

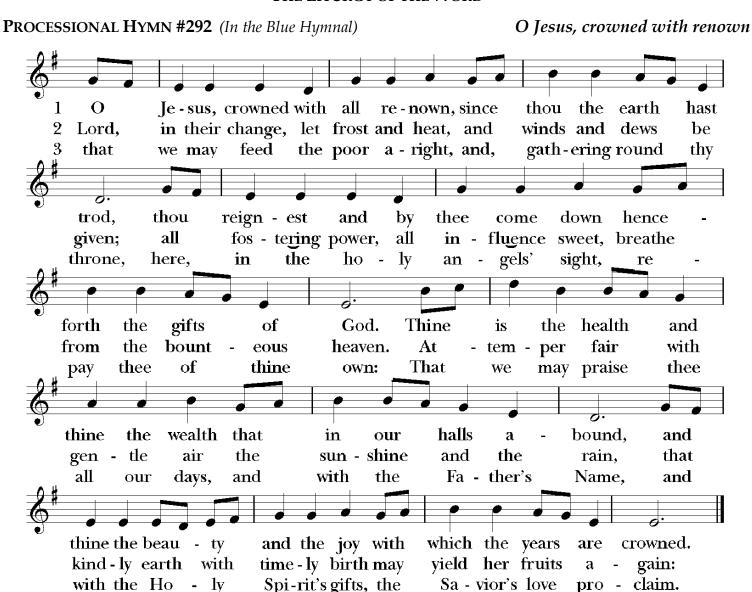
# Grace Episcopal Church

The Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5, 2024 Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 a.m.

**PRELUDE** 

Communion - Fracois-Clement-Theodore Dubois, ed. Wayne Leupold

## 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.** 



## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 Acts 10:44-48

*Lector* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

- The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM 98** (responsively by whole verse)

- <sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
- <sup>2</sup> With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- <sup>4</sup> He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- <sup>5</sup> Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

- <sup>6</sup> Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- <sup>7</sup> With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.
- <sup>9</sup> Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,

when he comes to judge the earth.

<sup>10</sup> In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

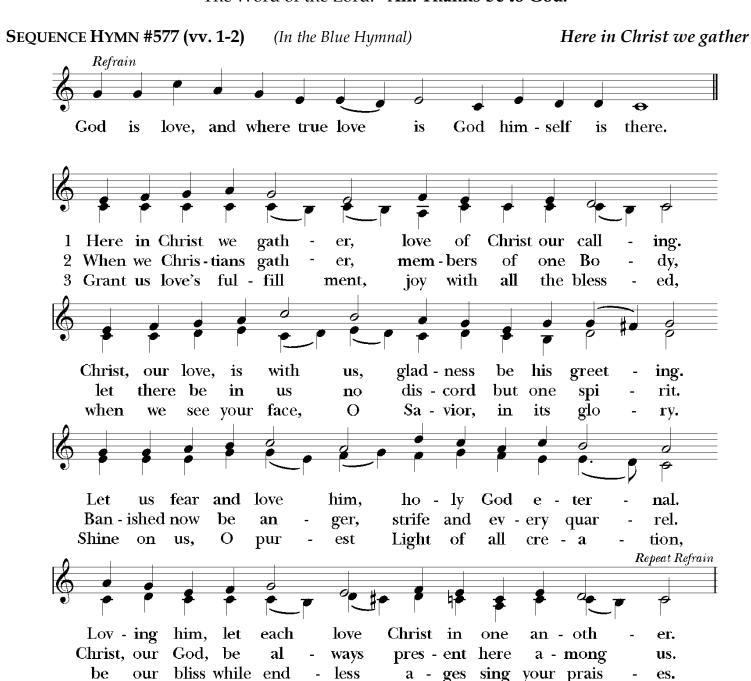
THE EPISTLE 1 John 5:1-6

*Lector* A reading from the first letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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



THE GOSPEL John 15:9-17

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN #577 (v. 3)** (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

Here in Christ we gather

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

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.

in accordance with the Scriptures;

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.

