

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021 10:00am

Online Service

Facebook/YouTube



Artwork by Udi Merioz

PRELUDE:

ARIA ON THE HYMN TUNE "Jewels"

Dale Wood

THE ENTRANCE RITE (pg. 355, BCP)

OPENING HYMN

HYMN 7

CHRIST WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES

Ratisbon

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only Light,
Son of Righteousness arise! Triumph o'er the shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
Joyless is the day's return, till thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiance divine; scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.**

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gloria S280

Robert Powell

**Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT *of the DAY*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

***People* And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE WORD *of GOD*

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:10-31

A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away. She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls. She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson. She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat

among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

THE EPISTLE:

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of

righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

After the reading, the Lay Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

HYMN 598, v. 1,4

LORD CHRIST, WHEN FIRST THOU CAM’ST TO EARTH *Mit Freuden Zart*

**Lord Christ, when first thou cam’st to earth, upon a cross they bound thee,
And mocked thy saving kingship then by thorns with which they crowned thee:
And still our wrongs may weave thee now new thorns to pierce that steady brow,
And robe of sorrow round thee.**

**O wounded hands of Jesus, build in us thy new creation;
Our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled, we wait thy revelation:
O love that triumphs over loss, we bring our hearts before thy cross,
To finish thy salvation.**

THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

Then, all still standing, the Minister reads the Gospel, first saying:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Charles B.W. Hamill

THE NICENE CREED *The congregation stands*

**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.

THE PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

Leader: Father we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: **That we all may be one.**

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: **That your name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader: For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our presiding Bishop; Ian and Laura, our Bishops; Charlie and Judy, our priests; and for: Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, Common Good Gardens, Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services, Early Head Start, the AA groups that meet at Grace Church, Boy Scout Troop 51, Alex Treser and Cru Ministry, Patrick Dominguez and his church planting effort and Kateri Medical Services in Nigeria. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for: The 237th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, meeting October 22-23 in Hartford, Ct. We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons.

People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader: We pray for those in the service of our country: Travis Board, J.C. Glick, Dornn Harris, Christopher Parham, Joshua Rinier, Nathaniel Burnham, Daniel Martin, Christian White, Todd Buroff, Tami Morgan, Adam Randle, Karen Buroff-Randle, Daniel Kronz, Tom Cote, Branden Peace and Robbie Lyman. We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.

People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake.

People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader: We pray today for: Kate, Kent, Myra, Mark, Jennifer, Lisa, Janice, Nancy, Cassidy, Andrea, Lucinda, Hilda, Bryan, Barbara and Jon Zakhar, Laura & Tommy Urban, Dee Labelle, Thomas Burnham, Earlene Bell, Fran Tarrío, Aurelia Knox, Sarah Craig, Joyce, Marjorie, Len Pass, Eugene Williams, James, Marguerite, Kay Hall, Mike Trask, Meredith, Frank Roman, Penny, Justin Iondo, Margie, Jordan Forest, Tom, Laura, Tony, Michelle, Erin, Bill Ross, Brian, Sandee, Sue, Veronica, Beth, Billy, Rosalie Isele, Emily, Ray, Cam, Nina, Reina, Jessica, Ed Courtney, Cathy Auger, Valerie and Richard Beers, Coral, Kate, Mary, Molly, Doug Hamill, Honey, JJ Evola and family, Missy, Will, Bill, Priscilla, Derrick, Lois Connell, Megan, Michael, Helen and Marla, Richard Watson, Ken, Sunny, Rosie, Jack Schneider, Ed, Cheryl Dudek, Rebecca and baby, Kay O'Day, Peggy, Jane Hamill, Debra Sticht, Donna Crooks, Christina, Francis and Jessica. Please add your own petitions either out loud or in silence. (Silent Pause) Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: We remember those who have died especially Ralph Turner Millet, Jr. & Francis Noble Millet, Sr. for whom the altar flowers were given ...add your own petitions either out loud or in silence. (PAUSE) Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader: Let us pray, either out loud or in silence, for our own needs and those of others.

(The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect).

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY

SEEK YE FIRST

Karen Lafferty

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY PROCESSION *The People stand and sing*

Doxology

Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-129

Robert Powell

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

THE BREAKING *of the* BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION SONG IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL *Philip P. Bliss, arr. by Chris Rice*

PRAYER of SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(For those unable to receive communion today)

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

HYMN 594, v. 1, 3-4

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

Cwm Rhondda

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient Church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
Serving thee who we adore.

