

Grace Episcopal Church

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www.GraceGlendora.org



The Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2025

The Rev. Susan L. Scranton, Rector

The Rev James Seipel, Assisting

David Aldrete, Choirmaster ~ Pavel Petrov, Organist

Welcome to Grace Parish! We are glad that you have answered God's call to worship, and we are honored that you have chosen to be with us. In addition to the service, we offer childcare for children age 4 and under, and Sunday School for preschool through 5th grade.

Visitors, we would like to meet you! Please take a moment to fill out the "Voice from the Pew" found in the red folders and place it in the offertory plate.

The Third Sunday of Advent



Prelude

Pavel Petrov

Processional Hymn 76

Winchester New

“On Jordan’s bank”

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

Kyrie (Pew Card)

Rutter

Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Isaiah 35: 1-10

Laurel McKenzie

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor

shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15 *Magnificat* _____ *Sung by the Choir*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading: James 5:7-10 _____ *Jon Sharp*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of

suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 56 vv. 5, 6 *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

“O come, thou Key of David”

The Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 The Rev. Susan Scranton

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Susan Scranton

The Nicene Creed BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People - Form IV Lucie Pelleriti

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of

justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list. Are there others? Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

The Peace

~ Welcome, Announcements and Special Blessings ~

Blessing (Said by all): Watch over thy child, O Lord, as his days increase, bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he fall; and in his heart may they peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Dan Forrest

“Blessed Is the Lord”

Grace Parish Choir

Presentation Hymn 598 v. 3

Mit Freuden zart

“New advent of the love of Christ”

Great Thanksgiving (Prayer B)	BCP p. 361
<u>Sanctus & Benedictus (Pew Card)</u>	<u>Rutter</u>
The Lord's Prayer	BCP p. 364
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP p. 364
Invitation to Communion	BCP p. 364
<i>(All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. If you have difficulty coming forward, please notify an usher, and we will be happy to bring Communion to you where you are seated.)</i>	
<u>Communion Hymn 75</u>	<u>Ascension</u>
"There's a voice in the wilderness crying"	
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP p. 365
The Blessing	
<u>Recessional Hymn 72</u>	<u>Richmond</u>
"Hark! the glad sound! "	
The Dismissal	BCP p. 366
Celebrant:	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People:	Thanks be to God.
<u>Postlude</u>	<u>Pavel Petrov</u>



Grace Episcopal Church Vestry Members 2025

Rev. Susan L. Scranton,
Frank Boyd - Senior Warden, Heather Moore - Junior Warden
Miles Bresee - Treasurer, Todd Rice - Buildings & Grounds,
Kathi Ferris, Janet Kawamoto,
Hannah Palpant, Jade Petteruto, Linda Rice



The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Susan Sherman as a thank offering for all the wonderful blessings of this year and by The Patterson Family in celebration for Steven Patterson's birthday.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hillsides Gifts - We are collecting gift cards and/or gifts for the youth at Hillsides in Pasadena. Today is the deadline.

Holy Chow - Join us at La Tolteca in Azusa on Monday, December 15 at 6:00 PM.

Adopt-a-Lunch - Please note the date change! Adopt-a-Lunch will be preparing and packing lunches on December 21 after the 10 AM service.

Christmas Concert - Please join us on Sunday, December 21 at 4 PM. There will be a reception in Baxter Hall following the concert.



~ Christmas Eve Services ~

Musical Presentation at 4:30 PM

Family Service at 5:00 PM

Midnight Service is at 11:00 PM



If you would like to make an online donation to Grace Episcopal Church, please use the QR code.
Thank you!

Serving today:

Celebrant..... The Rev. Susan Scranton
Lay Eucharistic Minister Miles Bresee
Lectors Laurel McKenzie, Jon Sharp, Lucie Pelleriti
Acolytes Ethan Seielstad, EviePalpant, April Moore
Choirmaster David Aldrete
Organist Pavel Petrov
GEC Stream Team..... Karen Williamson, Mizuki Williamson
Flower Guild Liz Sandona, Susie Seielstad
Hymnboard Manager Trevor Camargo
Altar Guild..... Dawn Mellon, Patricia Meyer, Debbie Pullen,
Janese Grady, Cathy St. Onge
Ushers Alex McKenzie, Robert Van Derbur
Vestry Person of the Week..... Linda Rice

Prayer List

For healing and comfort: Edie Noland, Sam Luna, Rick, Lucy,
Lindsay, Manette Thomas, Ken Mayle, Liz Hernandez,
Rosalie Lack, Lisa Taylor, Marshall Meyer, Sharon W.,
Amanda Van Derbur, Chad Camou, Anita Baker, Paulina Wells,
Scott Martin, Frank Boyd, Dick Honaker, David

For strength & guidance: Jennifer & Justin, Brock, The Hernandez
Family

For those who died: Lawrence Everett

For those in morning: The Hafer Family

For those serving in the military: Chad Donohoe ~ U.S. Navy,
Nelson Acosta ~ U.S. Air Force, Adam Corona Jr. ~ U.S. Air Force,
Seth Tradel ~ U.S. Navy, Mitchell Mann ~ U.S. Marines

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

8 – Ruth Aldrete	12 – Patty Hess	19 – Jessica Rice
8 – Ann Jones	13 - Claire Wainwright	20 – Elizabeth Anders
10 – Kathi Ferris	13 - Oliver Wainwright	28 – Fred Colley
11 – Steven Patterson	18 - Samuel Moreno	29 – Andrew Petteruto

INSTALLATION ANNIVERSARY

The Rev. Susan L. Scranton as Rector of Grace ~ Dec. 7, 1997