



BCP

Grace Episcopal Church
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 27, 2025
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30 a.m.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #362 (vv. 1-2, 4)

Holy, holy, holy!

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.*

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

When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing

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.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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 LESSON

Genesis 18:20-32

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The Lord said to Abraham, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

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

PSALM 138 (*responsively by whole verse*)

¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, because of your love and faithfulness;**

³ For you have glorified your Name and your word above all things.

⁴ **When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.**

⁵ All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁶ **They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.**

⁷ Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; he perceives the haughty from afar.

⁸ **Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.**

⁹ **The Lord will make good his purpose for me; O Lord, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

THE EPISTLE

Colossians 2:6-15

Lector A reading from the letter to the Colossians.

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #686 (vv. 1-2)

Come, thou fount of every blessing

*Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.*

*Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #686 (v. 4)

Come, thou fount of every blessing

*Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.*

THE HOMILY

Jenny Beaumont, Missioner for Formation
Diocese of North Carolina

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:

Jimmy Hall, **Lou** Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Ella** Asebes, **Jeannie** Belk, **Louise** Billings, **Sissy** Bolstad, **Judy** Boyd, **Mike** Bralkowski, **Alice** Brandon, **Susan** Branscomb, **Lynne** Broch, **Gayle** Burke, **Seraphina** Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Joan** Clodfelter, **Becky Jo** Davis, **Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Jenny** Gallen, **Shana** Garland, **Angie** Gowen, **Jane** Grimes, **Jim** Hackney, **George** Hanna, **Semi** Harne, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris** Hodges, **Brittany** Hudson, **Kris** Hunter, **Nancy** Hutchins, **Vickie & Mike** Johnson, **Andrew** Jones, **David & Marlene** Jones, **Brian** Kent, **Diana** Landschoot, **Cara** Lee, **Lisa** Lightfoot, **Lloyd** Lohr, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Kate** McKenzie, **Charles** McNeair, **Arnold** Miller, **Dan & Fran** Moore, **Angela** Mott, **Debbie** Painter, **Lori** Parks, **Walker** Peoples, **Gabby** Plott, **Ellen** Rickert, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Melissa** Routh, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Lynn** Santolla, **Suzy** Sheets, **Carol** Sills, **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.

"Are there others?"

Hear us, Lord; *For your mercy is great.*

Celebrant

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, 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

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS HYMN #43 (V. 4)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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;

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,

364 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.
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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.

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

May the God who hears your every prayer and welcomes your every knock, fill you with the Spirit of wisdom and grace. And as Christ taught us to pray, may you be bold in hope, patient in seeking, and steadfast in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN #488

Be thou my vision, O Lord

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
all else be nought to me, save that thou art —
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.*

*High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

*The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God
by Logan, Leslie, Tanner, Tucker, and Trinity Sheets,
in honor of Glenn & Suzy Sheets on their wedding anniversary.*

Welcome Jenny Beaumont to Grace Church!

Jenny Beaumont is a dear friend and professional resource to Grace Church. She is a cradle-born Episcopalian who has lived in the Diocese of North Carolina for most of her adult life. As a staff member of our Diocese, Jenny serves as a race and reconciliation leader and as a national trainer for Education on Ministry through University of the South.

A special part of her ministry is leading the Episcopal Preaching Foundation's pilot program: The Lay Preacher Training Initiative, together with The Rev. Canon Earnest Graham, another dear friend of this congregation. Grace Church is honored that The Initiative's workshops are often held in our Parish Hall.

Jenny was the lead author of *These Are Our Bodies: Talking Faith at Church and Home*, and co-author of *These Are Our Bodies: Talking Faith at Church and Home: Foundation Book*, all while coordinating a learning center for families and students. One of her passions is reimagining Christian formation in a 21st-century context.

Our Diocese benefits greatly by Jenny's experience and expertise in efforts, strategies, and approaches to adult learning and emphases for our mission priorities. She also works closely with the diocesan youth missionaries and other diocesan staff, the Chartered Commission for Lifelong Christian Formation, the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee, the Commission for the Diaconate, and the Diocesan Council's department for Christian formation. She also is a Deep Living Spiritual Life Coach, certified in the Enneagram, and is currently working towards a Masters in Religious Studies from UNC-Charlotte.

Jenny lives in Charlotte with her loving husband, Michael, and her three grown children. By way of fun, she loves to read and to have her hands in the dirt—weeding, planting and sowing seeds!

Grace Church is honored, once again, to welcome Jenny Beaumont as our Forum teacher and preacher today, with gratitude for all she does to help so many people in Gospel ministry!

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

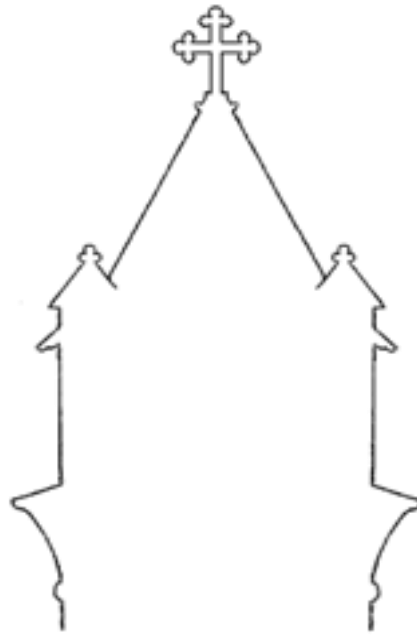
Lector:	Kristi Allred	Intercessor:	Judie Reed
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Staley Nance, Karl Bolstad	Greeter:	Frances Garner
Ushers:	Richie Wiederhold, Doug Hartzog	Acolyte:	Tucker Sheets

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 building next door) for refreshments and conversation. **Today our hosts are Nancy Mack and members of the Parish Life Commission.**

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

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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
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music Emerita

THE VESTRY

2026

Karl Bolstad
Bright Carter
Sally Dodd
Henry Duquette Junior Warden

2027

Dan Briggs
Elizabeth Purdy
Mary Matthews Clerk of Vestry
Leslie Sheets Senior Warden

2028

Kristi Allred
Lynn Meeks Treasurer
Neil Shepherd
Chuck Taylor

Vestry Person of the Month for July is Sally Dodd.