

# GRACE CHURCH OF WEST FELICIANA



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THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
Morning Prayer: Rite II  
February 14, 2021 • 10:00 a.m.

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# MORNING PRAYER: RITE II

HYMN 137

O wondrous type! O vision fair

Wareham

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

*Isaiah 60:3*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*All kneel.*

*Officiant 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.

*The Officiant alone stands and says*

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

*All stand.*

## THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Officiant* O Lord, open our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**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. Alleluia.

*Read in unison.*

## JUBILATE

*Psalm 100*

- <sup>1</sup> Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; \*  
serve the LORD with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.
- <sup>2</sup> Know this: The LORD himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- <sup>3</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- <sup>4</sup> For the LORD is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

*Read responsively by half verse.*

Psalm 50:1-6

- 1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
**he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*  
**God reveals himself in glory.**
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
**before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.**
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*  
**to witness the judgment of his people.**
- 5 “Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
**those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice.”**
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
**for God himself is judge.**

**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.**

*All sit.*

## THE LESSONS

2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from the second book of Kings.

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.” Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay

here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.” Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*Lector*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

*Read in unison.*

Canticle 11

*Surge, illuminare*

**Arise, shine, for your light has come, \***  
**and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.**  
**For behold, darkness covers the land; \***  
**deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.**  
**But over you the Lord will rise, \***  
**and his glory will appear upon you.**  
**Nations will stream to your light, \***  
**and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**  
**Your gates will always be open; \***

by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*  
and your God will be your glory.

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.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Read in unison.*  
Canticle 21

*Te Deum*

**You are God; we praise you;  
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;**

You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.  
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
    Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
    heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
    Father, of majesty unbounded,  
    your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
    and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.  
    Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
    bought with the price of your own blood,  
    and bring us with your saints  
    to glory everlasting.

HYMN 359

God of the prophets

*Toulon*

Mark 9:2-9

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter

said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*Officiant*    The Word of the Lord.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant and People*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
    creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
    He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    and born of the Virgin Mary.  
    He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
    was crucified, died, and was buried.  
    He descended to the dead.  
    On the third day he rose again.  
    He ascended into heaven,  
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
    He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
    the holy catholic Church,  
    the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins  
    the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.

# THE PRAYERS

*The people stand or kneel.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Officiant*    The Lord be with you.

*People*       **And also with you.**

*Officiant*    Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

**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 SUFFRAGES

V.    Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R.    **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V.    Day by day we bless you;

R.    **We praise your name for ever.**

V.    Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R.    **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

V.    Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R.    **For we put our trust in you.**

V.    In you, Lord, is our hope;

R.    **And we shall never hope in vain.**

## The Collect of the Day

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—FORM III

*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*     We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*People*     **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Leader* 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* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*People* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Leader* 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 for our own needs and those of others, especially Kyle, Marcy, Tom, Patsy, Carlile, Melissa, Charles, Molly, Will, Ruth, Cozette, Julie, Wendell, and Jake.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*Leader* Please join in reading the prayer for the call of our new rector:

**Our Heavenly Father who has blessed this church family since 1827, and knows our needs before we ask. We pray that you guide and bless us with wisdom, patience, and open minds as the search proceeds, that our next rector will lead our congregation to serve you in peace and healing in our troubled world. All this we ask in the name of Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

*Officiant* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All stand.*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

HYMN 135

Songs of thankfulness and praise

*Salzburg*

## THE DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the  
power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

VOLUNTARY

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us for worship at Grace Church this morning! We would love for you to join our church family. Worship looks and feels different right now; nonetheless, we are held tightly in the warm embrace of God. If you have questions about how to become a member, join a ministry, or be on our prayer list, please email Meg Kendrick, [administrator@gracechurchwfp.org](mailto:administrator@gracechurchwfp.org). May the Peace of the Lord be always with you.

The **Altar Flowers** are given by Zed & Rachel Howell in thanksgiving for His faithful servant, Leonard Mitchell.

The **Sanctuary Candle** is given in celebration of Richard Kendrick's 41<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle** sign ups are available on our website. Please take a moment to sign up or give us a call at the church office for any assistance you may need.

**Called to Serve?** We are always looking to include more people in the liturgical life of the parish. If you're interested in becoming a lay minister, lector, usher, joining the Altar Guild, or becoming an online lector, let us know! For more information, contact Carol Stamey at (225)-635-4065 or [secretary@gracechurchwfp.org](mailto:secretary@gracechurchwfp.org)

Please Join Us! The **Sunday School** group is welcoming new members as it begins a study of the book of Acts on February 14th. Meetings are currently being held from 8:15 to 9:00 AM each Sunday via Zoom. Members are welcome to participate by either video or audio only. The study will use a guide by N.T. Wright. Each lesson centers on a small section of scripture and the Wright commentary. No homework is involved. You may contact Sue Steib at [susteib@cox.net](mailto:susteib@cox.net) for additional information and login instructions.

**Birthdays:** David Opperman, Paula Elizabeth Finley-Feb. 14; Logan Reinhardt, Richard Kendrick-Feb. 15; James Kane, Melissa Dowd-Feb. 18; Bill McClendon, Tiffany Swett-Feb. 19; Tyler Ferris-Feb. 20;

**Anniversaries:** Dwight and Martha Singer; Dennis and Cathy Keith-Feb. 20;

**Intercessory Prayers** are asked for Kyle and Marcy Dunaway, Tom Flynn, Patsy Hardouin, Carlile Higgins, Melissa Higgins, Charles Jenkins, Molly McGraw, Eric Nelson, Ruth Reed, Cozette Stevens, Julie Stewart, Wendell Wade and Jake Wray.