THE DISMISSAL

After The Recessional the Priest or Deacon says

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Celebrant and People

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia

POSTLUDE:

FANFARE ON "Mit Feuden zart"

Brenda Portman

THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH: Sept 19– Sept 26

Today	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I (sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II (sanctuary)
	4:00 pm	AA Meeting (Merrill Hall)
Monday		OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens
	7:00 pm	AA Meeting: Open Discussion (Merrill Hall)
Wednesday	12:00-1pm	Shoreline Soup Kitchens Community Lunch: TO-GO Food Only!
	6:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 51 Meeting
Thursday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens
	3:00 pm	Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
Friday	10:00 am	Women of Grace (Grace Church patio or inside)
	12:00 pm	Men's Bible Study (Parthenon Diner, Old Saybrook)
Saturday	9:00 am	Common Good Gardens
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer (Grace Church Backyard)
Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I (sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II (sanctuary)
	4:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)

OUR PARTICIPANTS TODAY

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:	Kathy Bartus	8 am
	Susan Board	10 am
LECTOR:	Audrey Board	10 am
USHERS:	Peter Knox, Keith Coughlin	8 am
	Tom & Angela Larco	10 am
CAMERA TECH TEAM:	Kyle Trask-Kuchta	10 am
ALTAR GUILD:	Penny Coleman, Joan Trzcinski	
FLOWER DELIVERY:	Bob Day	

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Ralph Turner Millet, Jr. &
Francis Noble Millet, Sr.*

GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Rector, The Rev. Charlie Hamill
Minister of Music, Christina Burnham
Parish Administrator, Liz Keirstead
Digital Communications Director, Kate McKinney
Sexton, Sherry Schiavone

GRACE CHURCH VESTRY

Senior Warden, Matt Stosse
Junior Warden, Kate Mason
Treasurer, John Kennedy
Clerk, Julie Peace
Vestry Members: Alan Buroff, Bob Mulvihill,
Dale Schneider, Ken Sudan, Cherie Suhie, Joan Trzcinski

GRACE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wall Hanging by Amber Bierkan:

“Moses-Celebration of Women”

Hopefully you have seen one of Amber’s other creations hanging on the wall in the sanctuary, perhaps the Nativity scene or St. Patrick?! Amber has graced us with another of her creations, this time in celebration of the women who surrounded Moses, as the centerpiece. Miriam (Moses’ sister) who watched and protected him while in the river. Bithian (Pharaohs’ daughter) who took Moses into her home and protected him. The handmaiden who represents those who care for the needs of others. And Jochebed (Moses’ mother) who made the sacrifice of giving up her child. Thank you, Amber, for your engaging and beautiful work!

Women of Grace

The Women of Grace have moved their gathering time back to 10am on Fridays and will meet in-person on patio at church, or inside depending on weather. On August 5th they began to read and study a new book, *Not a Fan* by Kyle Idelman. They are also continuing to support each other. For more information and questions, contact Kathy Bartus bartuskab53@aol.com or Christina Burnham at whh1773@rocketmail.com. Or you can contact the church office for more info at **860-388-0895**.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Line.

We have a wonderful heritage of prayer. In the 70s, a Prayer Line was established at Grace. Now, after a few years hiatus, the Prayer Line is up and running and again. Here's how it works...If you need prayer for something, call one of the Prayer Line Chairpersons (Joyce Brinley and Barbara Bowie). Either use your directory or call the church office for their contact info. Please briefly tell them your request. The Prayer Line will take it from there. The Chairperson will pass the prayer on to a Prayer Team member, who will pass it to the next Prayer Team member, and so on. Once a member hangs up the phone, the intercession begins! The Prayer Line is available to receive requests 9:00 am to 8:30 pm. Typically the Prayer Line requests for the day go out to members about 7:00 pm. However, requests of an emergency nature will be passed on immediately. We are so grateful to have this ministry active again. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to have your brothers and sisters in Christ lift up your requests to God.

Blessing of the Animals!

Sunday, October 3 at 2pm on Main St. in front of Grace Episcopal Church

Bring your pets: dogs, cats, birds, lizards etc. for a service of prayer and celebration of animals in honor of St Francis.

Sunday and Holiday Sermon CD's and Grace Church Newsletters...

If you are interested in sharing or hearing the sermons again, you can order a CD with any Sunday's Sermon from our Digital Media Communications Director, Kate McKinney. In addition to our CD ministry, would you like to receive an email (digital) version of our monthly newsletter with updated events and pastoral notes and letters? For more info on the getting on the newsletter email list or to order CD's with the Sunday Sermons, email Kate at gracechurchdigital@gmail.com or leave a message for her at the church phone, **860-388-0895**.