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:

Tom King, Lou Adkins, Mark Adkins, Amanda Amon, Ella Asebes, Alice Brandon & family, Susan Branscomb, Gayle Burke, Art Burkhart, Elizabeth Byerly, 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, Alisa Johnson, Chris Kearley, Cara Lee, Warren MacKinstry, Liz Marr, Debbie Mason, Martha & Drew Mayse, Kate McKenzie, Roan Mitchell, Cathy Mogge, Dan & Fran Moore, Chocolate Myers, Howard Palmer, Gabby Plott, Jacklyn Rojas, Christine Ryals, Lucas Sanabria, Lynn Santolla, Suzy Sheets, 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 VOLUNTARY** (Choir only)

Come ye faithful - R. G. Thatcher

#### 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.

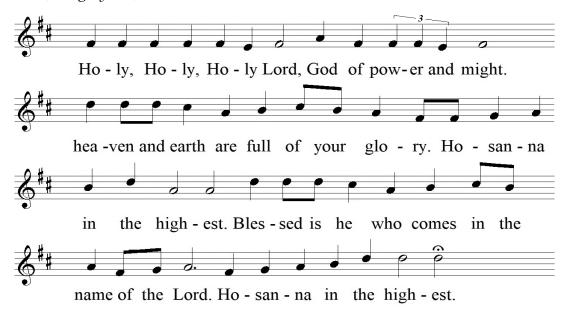
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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)



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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:

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!

## **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.

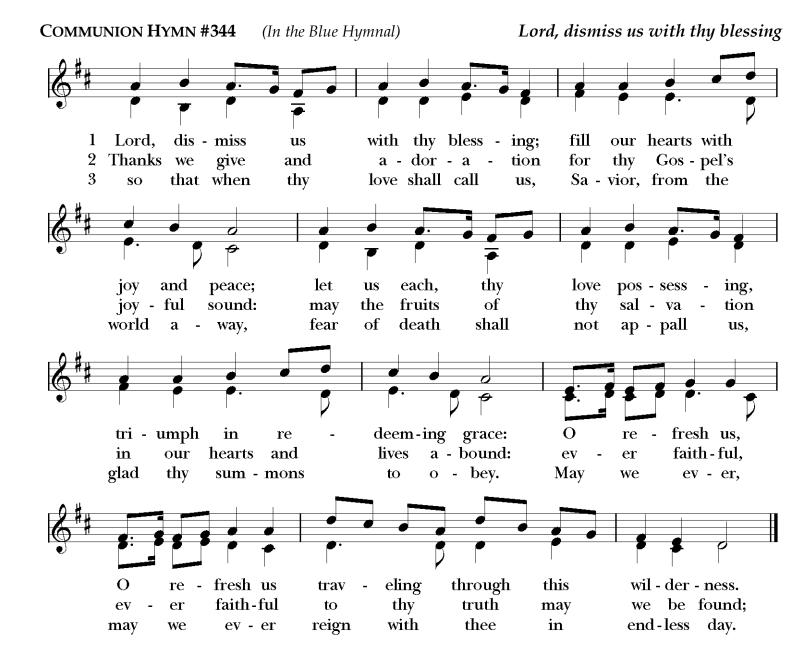
All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

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.



#### 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,

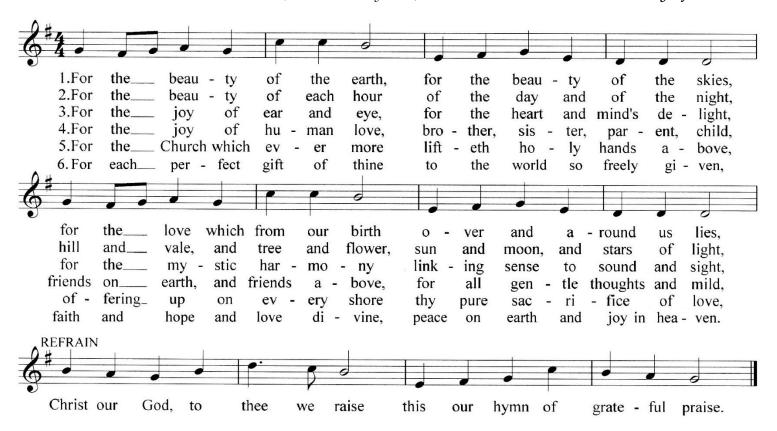
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

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

Go now with the peace of God resting upon you. Go with the love of Christ dwelling within you. And depart with the presence of the Holy Spirit abiding in your heart, mind, and soul. **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** 

Organ Voluntary in C Major - A. Kehrer, ed. Wayne Leupold

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God by Neil Shepherd in loving memory of my parents, Stanley & Gloria Shepherd, and the life they gave me 65 years ago.

## **WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

**Lector:** Jim Nance

**Intercessor:** Elizabeth Purdy

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Tommy Black, Staley Nance

Ushers: Richard Wolfe, Bill Gilleland

**Greeter:** Frances Garner

Acolytes: Anderson Carter, Chandler Allred, Merritt Carter

## **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 Parish Hall (in the building next door) for refreshments and conversation. **Today our host is Lynn Meeks.** 

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.

**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

| 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        |
| Lynn Meeks Treasurer (Ex-Officio) | , <u>-</u>                      |                      |

The Vestry Person of the Month for May is Sally Dodd.

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