

# FROM THE BELL TOWER

News & updates from our church, our friends, and our community



## OTHER STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

- Easter Through Photos
- An Easter Message from Bishop Curry
- A Holy Week Reflection

Where Anglican tradition engages the contemporary world, Grace Church opens its doors on Madison's Capitol Square, inviting all to join us in sharing the love of Jesus Christ in worship and in outreach to our neighbors and the world.



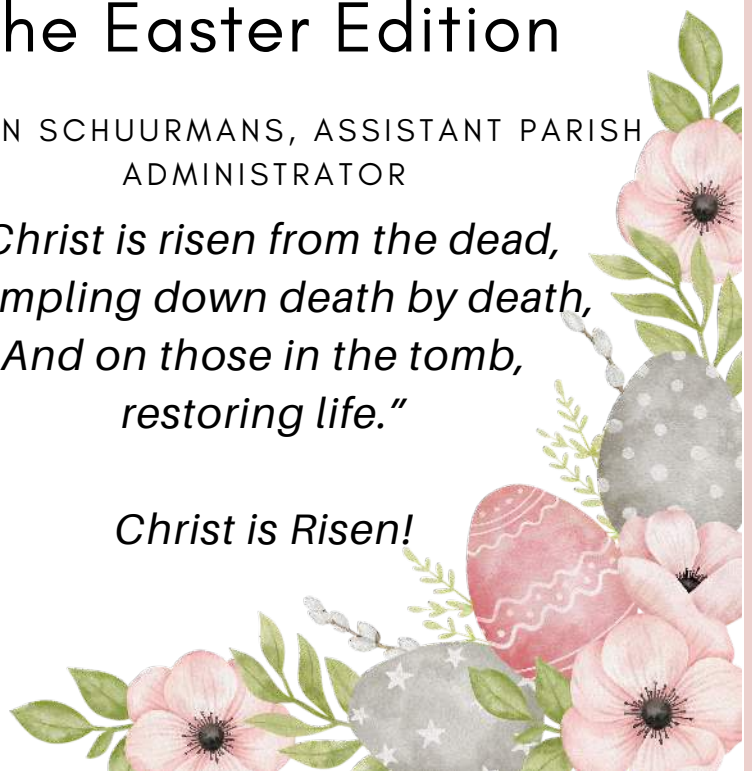
Galatians 3:28 NIV: "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

## The Easter Edition

BY ERIN SCHUURMANS, ASSISTANT PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

*"Christ is risen from the dead,  
Trampling down death by death,  
And on those in the tomb,  
restoring life."*

*Christ is Risen!*



# REFLECTIONS FROM THE CLERGY:

## *Holy Week in Hindsight*

BY REV. JOHN FRANCIS MAHER

'Hindsight' is the ability to understand and realize something about an event after it has happened, although you did not understand or realize it at the time. Here, on the Monday after Easter as I write this, I have two realizations about our Holy Week together that I've gleaned in hindsight. I'd would like to share them with you.

From Palm Sunday's exuberant themes of humility and resistance to Empire, to Maundy Thursday's vulnerability and servanthood, to Good Friday's sorrow and suffering, to Holy Saturday's darkness and silence, to the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday with its jubilation and collective 'hallelujah's'; Holy Week, was for me this year, a beautifully wild ride of encountering the Holy Spirit's presence in our midst. From the piercing silence to the epic trumpets of hymnody, I learned two things about us as a congregation: 1) We are ready to hear and receive the blessings that God wants for us. 2) We are ready to, in turn, give God's love and blessing to others.

In that regard, Maundy Thursday was particularly beautiful. In my homily that evening, I reminded us that we are 'people of the towel'. This means we serve and love one another in humility. The Holy Spirit was palpably present in the service that night. As I watched many of us from Grace Church wash each other's feet, it was a moving sight to see. In that moment, witnessing and receiving and giving foot washing, I noticed - as I have noticed before - that the fabric and soul of our church family is compassionate humility, service, and vulnerability. I was deeply touched that night. In hindsight I realized why.

