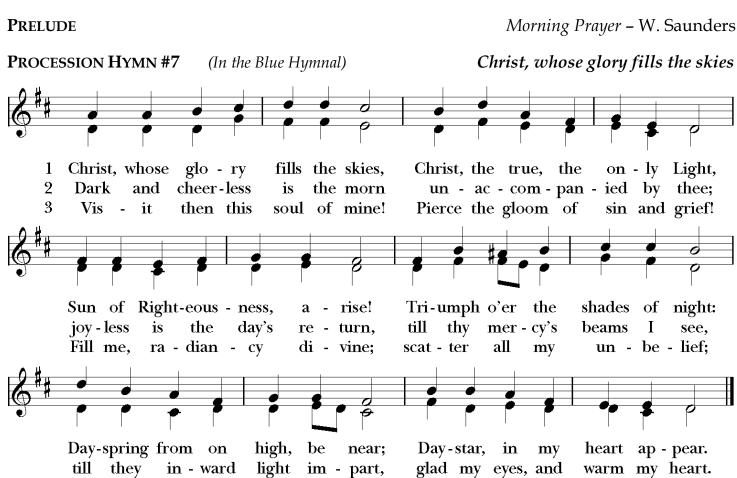


Grace Episcopal Church

The Last Sunday after Epiphany March 2, 2025 The Holy Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 a.m.



355 OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

more and more thy - self

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

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

dis - play,

shin - ing

per - fect day.

the

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 (Sung by all)



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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 34:29-35

Lector A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders

of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

- The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99 (Responsively by whole verse)

- ¹ The Lord is King; let the people tremble; he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
- ² The Lord is great in Zion; he is high above all peoples.
- ³ Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; he is the Holy One.
- ⁴ "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- ⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; he is the Holy One.

- ⁶ Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name,
- they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- ⁷ He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- ⁸ O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- ⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 *Corinthians* 3:12-4:2

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

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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



THE GOSPEL Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

[On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child.

Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #137 (vv. 4-5) (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

O wondrous type! O vision fair

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 Donald our President, Josh 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 Sean 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 **Ashley** & **Cody** Strahm,

and those with special needs:

Lou Adkins, Mark Adkins, Ella Asebes, Paul Batson, Louise Billings, Sissy Bolstad, Mike Bralkowski, Alice Brandon & family, Susan Branscomb, Lynne Broch, Gayle Burke, Seraphina Byers, Lynne Cleckley, Joan Clodfelter, Tom Cook, Morgan Curia, Susan Dixon, Kim Dube, Renee Ewbank, Jenny Gallen, Shana Garland, James Giles, Earnest Graham, Jane Grimes, Jim Hackney, George Hanna, Nancy Hinkle, Chris Hodges, Brittany Hudson, Nancy Hutchins, Alisa Johnson, Vickie & Mike Johnson, Andrew Jones, David Jones, Brian Kent, Cara Lee, Warren MacKinstry, Debbie Mason, Kate McKenzie, Charles McNeair, Dan & Fran Moore, Cheri Morris, Howard Palmer, Walker Peoples, Thomas Pierce, Gabby Plott, Jacklyn Rojas, Melissa Routh, Christine Ryals, Lucas Sanabria, Lynn Santolla, Suzy Sheets, Elizabeth Shuman, Talmadge Silversides, Morgan Simmons, Clyde Smith, Martha Ellen Smith, Sharon Smith, Sean Sullivan, Jackie Touchton, Brenda Tyndall, Perry Grimes Van Dyke, Sandy Wallace, Flynn Williams, Paul Wylie, and Charlotte Young.

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*.

[&]quot;Are there others?"

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

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

What Star is This? - arr. R. Shepherd

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offering is brought forward as the hymn is played.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS HYMN #112 (v. 4)

In the bleak midwinter

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him — give my heart.

367 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.

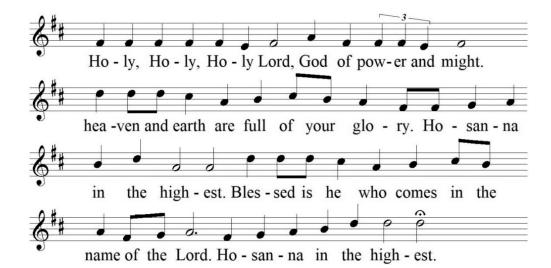
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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:

SANCTUS (Sung by All)



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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,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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**.

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 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.

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

Please stand if you are able

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that your life may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, \(\frac{1}{2}\) 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

Fantasia in G Minor - J. S. Bach

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by Lynn Meeks in honor of my daughters, Barbara and Tamara, and their families.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Jim Nance Intercessor: Staley Nance

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Tommy Black Ushers: Wes Allred

Karl Bolstad Chandler Allred

Acolytes: Fisher Welborn **Greeter:** Penny Taylor

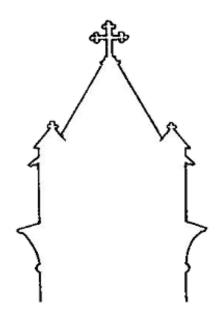
Tanner Sheets
Tucker Sheets

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 Parish Hall (in the adjacent building) for refreshments and conversation. **Our host today 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 Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator John Taylor, Facilities Manager



THE VESTRY

2026
Karl Bolstad
Bright Carter
Sally Dodd
Henry Duquette Junior Warden

2027
Dan Briggs
Elizabeth Purdy
Mary Matthews
Leslie Sheets Senior Warden

2028	
Kristi Allre	ed
Lynn Meeks	Treasure
Neil Sheph	erd
Chuck Tay	lor