Food Pantry Donation Basket at Grace Church

The basket remains outside the main side entrance to Grace Church 24/7. If you are curious as to what kind of food they are in need of most you can go to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen & Pantries (SSKP) website. However, current food needs include: soup (canned or dry packets), canned vegetables, juice or juice boxes, canned tomatoes or pasta sauce (jars or cans), cereal, and snack foods (pudding cups, applesauce, granola bars, crackers, etc.). PLEASE NO EXPIRED FOOD! In addition, you can always make a cash donation to SSKP. Thank you for your ongoing donations to feed those in need along the shoreline!

Altar Flower Memorials

Would you like to share the memory of a loved one, or celebrate an anniversary or birthday? The Altar Guild is always accepting donations for Sunday altar flowers made out to "Grace Church Altar Guild". The names of those remembered or celebrated will then be placed in the Sunday prayers. For more information please contact Barbara Bowie at coljim95@gmail.com or Betty Salldin at bettysalldin@gmail.com.

Discerning our Next Bishop in CT: Listening Sessions

The process of discerning who God is calling to be our next Bishop Diocesan begins with each of us. Our bishop will be part of our community, and their role grows out of the distinctive qualities which make up the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. The Discernment Subcommittee will be holding sixteen listening sessions via Zoom from August 30—September 23. These sessions are designed to encourage us to share from our own unique context and experiences. We will gather together to pray, share, and

discern together our current strengths and areas of growth as ECCT, as well as where we sense God inviting us next. These holy conversations will then form the backbone of our Bishop Profile, which will be developed in partnership with the Profile Subcommittee. The Discernment Subcommittee is committed to ensuring these Listening Sessions are safe spaces where you will feel free to share openly about your experiences in ECCT, the wider Episcopal Church, and our world. Any information from these sessions utilized in the final Profile or other BTC communications will remain anonymous. We look forward to our time together as we pray, listen, share, and discern God's calling as we search for our XVI Bishop Diocesan. To register go to the diocesan bishop search website at:

<https://ctbishopsearch.org/listening-sessions/>

Southeast Region Convocation on October 2, 9 a.m. – 11a.m over Zoom

"We are being changed into the likeness of the Lord from one degree of glory to another."

II Corinthians 3:18

We can lose sight of these words of hope amidst all the changes and chances of life today. To be sure, there is a difference between changing for the sake of changing and seeing our changes as a part of God's evolving mission and life in this world.

Come listen to and have an opportunity to share stories of how God's Spirit has worked in us in the midst of change to transform us in a life-giving way. Three members of the SE Region Leadership Team will share their stories of change leading to transformation. Whether they were changes that were sought, or changes that were not wanted, they became places of hope and new life. You'll be invited to share your stories of change and transformation with another person. And then we will consider together: What helps us see and claim the presence of God, leading us into more than we can ask or imagine? What changes is God inviting us to make in our lives, in our parishes, in our Region, so that we might be transformed into the fullness of the risen Lord? Come explore with us as we seek, amidst all the changes and chances of this life, to rest in God's changelessness. Yes, REST! Please register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/se-region-convocation-embracing-transformation-tickets-168960022977>

“To Know Jesus...and To Make Him Known”

Welcome to **Grace Episcopal Church in Old Saybrook**

You are welcome regardless of where you are on your spiritual journey.

Currently our services are Sundays at 8am and 10am with Holy Communion (the 10am is also live-streamed onto Facebook and YouTube), and Saturday Evening Prayer at 5pm outside in the church backyard, weather permitting (with Holy Communion ONLY on the 1st Saturday of each month). Go to our website graceoldsaybrook.org for more info and for bulletins to download for the 10am live-stream service.

Whether you are just exploring a new spiritual direction, curious about the Episcopal Church, or are ready to find a new church home, feel free to fill out a welcome card and place it in the collection plate, sign our guest book, or contact the church by phone or email for more info.

Grace Church is a close-knit community called by God to share the healing love of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. We are also engaged in the greater local and regional community in various outreach ministries as well. If interested, ask us how you can get involved in what Christ is doing at Grace, in Old Saybrook and Connecticut!! Or better yet, tell us where you find God at work in your life, and tell us how we can help or get involved!

If you have any questions feel free to call, email or Facebook us.

We hope your visit to Grace was Spirit-filled, welcoming and meaningful.

In Christ,

The Rev. Charlie Hamill, Rector, and the People of Grace Church

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