Many churches are full of readers and observes of the Gospel, so few are full of doers of Gospel. Grace Church is a faith community that stands at the crossroads of faith, justice, and compassion. This is evident to me now as I reflect on Holy Week. Simply being part of a church that, for lack of a better term, 'get's it' is a huge breath of fresh air for this priest. It is an honor to worship with you, as it was during Holy Week, it is an honor to serve you, and to serve at the pleasure of our Rector. Thank you for listening to God's call for us, and thank you for responding to it with such willingness and grace.  
Fr. John Francis Maher

## *WHATS INSIDE?*

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CLERGY: PG 1

FROM THE NATIONAL CHURCH: PG 2

VISITING GRACE: PG 3-4

UPCOMING EVENTS: PG 5

MUSIC IN OUR COMMUNITY: PG 6

EASTER THROUGH PHOTOS: PG. 7-14



# FROM THE NATIONAL CHURCH

## *Easter Message*

BY BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY

*In recent months The Most Rev. Bishop Curry has undergone surgeries to deal with brain bleeds that resulted from a fall. Read about his experience below in his Easter message.*

Hello to my beloved family in Christ. I want to take this opportunity, first of all, on behalf of my wife, Sharon, and our family, to thank you. To thank you for your prayers, to thank you for your well wishes, your expressions of support and kindness. We are equally thankful for the blessing of remarkable medical care and pastoral support. As you may know, I've been working a bit from home—at a reduced level, to be sure, but I'm gradually increasing that.

Just two weeks ago, my medical team approved me to drive locally and to resume short domestic flights. I can't tell you how much your prayers have sustained me and my family through this medical journey. Prayer matters. We don't always know how. We don't always know or understand the outcome.

But prayer matters, and it makes a difference. Over the last several months, I have not known how this would all work out. But I've been very aware, and in some particular moments, consciously aware of being upheld in prayer by you. Without consciously deciding to do it, I actually found myself praying some words from Psalm 31, which says, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit."

Before surgeries and treatments, through some long nights, difficult days, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." These words are part of a prayer that is Psalm 31 in the Hebrew scriptures. The late night service of Compline uses that psalm as a prayer before going to sleep at night. Luke's Gospel records Jesus praying these very words, that psalm, on the cross, when he had a sense of what lay before him, but could not know the outcome. He didn't know with any certainty if and how God would act. He didn't know, as the old preachers used to say, Good Friday's always happened, but Sunday's always coming. He didn't know with any certainty that resurrection would become real and not a mere metaphor.

But as he died into the unknown, he did one thing: He threw himself completely into the hands of God. "Father, into thy hands, I commend my spirit."

And in that moment, after saying that, Luke's Gospel says, he breathed his last. And though he died, death did not have the last word, though he did die. He died into the hands of God and slipped out of the grip of death.

And as we now know, on the third day he rose again, and he lives. As William Cowper said in a poem that later became a hymn, "God moves in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform, he plants his footstep in the sea and rides upon the storm."

So God love you. God bless you. May the God who rides upon our storms and raised Jesus of Nazareth from the dead hold us all, the entire human family and all of God's grand and glorious creation in those almighty hands of love. Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

# VISITING GRACE

## MINISTRIES FOR ALL

With open hearts, we invite you to join us on our journey of faith. Walk through the Red Doors into the warmth of our Grace Church community. Whether you self identify as gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, transgender, queer or prefer no label, we all belong to one family in God's sight; accepted, valued and beloved.

### Worship and Fellowship

#### **Sundays**

8:00 AM Rite I - Holy Eucharist  
8:45 AM Coffee Hour I (Vilas Hall)  
9:30 AM Children's Church (lower level)  
10:00 AM Rite II - Holy Eucharist (Nursery available)  
11:15 AM Coffee Hour (Vilas Hall)  
6:00 PM Hymn Sing (Zoom)

#### **Wednesdays**

12:10 PM - Noon Eucharist  
5:30 PM - High School Youth Group with Pizza (Vilas Hall)  
7:00 PM - Evening Prayer

### Church office hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Saturday - Sunday: Closed

Monday: Staff availability may change, so please reach out

(608) 255-5147  
admin@gracechurchmadison.org

### **Hearing Loop/Listening Devices Available during Sunday Services**

Access to the hearing loop is available through your hearing aids set to "T-coil" or "loop listeners," which may be used with or without hearing aids. Please ask an usher for assistance, if needed.

### **The Grace Nursery is Open for Your Infants and Toddlers!**

The Grace Nursery is open for children ages infant through 4 during the 10am worship service on Sundays. Please feel free to bring your young children to the Nursery at the lower level between 9:00 and 9:45am to sign in.

### **Christian Formation**

Spring semester of Christian Formation for our Pre-K through 8th Grade begins January 7th. Erin Schuurmans is excited to be leading the children on an adventure through faith and doctrine, focusing on Christian education through both Old and New Testament Lectionary readings.

