	Mark 1:14-20	Mark 1:21-28
Ministry	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
<u>LEM</u>	Jean Byerly	Jean Byerly	Jean Byerly	Jean Byerly
<u>Lector</u>	Betty Moreland	Betty Moreland	Betty Moreland	Betty Moreland
<u>Intercessor</u>	Pat Peck	Pat Peck	Pat Peck	Pat Peck
<u>Usher</u>	Andy Byerly	Andy Byerly	Andy Byerly	Andy Byerly
Ministry	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
<u>LEM</u>	Gwen Atwood	Minna Doyle	Mary Hogge	Cathy Lagana
<u>Lector</u>	Ron Morris	Roy Dye	Bill Schmidt	Linda Robbins
<u>Intercessor</u>	Julie Winslow	Linda Robbins	Jeannie Palin	Bill Schmidt
<u>Usher</u>	Lou Hatter	Roy Dye	Angelo Lagana	Mary Hogge
<u>Coffee Hour</u>	Ladd	Nye	Morris	ANNUAL MEETING
<u>Vestry Person</u>	Julie Winslow	Julie Winslow	Julie Winslow	Julie Winslow
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Jean Byerly Cathy Lagana	Jean Byerly Cathy Lagana	Jean Byerly Cathy Lagana	Jean Byerly Cathy Lagana

Note: Adult Forum: Begins at 9:15 on Sundays in the parish hall. You are invited to come and enjoy the coffee hour which follows the 8:00 service.