



# Grace Episcopal Church

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II - 10:30 a.m.

## PRELUDE

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* - G. A. Wasson

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #414 (1-3, 5-6) *(In the Blue Hymnal)*    *God, my King, thy might confessing*

*God, my King, thy might confessing,  
ever will I bless thy Name;  
day by day thy throne addressing,  
still will I thy praise proclaim.*

*Honor great our God befitteth;  
who his majesty can reach?  
Age to age his works transmitteth,  
age to age his power shall teach.*

*They shall talk of all thy glory,  
on thy might and greatness dwell,  
speak of thy dread acts the story,  
and thy deeds of wonder tell.*

*Full of kindness and compassion,  
slow to anger, vast in love,  
God is good to all creation;  
all his works his goodness prove.*

*All thy works, O Lord, shall bless thee;  
thee shall all thy saints adore:  
King supreme shall they confess thee,  
and proclaim thy sovereign power.*

## 355 OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Celebrant*    Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*        **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *(Hymnal S280, front section of hymnal, sung by all)*

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;*

*have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

*Jonah 3:10-4:11*

*Lector*     A reading from the Prophet Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

- The Word of the Lord     **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 145:1-8** (*Responsively, by whole verse*)

<sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O God my King,  
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

<sup>2</sup> **Every day will I bless you  
and praise your Name for ever and ever.**

<sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD and greatly to be  
praised; there is no end to his greatness.

<sup>4</sup> **One generation shall praise your works  
to another and shall declare your power.**

<sup>5</sup> I will ponder the glorious splendor of your  
majesty and all your marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup> **They shall speak of the might of your  
wondrous acts, and I will tell of your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup> They shall publish the remembrance of your great  
goodness; they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

**THE EPISTLE**

*Philippians 1:21-30*

*Lector* A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- The Word of the Lord      **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

**SEQUENCE HYMN #312 (vv. 1-2)**

*Strengthen for service, Lord*

*Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands  
that holy things have taken;  
let ears that now have heard thy songs  
to clamor never waken.*

*Lord, may the tongues which "Holy" sang,  
keep free from all deceiving;  
the eyes which saw thy love be bright,  
thy blessed hope perceiving.*

**THE GOSPEL**

*Matthew 20:1-16*

*Celebrant*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*          **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same.

And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

-- The Gospel of the Lord    *People:*    **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #312 (v. 3)

*Strengthen for service, Lord*

*The feet that tread thy hallowed courts  
from light do thou not banish;  
the bodies by thy Body fed  
with thy new life replenish.*

*(Please be seated)*

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Edward Kelaher

358 THE NICENE CREED    *(All Standing)*

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,  
of one Being with 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 man.  
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 the Father.  
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.  
With the Father and the Son he is  
worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.

388 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV AND CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Cameron** Klass, **Julia** Klass, and **Josey** Parker and those with special needs:

**Lou** Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Amanda** Amon, **Ella** Asebes, **David** Bankston, **Rhonda** Bralkowski, **Alice** Brandon & family, **Gayle** Burke, **Art** Burkhart, **Emily** Duquette Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Joan** Clodfelter, **Linda** Clodfelter, **Morgan** Curia, **Kat** Danze, **Tracy** Davis, **Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Cathy** Farley, **Jenny** Gallen, **Shana** Garland, **Frances** Garner, **Jane** Grimes, **George** Hanna, **Rob** Hare, **Kristen** Harris, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris** Hodges, **Jon** Huff, **Jahiya** Huntley, **Greg** Hutchins, **Tanya** Johnson, **Lindsay** Layfield, **Cara** Lee, **Beattie** Logan, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Kate** McKenzie, **Nicholas** Melomo, **Roan** Mitchell, **Dan & Fran** Moore, **Ronnie** Moretz, **O'Lema** Morgan, **Chocolate** Myers, **Howard** Palmer, **Jerry** Peace, **Fred** Pfohl, **Gabby** Plott, **Pat** Plummer, **Libby** Robert, **Gail** Rogers, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Suzy** Sheets, **Patty** Short, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Annabell** Smith, **Dan Griff** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Perry** Grimes Van Dyke, **Kathy** Watson, **Flynn** Williams, **Mary & Jay** Williams, **Vickie** Wolfe, **Charlotte** Young, and **John** (withheld)

“Are there others?”

