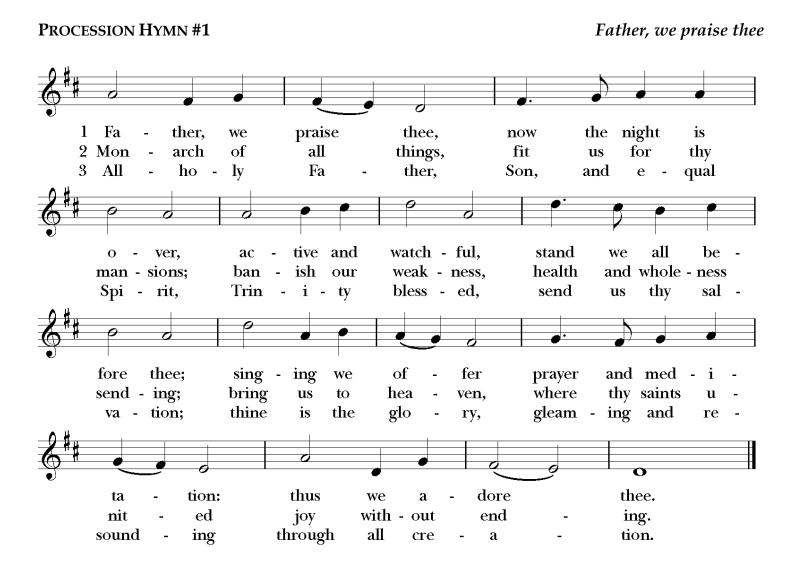


Grace Episcopal Church

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 4, 2024 The Holy Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Summer from "The Four Seasons" - Antonia Vivaldi, arr. Nixon



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 #S280 (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.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:21-31

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers

them, calling them all by name;

- The Word of the Lord

because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:1-12, 21c (responsively, by whole verse)

¹ Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

- ² The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- ³ He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- ⁴ He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.
- ⁵ Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom.
- ⁶ The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.
- ⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.

- ⁸ He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;
- ⁹ He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind.
- ¹⁰ He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.
- ¹¹ He is not impressed by the might of a horse; he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- ¹² But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.
- ²¹ Hallelujah!

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

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

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

- The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL Mark 1:29-39

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #567 (v. 3)

Thine arm, I Lord, in days of old

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Edward Kelaher

358 THE NICENE CREED

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.

392 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM VI)

The Leader and People pray responsively In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. Silence

For all people in their daily life and work; For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; we pray for Joe our President, Roy our Governor, Jason our Mayor, and John and Tommy our Councilmen; For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation; For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; *For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Samuel and Jennifer our Bishops; and Ed our Priest; and all other bishops and ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Silence

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, Seraphina Byers, Lynne Cleckley, Melissa Clifton, John Clippard, Joan Clodfelter, Linda Clodfelter, Morgan Curia, Susan Dixon, Renee Ewbank, Cathy Farley, Jenny Gallen, Shana Garland, Jane Grimes, George Hanna, Rob Hare, Kristen Harris, Nancy Hinkle, Chris Hodges, Jahiya Huntley, Greg Hutchins, Tanya Johnson, Chris Kearley, Cara Lee, Beattie Logan, Warren MacKinstry, Liz Marr, Debbie Mason, Kate McKenzie, Libby Miller, Roan Mitchell, Dan & Fran Moore, O'Lema Morgan, Chocolate Myers, Howard Palmer, Nancy Phillips, Gabby Plott, Pat Plummer, Libby Robert, Gail Rogers, Jacklyn Rojas, Christine Ryals, Lucas Sanabria, Lynn Santolla, Larry Schoepfel, Suzy Sheets, Patty Short, Talmadge Silversides, Martha Ellen Smith, Debbie Todd, Jackie Touchton, Brenda Tyndall, Perry Grimes Van Dyke, Flynn Williams, Mary & Jay Williams, Vickie Wolfe, Paul Wylie, and Charlotte Young.

"Are there others?"

Hear us, Lord; For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King; And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; *Who put their trust in you.*

The celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. Silence

Celebrant and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 ANTHEM

Light of Light - Nancy Gifford

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS The offering is brought forward as the hymn is played.

Presentation of Gifts Doxology #421 (v. 1)

All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven, and God's good will unfailingly be to all people given.
We bless, we worship you, we raise for your great glory thanks and praise, O God, Almighty Father.

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.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:

SANCTUS #S125

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. 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,

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.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says 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 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

Please stand if you are able

Go now, and forsaking everything else, follow Christ. By the grace of God, be all you have been called to be, and cast wide the net of God's love. Remind one another of the good news, and hold firmly to faith that is saving you. And the blessing of God Almighty, \(\frac{1}{7}\) the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



366 THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia! **People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F Major - Buxtehude

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God by Nancy & Doug Hartzog in honor and respect for all Sunday Lunch volunteers especially the team leaders Marlene Jones, Kristie & Thompson Miller, John Burke, Mary Matthews, Lynn Meeks, Marjorie Parker, and Jen Fuller Allen.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Barry Wardle **Greeter:** Barbara Presnell

LEMs: Staley Nance Acolytes: Hadley Briggs

Pam Harvey Lyndon Briggs
Jack Briggs

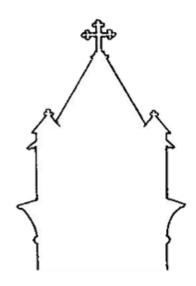
WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

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 hosts are Eric Thomas & 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 419 S. Main Street

Lexington, North Carolina 27292-3234 phone: 336-249-7211

email: gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org www.gracelexingtonnc.org

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 Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music Emerita Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator John Taylor, Facilities Manager



THE VESTRY

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 February is Sandy Reynolds.

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