

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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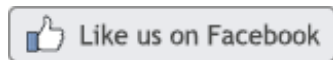
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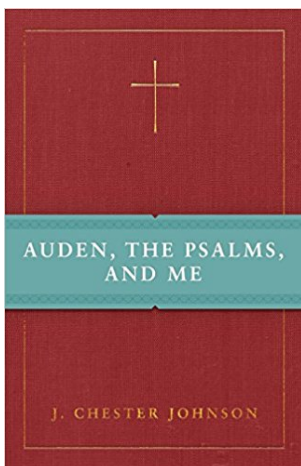
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This Sunday
@10 a.m.



**LIFT UP THINE
EYES**

The campaign has

October 1, 2017

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

One of the news stories dominating the headlines of late is what happens during the National Anthem at professional football games. As you likely know, a growing practice among players is to kneel rather than stand for the Star Spangled Banner. It began last year when the quarterback Colin Kaepernick decided he could not take pride in the flag of a country where blacks and other people of color are oppressed. Later he amended his posture to kneeling as a way to continue his protest, but also to show respect for those serving in the armed forces. Soon a growing number of players joined him, and now the matter is one generating considerable heat in the press.

Some say the gesture is the epitome of everything the American flag stands for: freedom of speech and the right to peaceful protest. Those who dare to break ranks with standard procedure are calling attention to the painful reality that all do not share equally in the blessings of this land. Others say that not to stand for the National Anthem when the flag is unfurled is to disrespect the central symbol of our country. It is the antithesis of the stance we should take toward the flag that protects the freedoms we enjoy, imperfect though they may be.

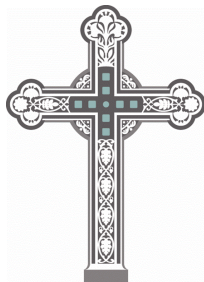
As for me, I say let them kneel. Of all people, we in the church should know that kneeling is as much a posture of reverence as is standing. If the deed is done out of love for country, in order to help us form a more

been a resounding success! Over 160 Grace Church families have pledged \$3,102,365. This total is 20% over our primary goal of \$2,600,000. If you haven't made your pledge yet, **there's still time!** Every gift of every size is welcome.

Thank you to all who have made a pledge thus far!

Visit [HERE](#) to make your pledge or contact James Romanik [here](#) or at 212-254-2005 with any questions.

Please pray for...



those who suffer

John Hill
Marion McDaniel
Kristin Whitehurst
Josephine
Ferraiuolo

and those who

perfect union, then so be it. What is troubling, however, is that what is supposed to be a means to an end is rapidly becoming an end in itself. In other words, the symbol seems to have taken on a greater life than the reality to which it was intended to point. People are getting more worked up about the gesture than they are about the racism that plagues our nation.

The current controversy in the NFL provides an interesting lens for looking at the life of faith. Indeed, the dilemma of allowing means to become more important than ends is nothing new for us. Over the years I have been privy to vigorous debates about all the finery of religion: liturgical language and vestments, when to kneel and sit and stand, proper and improper music for worship, tasteful and tacky architecture. More than once, lost in the conversation was the Reality to which these signs were supposed to point us: the living God who made the world, loves it, redeemed it through Jesus, and continues to send the Spirit to the likes of you and me. Why? So that things on earth might resemble the things of heaven.

I have no easy answers to this and other complexities of our day. I pray for our country, and I pray for the church, that both may be *the means of grace, and the hope of glory.*

See you in church.

[The Rev. J. Donald Waring](#)
Rector

This Sunday

October 1st

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young

AUDEN, THE PSALMS AND ME – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM – with J. Chester Johnson. As one of two surviving members of the drafting committee for the retranslation of the Psalms that were included in the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*—and as one who replaced W. H. Auden as the poet on that committee, J. Chester Johnson will speak about his recently published text which offers an account of his experience that illuminate this part of the Episcopal Psalter story and Auden's contribution, and describes the key elements that drove the creation of this retranslation. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

The Sunday Forum fall calendar can be viewed [HERE](#).

20's/30's BRUNCH – Young adult parishioners and guests are invited to brunch after the 11 am service and coffee hour on Sunday, Oct 1. We'll meet in the Rectory Garden by the 802 Broadway gate at 12:45 and walk to a nearby restaurant. Plan to bring \$10–20 in cash. [RSVP to the Rev. Chase Danford](#).

YOUTH GROUP TODAY @2:15 PM – Youth in grades 7–12 are invited to take a break from studies and meet for snacks and conversation on faith and life. We'll meet in the 3rd floor Conference Room from 2:15–3:30 pm. (Choristers, please note: we'll now be meeting weekly after high school choir rehearsal. On weeks when middle school choristers rehearse, they are also invited to join after rehearsal.)