Hear us, Lord; *For your mercy is great.*

*Celebrant*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant 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.**

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

*Please stand if you are able*

### 360 THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

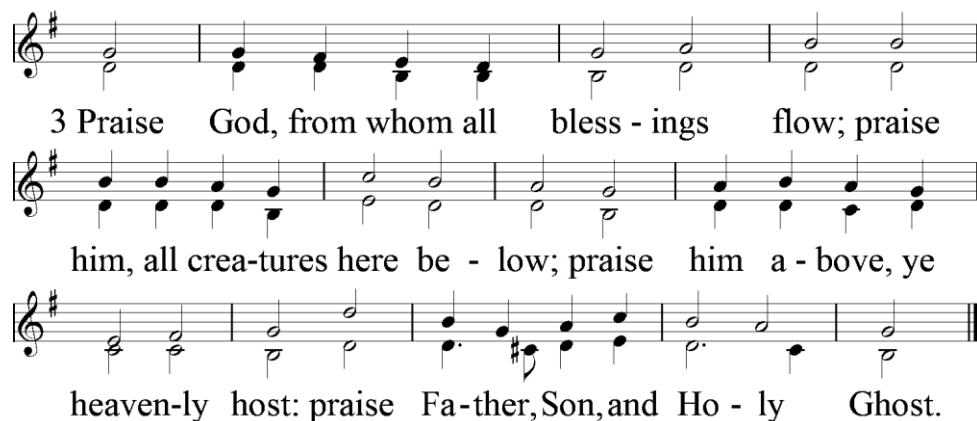
### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

#### OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

*Karl Bolstad, harmonica*

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS #380 (v. 3)** *(The offering is brought forth while the hymn is being sung)*



3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

361 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer A*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him 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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in the world.

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

**SANCTUS #S129**  
(*sung by all*)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*The people may stand or kneel*

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.

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."

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:

**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 for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

364	<p><b>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</b></p>	<p><b>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.</b></p>
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#### 364 THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

#### INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians of any denomination are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.*

*You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine.*

*Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally.*

*If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.*

#### 366 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory,  
now and for ever. Amen.**



## THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### DISMISSAL HYMN #522 (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

*Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed thee for his own abode;  
on the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.*

*See! the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, when such a river  
ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver  
never fails from age to age.*

### *Glorious things of thee are spoken*

*Round each habitation hovering,  
see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering,  
showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner,  
light by night, and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna  
which he gives them when they pray.*

*Blest inhabitants of Zion,  
washed in the Redeemer's blood!  
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,  
makes them kings and priests to God.  
'Tis his love his people raise  
over self to reign as kings:  
and as priests, his solemn praises  
each for a thank-offering brings.*

## THE DISMISSAL

*The Celebrant dismisses the people*

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## POSTLUDE

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing - Glaser/Carter*

### WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

<b>Lector:</b>	Belinda MacKinstry
<b>Intercessor:</b>	Elizabeth Purdy
<b>Lay Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Staley Nance, Pam Harvey
<b>Ushers:</b>	Wes Allred, Chandler Allred
<b>Greeter:</b>	Barbara Presnell
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Ward Inabinett, Tanner Sheets

### WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

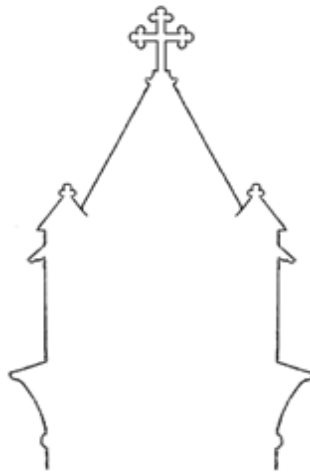
We are delighted to have you worship with us today, and we would welcome the opportunity to get acquainted. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex and join us immediately following the service in the courtyard (weather permitting) or in the Parish Hall (in the adjacent building) for refreshments and conversation. **Today our host is Neil Shepherd.**

Infants and young children are always welcome to worship with their families in the sanctuary. However, we also offer a nursery in our Undercroft downstairs (basement of the church). Children may remain there the entire service or will be walked up to the sanctuary during The Peace (please let the nursery attendant know your preference).

The restrooms are located in the rear hallway, and diaper-changing stations are provided in both rooms.

**During Holy Communion**, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.





## GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop  
The Right Reverend Samuel Rodman, Diocesan Bishop  
The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector  
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music  
Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director  
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator  
John Taylor, Facilities Manager

### THE VESTRY

2024

Lynn Meeks Treasurer  
Sandy Reynolds Asst. Clerk  
Logan Sheets  
Susan Terrell

2025

Wes Allred Sr. Warden  
Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer  
Marjorie Parker Jr. Warden  
Marilyn Taylor

2026

Karl Bolstad  
Bright Carter  
Sally Dodd Clerk  
Henry Duquette Asst. Jr. Warden

Vestry Person of the Month for September is Sally Dodd.