

Grace Episcopal Church

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost October 22, 2023

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

Prelude Largo - J. S. Bach

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #408 (In the Blue Hymnal)

Sing praise to God who reigns above



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.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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 Isaiah 45:1-7

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him-and the gates shall not be closed:

I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.
I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;

- The Word of the Lord **Than**

Thanks be to God.

I the LORD do all these things.

PSALM 96:1-13 (Responsively, by whole verse)

- ¹ Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- ² Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- ⁶ Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.
- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations:
 "The LORD is King! he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.
- ¹³ He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

THE EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

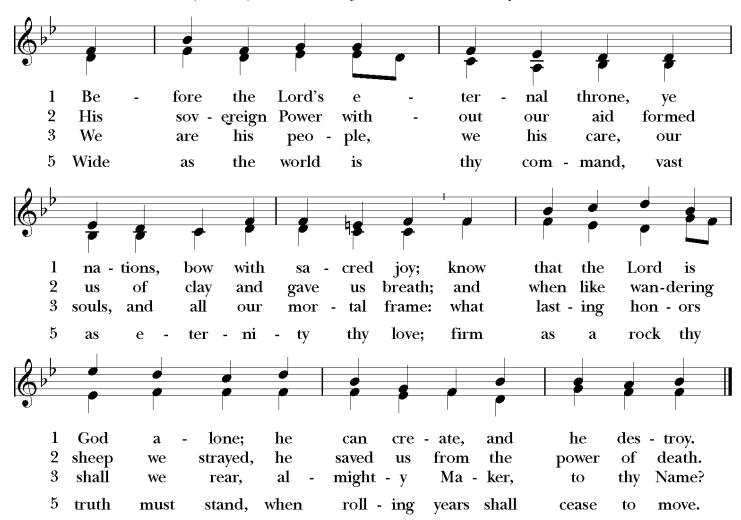
Lector A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

- The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #391 (v. 5) (In the Blue Hymnal)

Before the Lord's eternal throne

(Please be seated)

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, John Clippard, Joan
Clodfelter, Linda Clodfelter, Morgan Curia, Tracy Davis, Susan Dixon, Renee Ewbank, Cathy Farley,
Jenny Gallen, Shana Garland, Jane Grimes, George Hanna, Rob Hare, Kristen Harris, Nancy Hinkle,
Chris Hodges, Jon Huff, Jahiya Huntley, Greg Hutchins, Tanya Johnson, Chris Kearley, 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, and Charlotte Young.

"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

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS #288 (vv. 1-3) (The offering is brought forth while the hymn is being sung)



361 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

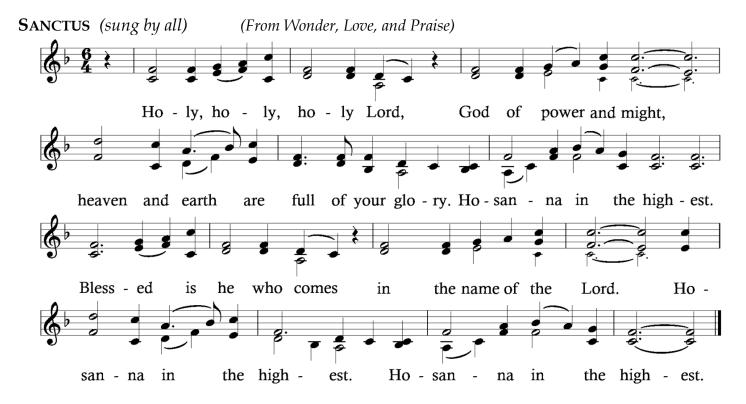
People We lift them to the Lord.

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 you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:



The people may stand or kneel

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

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.

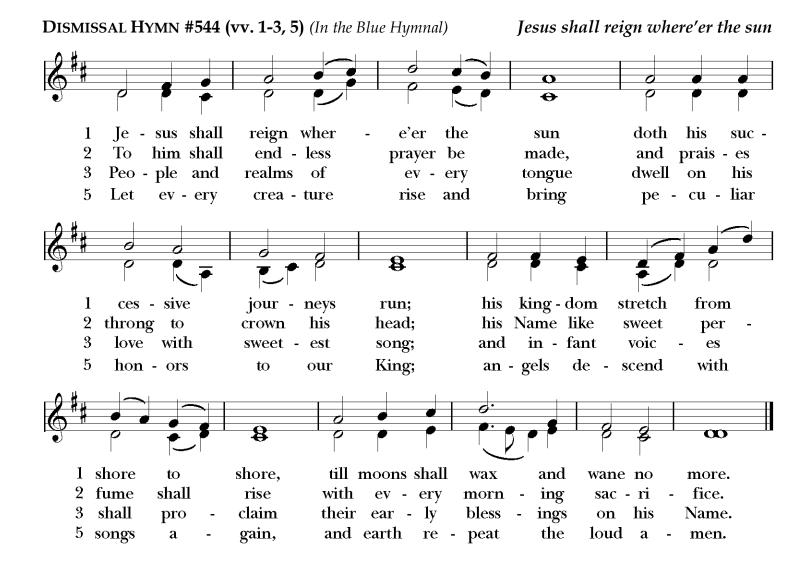
365 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Lord of Heaven and Earth, from the days of Moses until this gathering today, you have formed a people in your own image. Continue to bless us with your wisdom and guidance. May we serve you with our every desire, and by our actions, show how much we care. We ask this in your Name. **Amen.**



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

Postlude on "Sicilian Mariner's " - A. V. Fedak

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by Joan Clodfelter in deep and lasting gratitude for Grace Church.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Jim Nance

Intercessor: Staley Nance

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Pam Harvey, Tommy Black

Ushers: Wes Allred, Chandler Allred

Greeter: Penny Taylor **Acolytes:** Kate Inabinett

Ward Inabinett Fisher Welborn

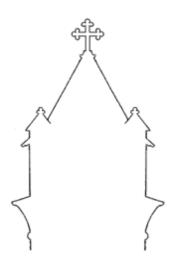
WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

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.

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.

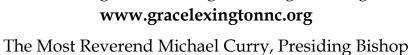


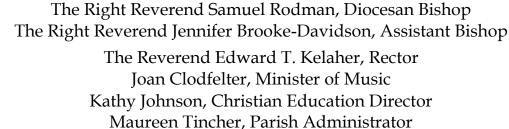


GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

419 S. Main Street Lexington, North Carolina 27292-3234 phone: 336-249-7211

email: gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org







THE VESTRY

John Taylor, Facilities Manager

2024	2025	2026
Lynn Meeks Treasurer	Wes Allred Sr. Warden	Karl Bolstad
Sandy Reynolds Asst. Clerk	Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer	Bright Carter
Logan Sheets	Marjorie Parker Jr. Warden	Sally Dodd clerk
Susan Terrell	Marilyn Taylor	Henry Duquette Asst. Jr. Warden

Vestry Person of the Month for October is Henry Duquette.

Permission to print, podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE # A-709853. All Rights Reserved.