Our teen programming is underway, as well. Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm in Vilas Hall, our teenagers are engaging in conversations around faith, and enjoy pizza and fellowship together. Please contact Father John Francis with any questions about our Christian Formation activities and programs.

### **Hymn Sing**

Please join us every Sunday at 6:00 pm to enjoy hymns via zoom. Our Hymn Sing is led by Steve Webster. The zoom link changes weekly and is found in the current issue of GraceNotes, or by emailing assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org.

### **Wednesday Evening Prayer**

You are invited to Evening Prayer at Grace Church, every Wednesday at 7:00PM, starting on 4/3. Evening Prayer, or Evensong, is an ancient liturgy of the western Church. It includes readings from the Psalms, Epistles, and the Gospels, many of which are said collectively. Evensong presents a wonderful opportunity for prayer, community and reflection. For more information, please contact Joseph Warfel at jpwarfel@gmail.com.

# VISITING GRACE

## LAY MINISTRY

### Healing Prayer Now Offered Two Ways

Members of the Healing Prayer Team are available for prayers in person on Sunday mornings at 10. In addition, we continue to honor prayer requests sent in by phone or email. To ask for prayers, contact one of the co-leaders of the team, the Rev. Margaret Irwin at [mbirwin@charter.net](mailto:mbirwin@charter.net) or Kara Pagano at [baronesspagano@gmail.com](mailto:baronesspagano@gmail.com) . Please tell us if you want us to keep your communication in confidence or if you are requesting that we share it with the team, who will also keep it confidential.

### Lay Eucharistic Ministers are Available

LEMs (Lay Eucharistic Ministers) are among us at Grace, and now that COVID is somewhat under control, we'll be seeing more of them. Early in the history of the church there was a practice of taking the Eucharist to those who were ill and unable to gather in person with the Christian Community. In 1985, the Episcopal Church approved appointment of LEMs in our congregations to engage in that ministry. It provides a significant way to reach out and draw us all together. If you are interested in becoming a LEM, please contact Deacon Carol Smith. And PLEASE, if you feel that you would like for a LEM to visit you at home or in the hospital, let Carol know.

## PARISH STAFF

Rector - The Rev. Dr. D. Jonathan Grieser  
Associate Rector - The Rev. John Francis Maher  
Assisting Priest - The Rev. Margaret Irwin  
Deacon - The Rev. Deacon Carol Smith  
Deacon - The Rev. Deacon Georgeanne Cusic  
Parish Administrator - Kristen Wold  
Assistant Parish Administrator - Erin Schuurmans  
Music Director - Berkley Guse  
Organist - Mark Brampton-Smith  
Grace Presents Director - James Waldo  
Food Pantry Coordinator - Vikki Enright  
Wedding Coordinator - Pat Werk  
Kitchen and GH Coordinator - Mary Ann Nanassy  
Financial Administrator - Andrew Pizzello  
Christian Formation Lead Teacher - Erin Schuurmans  
Kitchen Assistant - Bradley Simonson

## PARISH WARDENS AND VESTRY

Senior Warden - Amy Robinson  
Junior Warden - Mary Schlaefer  
Treasurer - Tom Felhofer  
Vestry Clerk - John Andrews  
Bess Malson-Huddle  
Steve Langlie  
Jeremy Schuurmans  
Suzy Buenger  
James Waldo  
Paul Quinn  
Shelley Hansen-Blake  
Kenn JeSchonek  
Robert Lemanske



# UPCOMING EVENTS

The Mead Witter School of Music, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies,  
& the Harvey Goldberg Center present:

## **Requiem for a Massacre: A Concert of Healing and Reconciliation**

### **& The Whistleblower of My Lai film**



See Emmy-winning virtuoso  
Vân-Anh Vanessa Võ  
perform on the remarkable đàn tranh  
and view a free screening of  
her film, *The Whistleblower of My Lai*.

This award-winning documentary goes  
inside the Kronos Quartet's production of  
an opera about a U.S. soldier's attempt to  
stop the My Lai Massacre of over  
500 civilians during the Vietnam War.

Intro by Pro Arte Quartet violist Prof. Sally Chisholm  
Followed by Q&A with Ms. Võ & Director Connie Field,  
moderated by Prof. Nam C. Kim

Sunday, April 14th  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

The Wisconsin  
Historical Society  
Auditorium  
on Library Mall

Complimentary food!



