

Welcome to Grace Church!

As part of our observance of Lent
please keep silence

A bell will be rung when the service begins

Prelude: When Jesus Wept

**Sung in Canon*

When Je - sus wept, the fall - ing tear In mer - cy
flowed be - yond all bound; When Je - sus groaned, a tremb - ling
fear Seized all the wear - y world a - round.

Opening Hymn: I am the Bread of Life (Hymnal #335)

1 I am the bread of life;
they who come to me shall not hunger; they who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father draw them. And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up on the last day.

2 The Bread that I will give
is my Flesh for the life of the world, and they who eat of this bread,
they shall live forever.

Refrain

3 Unless you eat
of the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his Blood,
you shall not have life within you. *Refrain*

4 I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
They who believe in me, even if they die,
they shall live forever.

Refrain

Officiant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins
People: Whose mercy endures forever.

Officiant: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You will love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: You will love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Kyrie

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - - son.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the

Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,” says the LORD.

Lector: The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

Lector: Let us read psalm 130 by whole verse

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 **If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, ***
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 **I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; ***
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 **O Israel, wait for the LORD, ***
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence: You've Got to Go to the Lonesome Valley



The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the sequence, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

You've got to go to the lone-some val-ley,-- you've got to go there by your-

self, No-bod-y else can go there for you, You've got to go there by your - self.

John 11:1-45

Officiant: the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has

fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

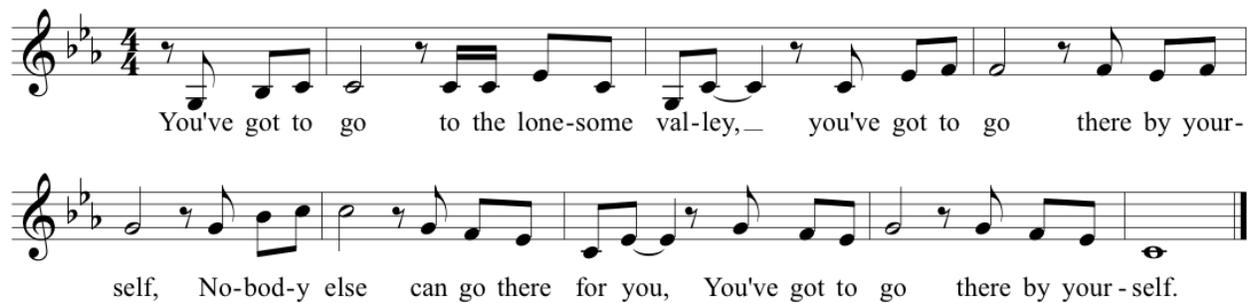
Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Repeated Sequence: You've Got to Go to the Lonesome Valley



The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "You've got to go to the lone-some val-ley,— you've got to go there by your-self, No-bod-y else can go there for you, You've got to go there by your - self." The first staff contains the first two lines of the melody, and the second staff contains the remaining lines, ending with a double bar line.

Sermon

Officiant: Let us stand and reaffirm our faith by reciting the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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,
consubstantial to 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 human.
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 God.
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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
Who 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.**

Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Prayers of the People

adapted with permission

from confessions made by members of Grace Church Van Vorst

For equality and justice in Jersey City and the world in education, social services, law enforcement and jobs.

Hear us, Lord.

For the victims and perpetrators of violence in Jersey City and for their families. We pray for the young people in Jersey City who are caught in a cycle of hopelessness, trauma, addiction, deprivation and violence. We especially pray for the young men and women we strive to help at the Triangle Park Community Center: Shai, 2Timez, Omar, Stewart, Jah, Messiah, Nips, Solo 2, Kidd, Rayray, Foxx, Cheeky Jay, V-roy, Stacey, Spade and Darnell.

Hear us, Lord.

For our justice system locally and nationally, that our judges might be granted wisdom, compassion and understanding. That our system of incarceration might be re-engineered into a system of renewal, hope and transformation. We pray for all incarcerated people, especially Kobe.

Hear us, Lord.

For the fair treatment of all people regardless of sex, race, belief, both free and incarcerated.

Hear us, Lord.

For a public education system that teaches life skills to all in safe and loving places.

Hear us, Lord.

For the end of corruption, despotism and oligarchy; that the systems of oppression which divide and exploit us be completely shattered that all people may be full and equal participants in the governance of their community.

Hear us, Lord.

For this church family, its individual and collective strengths and for perseverance to continue to serve those who need support.

