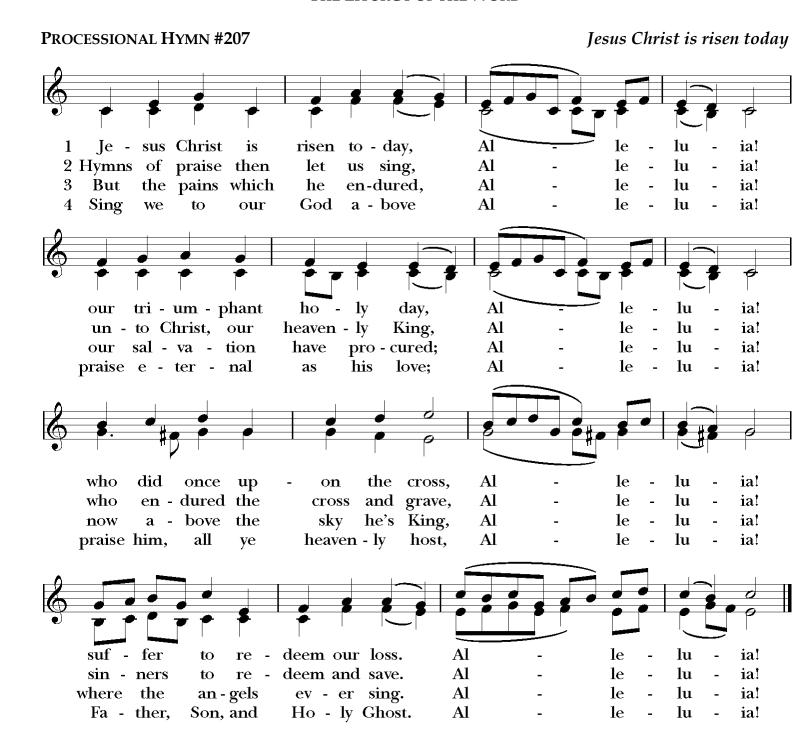


Grace Episcopal Church

Easter Day March 31, 2024 Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 a.m.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



355 OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

(copyright permission not granted for online use)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON Acts 10:34-43

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

- The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 (responsively by whole verse)

- ¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
- Let Israel now proclaim,"His mercy endures for ever."
- ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:
- ¹⁶ "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! the right hand of the LORD is exalted! the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- ¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
- ¹⁸ The LORD has punished me sorely, but he did not hand me over to death.

- ¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness;I will enter them;I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- ²⁰ "This is the gate of the LORD; he who is righteous may enter."
- ²¹ I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.
- ²² The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ On this day the LORD has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

- The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN #203 (vv. 1-3)

O sons and daughters, let us sing!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

O sons and daughters, let us sing! The King of heaven, the glorious King, o'er death and hell rose triumphing. Alleluia, alleluia!

That Easter morn, at break of day, the faithful women went their way to seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia!

An angel clad in white they see, who sat and spake unto the three, "Your Lord doth go to Galilee." Alleluia, alleluia! THE GOSPEL John 20:1-18

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #203 (vv. 4-5)

O sons and daughters, let us sing!

That night the apostles met in fear; amidst them came their Lord most dear, and said, "My peace be on all here." Alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days, to God your hearts and voices raise, in laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

THE SERMON

The Reverend Ed Kelaher, Rector

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, Josey Parker, and Cole Riggan

and those with special needs:

Lou Adkins, Mark Adkins, Amanda Amon, Ella Asebes, Rhonda Bralkowski, Alice Brandon & family, Susan Branscomb, Gayle Burke, Art Burkhart, Seraphina Byers, Jean Campbell, Lynne Cleckley, Melissa Clifton, John Clippard, Joan Clodfelter, Linda Clodfelter, Morgan Curia, Dan DiRenzo, Susan Dixon, Kim Dube, 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, Warren MacKinstry, Liz Marr, Debbie Mason, Martha & Drew Mayse, Kate McKenzie, Roan Mitchell, Dan & Fran Moore, Chocolate Myers, Howard Palmer, Gabby Plott, Libby Robert, Jacklyn Rojas, Christine Ryals, Lucas Sanabria, Lynn Santolla, Suzy Sheets, Sheryl Sherman, Patty Short, Talmadge Silversides, Martha Ellen Smith, Debbie Todd, Jackie Touchton, Brenda Tyndall, Perry Grimes Van Dyke, Flynn Williams, Mary & Jay Williams, 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.

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son 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.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (choir only)

O Sing Unto the Lord - N. Rawsthorne

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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 (Sung by All)

(copyright permission not granted for online use)

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:

Celebrant and People 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 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!

(copyright permission not granted for online use)

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 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.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN #306

Come, risen Lord

Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest; nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine; thyself at thine own board make manifest in thine own Sacrament of Bread and Wine.

We meet, as in that upper room they met; thou at the table, blessing, yet dost stand: "This is my Body"; so thou givest yet: faith still receives the cup as from thy hand. One body we, one Body who partake, one Church united in communion blest; one Name we bear, one Bread of life we break, with all thy saints on earth and saints at rest.

One with each other, Lord, for one in thee, who art one Savior and one living Head; then open thou our eyes, that we may see; be known to us in breaking of the Bread.

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.