COMMUNITY SPONSORS: *The Capital Times* • Chino Cienega Foundation • The Progressive  
• The Havens Wright Center for Social Justice • Madison Veterans For Peace  
Clarence Kallin Chapter 25 • Pax Christi Madison • Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Madison • Madison World BEYOND War • Madison Friends Meeting (Quakers)



## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA**

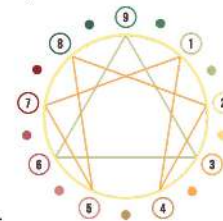
### **INVITATION TO TOUR NEW BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS FACILITY**

Your Mission and Outreach Committee is building a great relationship with BGCD through the funding of summer interns. On April 19th at 4PM all church members are invited to tour their new McKenzie Regional Workforce Center at 5215 Verona Road in Fitchburg. (Left on Williamsburg Way off Verona Road if you're coming from Madison, Right on Sprocket Drive at the "T", Left on Discovery Path, Center on the Left - parking in the rear.) The Center is the largest of its type in the country and a mecca for workforce development training. No RSVP required. Start your weekend with a splash of community building. Questions contact Ron Geason ([geasonron@gmail.com](mailto:geasonron@gmail.com) or 608.416.3714)

Saturday, April 20, 9am–3pm

Christ Presbyterian Church  
944 East Gorham Street, Madison

## **Introduction to the Enneagram**



The Enneagram is an ancient and modern way of understanding how we are in the world. It helps us identify one of nine styles that most significantly serves as a motivator for our actions. The Enneagram is not a static personality inventory but rather is a dynamic tool for self-understanding, growth, and movement toward healthier relationships and teams.

This workshop will start you on your journey of identifying your type and considering the implications for you and others. There will be plenty of content for those who are already on this path. This will be an informational and fun time of discovery, with opportunity for questions and interaction.

**Facilitator:** Rich Henderson (Certified Advanced Instructor)  
Questions? Email Rich at [rich@type3consulting.com](mailto:rich@type3consulting.com)

**Cost:** \$50 (\$25 is required at registration, with remainder paid up front or at the event.) **Lunch is included.**

**Register by April 17:** [Event Sign Up](#) (limited to 30 people)

**Pre-workshop requirement:** take online enneagram test - [www.wepss.com](http://www.wepss.com) (\$15, takes about 20 minutes). Have results sent to yourself and forward a copy to Rich by Apr 17.

**Pre-workshop suggestion:** Read *The Road Back to You*, by Cron and Stabile.

TYPE 3 CONSULTING



Parish Life  
Event

The Grace Parish Life committee is partnering with Christ Presbyterian Church (CPC) to offer this Introduction to the Enneagram workshop. The event will take place in the Fellowship Hall at CPC, but this is definitely a Grace Parish Life event. Financial assistance is available to help parishioners participate in Parish Life events. Please contact Kara Pagano [baronesspagano@gmail.com](mailto:baronesspagano@gmail.com), point person for this event, or the church office for us to cover half of the workshop cost.

A personal note from Kara Pagano: I have found the Enneagram to be a thought-provoking way to understand myself and others, and a helpful tool for spiritual growth. I encourage you join us on April 20 to learn more about yourself and others. Let me know if you have any questions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/introduction-to-the-enneagram-tickets-820396306437?aff=oddtcreator>



# MUSIC IN OUR COMMUNITY

ENJOY THE MUSICAL BEST OF WHAT OUR COMMUNITY, FRIENDS, AND EPISCOPAL FAMILY HAVE TO OFFER

**JOHN FRANCIS O'MARA**

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
APRIL 13TH, 2024 | 7:00PM

"RIPE WITH THE HONEST QUESTIONS WE USED TO COUNT ON GUYS LIKE BOB DYLAN AND JOHN PRINE TO SERVE UP."  
- THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

"A RARE WRITER OF GREAT SONGS ABOUT REAL STUFF. RARE ENOUGH TO FIND THESE DAYS."  
- ARLO GUTHRIE

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$20.00

116 W. WASHINGTON AVENUE, MADISON, WI 53703

Alexxis McDade (Grace Choir's Alto Soloist) Voice Recital

Location: Capital Lakes - 333 W Main St. Madison, WI

Friday, April 12, 2024 - 7:00 PM

**GRACE PRESENTS THE MADISON SAVOYARDS**

*A Marriage of Song & Satire*

APRIL 20 AT 12:00PM

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
116 W WASHINGTON AVE.  
MADISON, WI

