



# *Grace Notes*

## *Thirteenth Sunday*

### *after Pentecost*

*September 8, 2019*

**P**SALM THIRTY-ONE is very honest about how lonely suffering can be. Most of us are afraid of suffering, and we don't like to think that it could happen to us, so we shrink away from it and sometimes even blame the sufferer. This psalm is the prayer of one who has nobody to turn to except God, and the intensity of the language is a measure of the sufferer's desperation. We'd like to think we can tough it out on our own, but sometimes we just can't. Our self-sufficiency is an illusion, and our rugged individualism is a merciless idol. Left to our own devices, we might manage sad smiles of meek resignation, or give way to bitter railing against the unfairness of it all. The psalmist acknowledges the feelings of pain and fear and anger at being let down by others, but ultimately chooses the way of loving trust and reliance on God. This is the better way. In the Gospel of Luke [Chapter 23, verse 46] Jesus quotes a verse from this psalm as his death on the cross draws near: "Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth." This verse also forms part of the ancient and traditional bedtime prayers at the close of the day, the service of Compline. [Book of Common Prayer, p. 132] As the night enfolds us, we entrust everything — our joys, our sorrows, our successes, our failures, our hopes, our disappointments, our courage and our fears — to the God who holds us in existence from moment to moment, the God who loves us eternally. "Into your hands, O LORD ... "

— Ed Greene

## Worship Opportunities

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### Sunday

8:00 am — Holy Eucharist — Rite I

10:15 am — Holy Eucharist — Rite II

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### Wednesday

8:30 am — Bible Study — Tubbs Hall

10:00 am — Worship Service — Chapel

# Grace Episcopal Church

1100 Washington Street

Bath, ME 04530

207-443-3792

[www.gracebath.org](http://www.gracebath.org)



## Our Mission Statement

*Grace Church strives to love and serve God through worship and ministry in our church, the community and the world.*



## Remember in our Prayers



*In our parish family, let us pray for: The families of Lois Welsh, Barbara Savage and Ann Bussey; Pasha Huntington, Larry Bartlett, Ethan Stanley, Ann Marden, Frances Pinney, Lois Hart, Hannah Cataloni, Tom and Robyn Butler, Al Ferguson, Catherine Jacob and Bill Maier.*

*Let us pray for family and friends: The family of Michele Ober; Lib Cain, Scott & Kerry, Jackie Pittman, Kim Coleman, David Butler, Jeff Bolduc, John Hoglund, Len Barker, Walter Mann, Deborah Beal, Margaret Intonti, Todd Schlapfer, John Hall, Bruce, Keith Drew, Diane Engler, Jim Kelly, Gerry Pepin, Patricia White, Larry Ferguson, Mark Smith, Joan Dixon, Timothy, and CC Wall.*

*Let us pray for the repose of the souls of Lois Welsh, Barbara Savage, Michele Ober and Anne Bussey who have recently passed away.*



## Happy Birthday to You!

Joanie Hale	09/08	Pia Neilson	09/08
William Hale	09/11	Jane Bartlett	09/12
Jane Pratt	09/12	Mary Small	09/12
Clif Cook	09/13		



**REGULAR SCHEDULE: Beginning THIS SUNDAY, September 8**, we return to the regular service schedule: two services, 8:00 am (Rite I) and 10:15 am (Rite II).



I would like to thank the Grace community for the opportunity I had to serve as Grace representative to the Bath Area Food Bank. In that time, the food bank transitioned from a church-based to a community-based organization; and from handing out pre-packed boxes of food to enabling and empowering clients to do their own shopping in our mini grocery store. We changed locations and started new programs including school snack programs and a food pantry at Morse High School.

In all of this, Grace donors and volunteers generously contributed time, treasure, and sheer grit to get the work done. A thousand thanks especially to those who helped keep the doors open in all weather, greeted clients with sensitivity, stocked shelves, distributed food, packed orders, and shuttled food boxes and carts to waiting cars.

Now, please welcome Marsha Kleinz as your new representative to the food bank. And when she calls upon you for help be it peanut butter or several hours volunteering on site, please say yes. My life was immeasurably enriched by my experience, and I hope yours will be too.