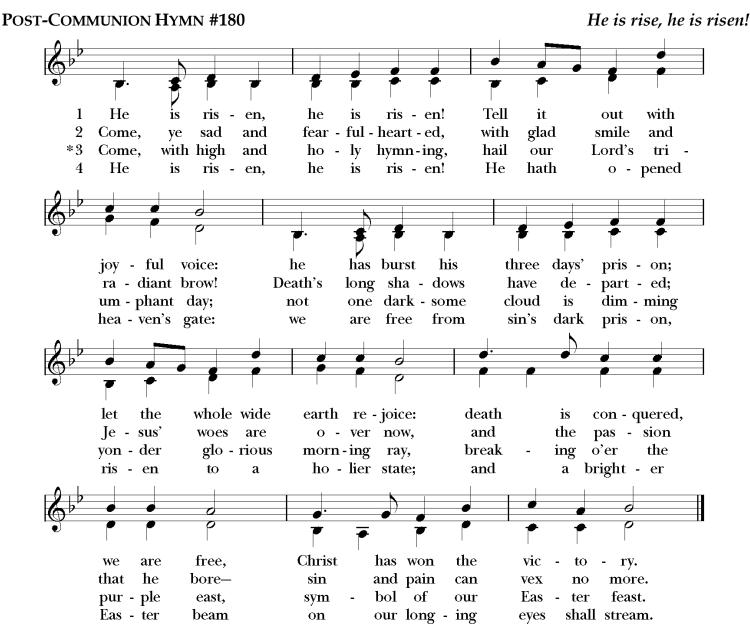
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the people

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Toccata in F Major – J. S. Bach

Today's Prelude and Postlude honor the 339th anniversary of the birth of Johann Sebastian Bach - 3/21/1685 or 3/31/1685 depending on which calendar version you use. The G Major is light and airy, almost like Mozart. The F Major is a work full of joy and vitality - perfect for this day.

Soli Deo Gloria!

The settings of the Gloria, Sanctus, and Fraction Anthem are given today in honor of the welcoming ministry of the people of Grace Church and their Rector, Rev. Edward Kelaher, and in honor of the Rev. Joseph Dzugan, the Rev. Daniel Wall, and Jack Register in appreciation for their healing ministry.

Bill Herndon

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God in love and honor of our Grace Church family by Chris and Mike Hodges.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Kathie Goodman

Intercessor: Staley Nance

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Pam Harvey, Karl Bolstad

Ushers: Wes Allred, Chandler Allred

Greeter: Sandra Husted

Acolytes: Anderson Carter, Merritt Carter, 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.

Infants and young children are always welcome to worship with their families in the sanctuary. The restrooms are located in the rear hallway, and diaper changing stations are provided in both rooms.

The beautiful flowers in the church today are given to the Glory of God and:

In honor of my children and grandchildren by Susan Terrell.

In loving memory of my daughter, Robin E. Remsburg, and my husband, Clinton "Bill" Remsburg, by Shirley Remsburg.

In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Hinkle by Talmadge & Ian Silversides.

In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry T. Link by Talmadge & Ian Silversides.

In thanksgiving for Tommy, Kim, Kate, Finn, Pam, Al, Fiona, Lucas, and Helen, by Patty & Ed Kelaher.

In honor of Stacy and Kevin by Roberta & Vaughan Spencer.

In honor of our mothers, Louise Snyder and Cater Riggan, by Cathy & Sims Riggan.

In loving memory of David Garner by Frances Garner.

In honor of and thanksgiving for Sims and Cathy and their many years of youth group ministry by David & Elizabeth Inabinett.

In loving memory of Jeff Kaley and Bobby Hedrick by Renee Kaley & family.

In loving memory of Terry Reynolds by Sandy Reynolds.

In loving memory of Jean Taylor by Chuck & Marilyn Taylor.

In honor of Bill Herndon by the Grace Church Choir.



The beautiful flowers in the church today are given to the Glory of God and:

In loving memory of our parents by Henry & Mimi Duquette.

In honor of the Grace Church Altar Guild by Staley & Jim Nance.

In honor of Sims & Cathy Riggan by Staley & Jim Nance.

In honor of our Children Sunday School Teachers and Youth Group Leaders, by Kathy & Russ Johnson.

In honor of Kristi, Wes, Chandler, & Blair Allred, by Kathy & Russ Johnson.

In honor of my family by Kathie Goodman.

In honor of my Grace Church family by Kathie Goodman.

In loving memory of Cassie & Duke Jones and Kathryn & Ladley Husted by Sandra & Bob Husted.

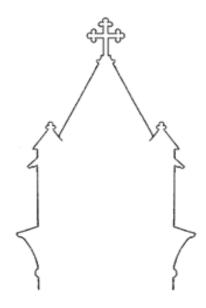
In loving memory of Mary's parents, Ruth & James Buckner, by Karl & Mary Bolstad.

In loving memory of Karl's parents, Harriet & Don Bolstad, by Karl & Mary Bolstad.

In loving memory of Dan Smith by Karl & Mary Bolstad.

In loving memory of William & Penny Hanley, and Tim Estey, by Melissa Helms & David Thayer.





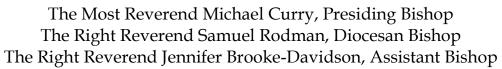


GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

email: gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org

www.gracelexingtonnc.org



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

2025	2026	2027
Wes Allred Sr. Warden	Karl Bolstad	Dan Briggs
Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer	Bright Carter	Melissa Hanley Helms
Marjorie Parker Jr. Warden	Sally Dodd Clerk	Mary Matthews
Marilyn Taylor	Henry Duquette Asst. Jr. Warden	Leslie Sheets
Lvnn Meeks Treasurer (Ex-Officio)	, 1	

The Vestry Person of the Month for March is Karl Bolstad.

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