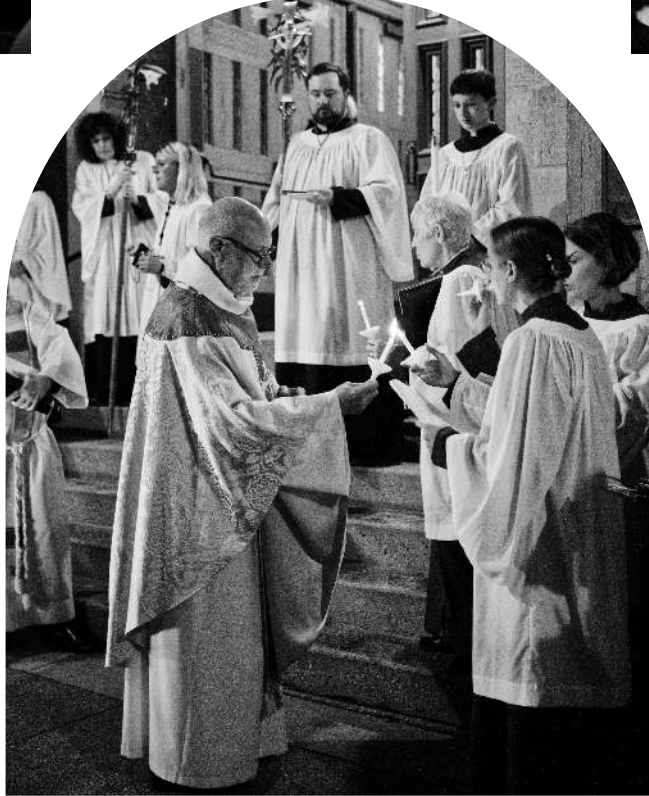
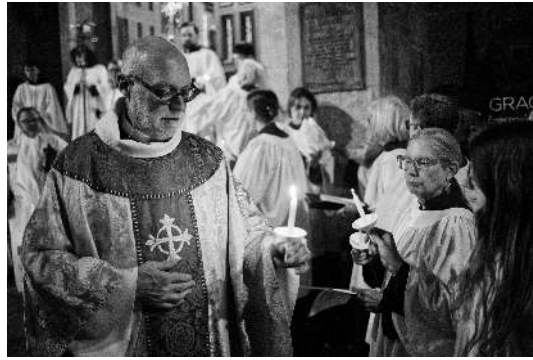
Free monthly concerts on the Square  
GRACEPRESENTS.ORG