Thank you.

Judy Smart



### **CIRCLE DINNERS ARE FORMING FOR THE COMING YEAR**

Circle Dinners are in "...the spirit in which we carry on the ministry of the church." They are potluck meals with a small group of Grace people, and singles as well as couples are encouraged to take part. Circles are encouraged to "write their own script," based on members' needs and desires. Circles may choose to get together for brunch or dinner, attend a movie and discuss it at a member's home, or whatever else the group chooses. If they choose a meal at each other's home, one couple or person hosts each time and, on a date suitable to all, the other members bring something to go with the entrée prepared by the host: salad, dessert, vegetable, or bread. The hosting rotates from member to member, starting with the one couple or person in the Circle chosen as the "Convener." This is an opportunity to gather in small groups with people from Grace and is



particularly worthwhile for newcomers. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex after the 9:00 service on September 1<sup>st</sup>, or after either the 8:00 or 10:15 services on **September 8<sup>th</sup>** for the upcoming year. Please feel free to contact Reta at 207-373-1573 or [retasking@comcast.net](mailto:retasking@comcast.net) or Carrie Strasburg at [cstras@gmail.com](mailto:cstras@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to sign up by email or telephone.

—Reta King and Carrie Strasburger, Circle Dinner Coordinators



On **Sunday, September 15**, Grace Episcopal Church in Bath is honored to be hosting



a celebration of Episcopal Peace Fellowship and the coming anniversary of its founding 80 years ago. The Executive Director of EPF, Melanie Merkle Atha, is visiting Maine on her tour of the U.S. to highlight local acts of peace and reconciliation and to promote the ongoing work of EPF. We feel fortunate to have her

worship with us that morning and to come to a special coffee hour.

**Following the 10:15 service** at Grace there will be a reception in the parish hall featuring remarks by Melanie on Episcopal Peace Fellowship with an informal Q&A. Everyone—EPF-Maine members along with anyone interested in helping to advance peace—is welcome to come meet Melanie on this special occasion.

Grace Church has at least seven active members in EPF and we will be handling the extra special coffee hour that morning. We would welcome donations by parishioners of savory finger food or cookies or bars; please let Glenis Elliott know if you can contribute an item. And thank you very much!



## PARISH POTLUCK

Our next gathering will be on **Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**. If you brought your ideas to the June potluck, please come and help us explore them! And if you weren't with us then, please jump in and share your hopes and thoughts.



# TERESA JOAN WHITE

A Memorial Eucharist for The Rev Sister Teresa Joan White, sister of The Rev K Gordon White, will be celebrated on **Saturday, September 28th at two o'clock in the afternoon.**

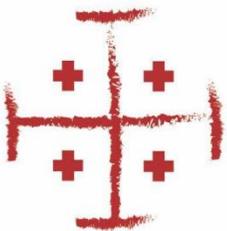
Sister Teresa was a member of the Deaconess Community of Saint Andrew, London, England, founded in 1861 by Miss Elizabeth Ferard to minister to the poor and forgotten women of that day. The Sisters went out two-by-two, one to nurse, the other to teach, in the slums of London. They pioneered in helping to establish hospitals and schools.

Sister Teresa joined them in 1970, using her background as a scholar and theologian to bring women deacons from various Christian traditions into contact with each other through a widely circulated publication entitled the "Distinctive Diaconate." Most recently she edited an over 200-page history of the Community.

Sister Teresa was the youngest (at the age of 83) and among the last half-dozen surviving members now in nursing care. With the ordination of women as Deacons and then as Priests in the Church of England, the original reason for women Deacons living in community has gradually died out. The London property was given to the Anglican Communion Office which among many other things plans the worldwide meeting of Anglican Bishops every decade.



## AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF JERUSALEM



All are invited to gather between the services at **9:15 a.m. on Sunday, October 20**, for a conversation with Heidi Shott, Communications Director of American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. Learn about the humanitarian institutions of the Diocese of Jerusalem, such as Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Jordan, and many other schools, hospitals, and centers for children with disabilities run by the diocese. Heidi will also

talk about current conditions in the region and share insights from her visit in September to the ministries AFEDJ supports and share stories of the inspiring and powerful Christian witness demonstrated by the small band of Christians in the region. Her talk will offer a window into God's living presence at work in the Holy Land.



Grace Church continues to collect non-food items for the Little Flock Program. There is a basket in the Narthex where items can be placed; they will be taken to the Seventh Day

Adventist Church for clients to pick up. Below is a list of the items that they distribute on the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays** of the month at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 889 High Street, Bath, **from 10 am until 2 pm**, from 10 am until 2 pm. (**The next two dates are Wednesdays 11 & 25 September**). This program is open to the area communities including Georgetown. The items listed are not able to be purchased with Food Stamps, so this is a much appreciated and needed program. Thank you, as always, for your support and generosity.

- Toilet paper and paper towels
- Laundry and dish soap
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Shaving essentials
- Hairbrushes & combs
- Dog and cat food
- Feminine hygiene products
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Deodorant (men's & women's)
- Diapers & "pull-ups"
- All-purpose cleaner
- Hats & gloves in the winter months

## Worship Leaders

September 8, 2019

Celebrant – The Rev Cn Dr Ted Gaiser

Deacon – The Rev Stephanie Batterman

8:00

Lector: Diane Paterson  
 First or Single Server: Jim Paterson  
 Crucifer & Prayers:  
 Greeters:  
 Ushers: Jackie Berry & Judy McAllister  
 Altar Guild: Jackie Berry  
 Camera:  
 Coffee Hour:

10:15

Bethel Keith  
 Mike Powers  
 Ginny Bartlett  
 Mary & Ray Swain  
 Dean Batterman & Sue Backhouse  
 Sheila O'Grady  
 Gordon White  
 Ellen Browning/Amy Rogers

Altar Guild – Wednesday, September 11 – Pat Longworth

### Readings \*

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

\*Each scripture citation has a link to the [LectionaryPage.net](http://LectionaryPage.net) reading.

# CALENDARS



## Grace Church Calendar of Events

### Weekly Happenings

Sundays	Holy Eucharist Rite I – 8:00 am – Sanctuary (regular hours)
Sundays	Holy Eucharist Rite II – 10:15 am – Sanctuary (regular hours)
Wednesdays	Bible Study – 8:30 am – Tubbs Hall
Wednesdays	Holy Eucharist – 10:00 am – Chapel
Thursdays	Telecast of Grace Church Sunday Service – 4:00 pm – Local Cable Channel 14
Thursdays	Choir Rehearsal – 6:30 pm – Choir Room

### Meetings & Groups

September 4 <sup>th</sup>	Celebration of the Life of Lois Ann Welsh – 1:00 pm
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	Worship Committee Meeting following the 10:15 service – Library
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Finance Committee – 9:30 – Library
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) presentation by Melanie Merkle Atha – following the 10:15 service – See the article above
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Vestry Meeting – 6:00 pm – Tubbs Hall
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Potluck – 5:30-7:30 pm – Tubbs Hall – See the item above
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Service for Teresa Joan White – 2:00 pm – See the article above

### **Save the date!**

October 20 <sup>th</sup>	American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) – Presentation by Heidi Shott – between the services (9:15 am <u>sharp</u> ) – Tubbs Hall — See the article above
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## Connections Calendar – Together Moving Forward

If you know of other organizations that might like to use our facility please have them contact Father Ted or Glenis Elliott, the Calendar Coordinator and Facilities Use Agreement Coordinator at 837-0014 or [GlenisWayne93@comcast.net](mailto:GlenisWayne93@comcast.net).

September 9 <sup>th</sup>	RJP Mentor Meeting – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Tubbs Hall
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	RJP Mentor Meeting – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Tubbs Hall
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	RJP Mentor Training – 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Tubbs Hall

September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
September 30<sup>th</sup>

RJP Mentor Meeting – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Tubbs Hall  
RJP Mentor Meeting – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Tubbs Hall