"TEA TIME" AFTER THE 6 PM SERVICE—All are welcome for light refreshments outside the Chantry directly after the service. Grab a cookie and say a quick hello to clergy and fellow worshippers or catch up with new and old friends over a well-steeped cup

of tea.

Coming Soon

OCT 3 – BACH AT NOON – Special guest artists on organ and trumpet. Read more [here](#).

OCT 4 – ACOLYTE TRAINING FOR NEW AND RETURNING VOLUNTEERS – Adults and children in grades 3 and up are invited to serve as acolytes. Acolytes carry the processional cross and torches, help with the collection and at the altar during Holy Communion, and are a vital part of the sacred pageantry of our worship. If you are interested in serving, or if you are a returning acolyte, *please reach out to Father Chase in person or [by email](#). The next training session is Wednesday, October 4, from 4:30–5:15 pm (Note: Date changed from Wed., Sept. 27).*

OCT 8 (Columbus Day Weekend) The Sunday Forum is on recess.

OCT 8 – NEWCOMERS CLASS – New people to Grace are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, Oct 8th in the reception room at 12:30pm. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *Church History*. We recommend that you attend at least three classes throughout the year, as a way to get acquainted with the clergy, with other new members, and to grow in your faith. *Lunch will be provided, so [RSVP to Martha](#).*

OCT 14, 15 – OPEN HOUSE NEW YORK – Grace Church is pleased to once again participate in this year's Open House New York Weekend, a citywide showcase of distinctive examples of architecture, engineering, and design. Tours of the church will be offered by our Open Door volunteers from 12–5 pm on Saturday and 1–3pm on Sunday afternoon during usual visiting hours. Visit www.ohny.org for more information.

OCT 15 – GRACE CHURCH & THE CIVIL WAR – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM Jason McDonald is a technology and history teacher at Grace Church School. In Fall 2017, he is teaching multiple sections of Civil War and Reconstruction. He has connected the course to the history of Grace Church and other New York City locations. McDonald will discuss the class and the Civil War sermons of Grace Church Rector Thomas House Taylor, the Union Rally of 1861 in Union Square, Tom Thumb's wedding, and the 1865 Lincoln Funeral procession. Some students will be available to discuss their learning and experiences.

OCT 15 –REJOICE IN THE LAMB BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN Choral Evensong will be offered by the Choir of Men and Boys on Sunday, Oct 15 at 4 pm, featuring Britten's moving REJOICE IN THE LAMB.

OCT 24 – OPEN DOOR VOLUNTEERS FALL RECEPTION – A Paella & Sangria Social! Please join the Open Door Volunteers for fellowship and fun as we kick off a new year of welcoming visitors on weekend afternoons to the newly restored sanctuary. Seafood & fully loaded paella as well as Malcolm's signature sangria, along with a virgin/mock/nonalcoholic variety, will be served. [*RSVP to Singleton Cox*](#) or write to learn more about Open Door. Ole!

OCT 28 – HABITAT BUILD DAY – Grace Church is working with Habitat for Humanity to preserve and maintain affordable housing within Manhattan. We will be doing home maintenance repair for a co-op on the Lower East Side. *To sign up to help, please visit the [Outreach page](#) of the website.*

OCT 29 – HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL Sunday Oct 29th in Tuttle Hall from 2:30–4 pm. All children and families are invited for an afternoon of spooky fun and games, featuring mask-making, craft projects, and cupcake decorating. Lend a hand by helping at one of the tables, making a donation, or contributing non-candy

snacks. Drop off packaged snacks to the parish office now through Friday, October 28; baked goods can be brought to Tuttle Kitchen on Sunday morning, Oct. 29 or right before the party. Middle and high school students are especially encouraged to volunteer.

Please [contact The Rev. Chase Danford](#) with questions.

NOV 11, 12 – GRACE CHRISTMAS FAIR sponsored by the ECW. Saturday, Nov 11, 10am – 7pm and Sunday, Nov 12, 10am – 4pm in Tuttle Hall. \$2 admission will be donated to a NYC food pantry. NEW CAFE! Savory items and sweets available for purchase throughout both days. GREAT vendors! For more information [contact Elana Foundos](#).

NOV 17–19 – PARISH RETREAT @HOLY CROSS MONASTERY – Join others from Grace Church as we spend the weekend at the Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY. Cost is \$190/person, which includes lodging, food, and group sessions led by one of the brothers. *Sign-up by October 1st by [emailing Martha](#).*

DEC 2 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY! Ever considered volunteering with the GO Project, but not sure you can make a year-round commitment? How about signing up for a one-day event? GO invites all Grace Church members and friends to participate on Saturday, Dec. 2nd, from 9 am–12:30 pm. Come and see this wonderful program in action, meet the students served by the program and pitch in to help! *Sign up by [e-mailing Olivia Nunez](#).*

*To find service information,
you may visit www.gracechurchnyc.org, updated weekly.*

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www.gracechurchnyc.org