Hear us, Lord.

For the people of Ukraine, that they may live in peace and freedom. May that day come soon and be lasting.

Hear us, Lord.

That the bodies of women and trans people may no longer be a political playground; that their rights and freedoms may be held sacrosanct.

O God, help us.

That we will recognize our privilege and pledge to deconstruct the systems that sustain it. Help us to turn away from self-serving conflict and towards action for social justice.

O God, help us.

Forgive us for hating our enemies. Help us to learn to love ourselves as we learn to love others. Help us to choose love.

O God, help us.

Mother of all mercies, may we draw courage and strength from the assurance that God did not send Her Son into the world to condemn it, but to save the world through him. Anchor us in your astonishing love and make us into a people of forgiveness, joy and hope. AMEN.

Private Reflection Time

Silence is kept for 5 minutes. If you would like to offer specific prayers for restoration of our church, community, nation and/or the world to be used anonymously for the prayers of the people next Sunday, please write them on the index card and place it in the envelope that is in your bulletin. You may put the confession in the offertory plate during communion.

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Peace

Announcements

Birthday Prayer

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as s/he begins another year. Grant that s/he may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his/her trust in your goodness all the days of her/ his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer

O God, be with N. and N., as they celebrate another year together. Deepen their love for each other, grant them joy, and make their life together a blessing to all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory: 9 am: Out of the Deep

Out of the deep I call___ un - to Thee, O God. ___

hmm...

Con - si - der well my prayer___ and my long - ing soul. ___

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment with chords. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment.

11 am: The Wise Thief (Choir)

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Officiant: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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 was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.'

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Iona

Part 1

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of power and might,
(2. Bless - ed,) bless - ed the one who comes in the name of our God.

Part 2

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of power and might,
(2. Bless - ed,) bless - ed the one who comes in the name of our God.

hea - ven, earth, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Bless - ed, bless - ed the one who comes in the name of our God.

heav - en, earth, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Bless - ed, bless - ed the one who comes in the name of our God.

All glo - ry to your name. All glo - ry to your
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the

All glo - ry to your name.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

1. name. All glo - ry to your name. 2. Bless - ed,
high - est. high - est.

All glo - ry to your name. 2. Bless - ed,
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

People: He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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."

People: 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.**

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 forever.
AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us we now pray:

Our Father: Kedrov

Simply

p Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be your name, your king - dom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heav - en.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread, and for - give us our tres - pass - es, as we for - give those who tres -
pass a - gainst us, and lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion,
broaden
*Cantor: For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.*
but de - liv - er us from e - vil. A - men.

Fraction

Officiant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei: Iona
(Sung in canon)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace.
Grant us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

Communion: 9 am: Instrumental

11 am: Out of the Deep

Out of the deep I call un - to Thee, O God.

hmm...

Con - si - der well my prayer and my long - ing soul.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith towards you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen,

Blessing

The peace of God be in your heart
The grace of God be in your words
The love of God be in your hands
The joy of God be in your soul
and in the song that your life sings.

Closing Hymn: 9 am: While Earth Remains



1. God, who made the earth, de-clared it good in the be-gin-ning,
2. So, in Christ God came from par-a-dise to im-per-fec-tion,
3. Wood, though felled to earth, pro-duced a blos-som none could per-ish;



meant a time and pur-pose for all things that were and would be.
re-cre-a-ting earth and peo-ple through a tomb and a tree.
seed, though dead and fall-en, burst to life and rose up a-gain.

Refrain

Musical notation for the refrain, consisting of a treble and bass clef staff. The treble staff has a melody, and the bass staff has a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

While earth re-mains, there will be seed-time and har-vest,

Musical notation for the final line of the hymn, continuing the melody and accompaniment from the previous section.

sum-mer sun and win-ter moon,

sum-mer and win-ter, the dead of night, the bright day.

11 am: Goin' Up Yonder

If you want to know
Where I'm going?
Where I'm going, soon

If anybody ask you
Where I'm going
Where I'm going soon

I'm goin' up yonder
I'm goin' up yonder
I'm goin' up yonder
To be with my Lord

I can take the pain
The heartaches they bring
The confidence in knowing
I'll soon be gone

As God gives me grace
I'll run this race
Until I see my Savior
Face to face

I'm goin' up yonder
I'm goin' up yonder
I'm goin' up yonder
To be with my Lord (*repeat*)

Dismissal

Acolyte: Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**