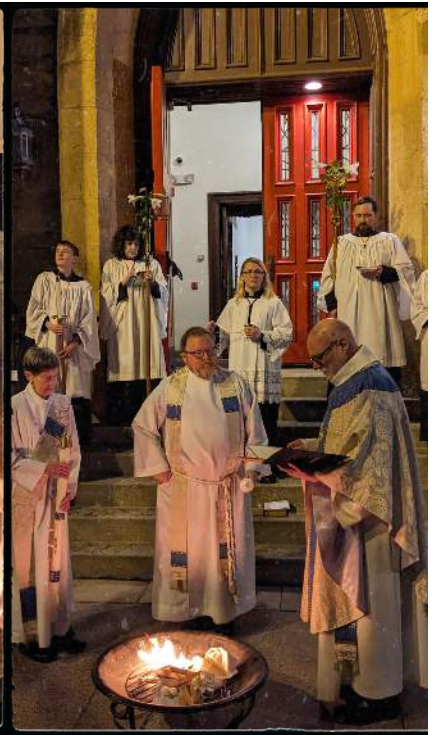
# EASTER AT GRACE



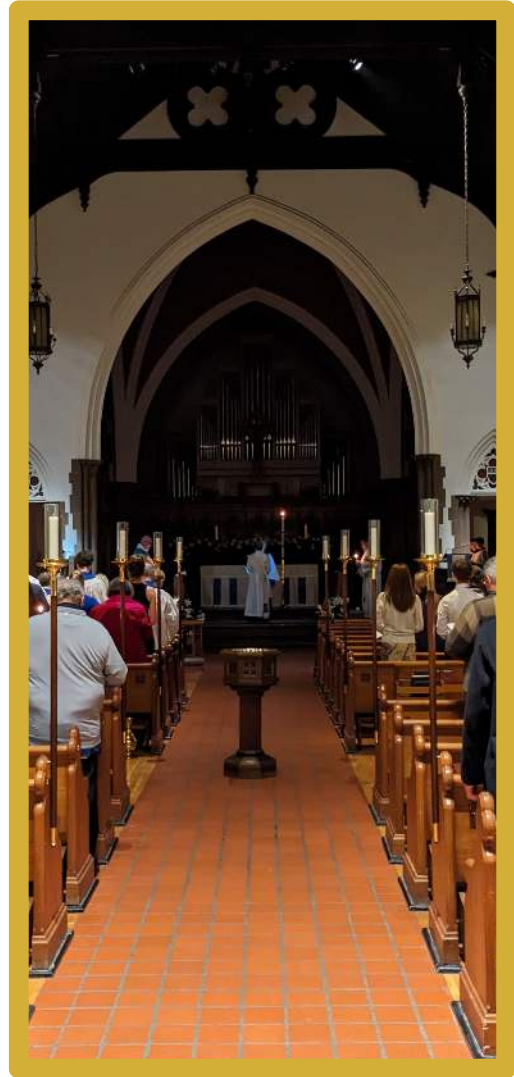




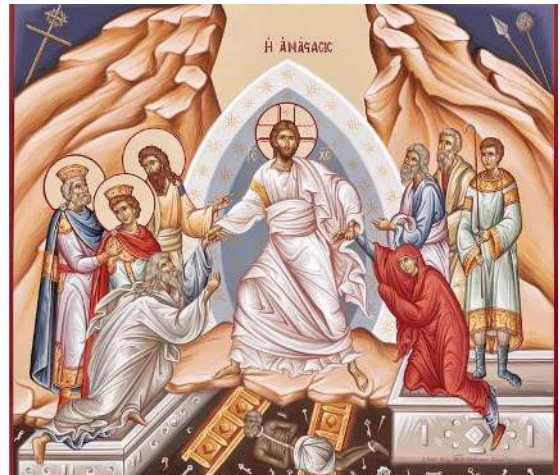






















Following a solemn, prayerful and yet joyous Easter Vigil Service on March 30th, The Vestry hosted the annual Champagne Reception. Vilas Hall was elegantly decorated with flowers, candles, low lighting, and gold satin table linens. Fine champagne, non-alcoholic sparkling wine, and sparkling juice made the occasion festive. Our tables were bountiful with both savory and sweet treats contributed by our parishioners, with enough to host a month or more coffee hours (which will delight Mary Ann). Although there wasn't a total headcount, we estimate close to 1000 people attended to share fellowship and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you to everyone who made this event truly memorable.

Shelley Hansen-Blake

# THANK YOU

TO ALL THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR TIME,  
ENERGY, AND TALENTS DURING THIS  
SEASON

THE ALTAR GUILD  
THE ACOLYTE TEAM  
THE VESTRY  
MARY ANN NANASSY  
BRADLEY SIMONSON  
THE USHER TEAM

MUSICIANS  
MARK BRAMPTON SMITH  
GRACE CHOIR SINGERS AND FAMILIES  
MARK BRAMPTON SMITH, ORGANIST

SOLOISTS  
GRACE DRUMMOND, SOPRANO  
ALEXXIS MCDADE, ALTO  
BRIEN CARNEY, TENOR  
NATHAN KLOCZKO, BASS

INSTRUMENTALISTS  
JOHN ALEY, TRUMPET  
MEGAN ALEY, TRUMPET  
JUSTIN COYNE, TROMBONE  
BRYSON BAUER, TROMBONE  
AND OTHER ANONYMOUS DONORS.

PHOTOS CURTESY OF LYNN FELHOFER,  
KENN JESCHONEK, AND CLAY  
WEGRZYNOWICZ



EASTER VISIT! BARB KARLEN AND  
GRANDSONS FROM MINNEAPOLIS: ALEX  
ON LEFT, JACK ON RIGHT. GENTLE  
GIANTS BOTH!



the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million (19.5% of the population).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people, and the Government has set out a strategy for the 21st century in the White Paper on *Ageing Better: The Government's Strategy for Older People* (Department of Health, 1999). This strategy is based on the following principles:

- (i) older people should be able to live independently and actively in their own homes;
- (ii) older people should be able to live in their own communities and be able to take part in the life of their communities;
- (iii) older people should be able to live in good health and be able to take part in the life of their communities;

and the following objectives (Department of Health, 1999, p. 10):

- (i) to improve the health and well-being of older people;
- (ii) to improve the independence and quality of life of older people;
- (iii) to improve the opportunities for older people to take part in the life of their communities;
- (iv) to improve the opportunities for older people to live in their own homes;
- (v) to improve the opportunities for older people to live in their own communities.

The White Paper also sets out a number of key actions to be taken to achieve these objectives:

- (i) to improve the health and well-being of older people;
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