



# Grace Episcopal Church

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

10:30 a.m.

BCP PRELUDE

*How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou* – M. Dupré

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #533 (In the Blue Hymnal)

*How wondrous and great thy works*

1 How won - drous and great thy works, God of praise!  
 2 To na - tions of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!  
 their wor - ship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O who shall not fear thee, and hon - or thy Name?  
 thy truth and thy judg - ments shall spread all a - broad,

Thou on - ly art ho - ly, thou on - ly su - preme.  
 till earth's ev - ery peo - ple con - fess thee their God.

## 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** (In the front section of the Hymnal - Sung by all)



1. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

**PSALM 33:12-22** (*responsively by whole verse*)

<sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!  
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

<sup>13</sup> **The Lord looks down from heaven,  
and beholds all the people in the world.**

<sup>14</sup> From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze  
on all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup> **He fashions all the hearts of them  
and understands all their works.**

<sup>16</sup> There is no king that can be saved by a mighty  
army;  
a strong man is not delivered by his great  
strength.

<sup>17</sup> **The horse is a vain hope for deliverance;  
for all its strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup> Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those  
who fear him,  
on those who wait upon his love,

<sup>19</sup> **To pluck their lives from death,  
and to feed them in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the Lord;  
he is our help and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> **Indeed, our heart rejoices in him,  
for in his holy Name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup> **Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be  
upon us, as we have put our trust in you.**

## THE EPISTLE

*Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16*

*Lector* A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #68 (vv. 1-2) *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

*Rejoice! rejoice, believers*



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #68 (v. 3) *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

*Rejoice! rejoice, believers*

THE HOMILY

Jenny Beaumont, Missioner for Formation  
Diocese of North Carolina

### 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.

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:

**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, **Cathy** Farley, **Jenny** Gallen, **Shana** Garland, **Angie** Gowen, **Jane** Grimes, **Jim** Hackney, **Jimmy** Hall, **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, **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

#### OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

*How Firm a Foundation* – arr. R. Hobby

#### PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*-Lasst uns erfreuen*

*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! Alleluia!*

*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 by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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 #S130** (*In the front section of the Blue Hymnal - Sung by All*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are  
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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.**

#### 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*

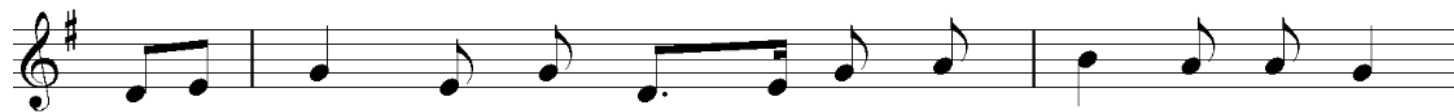
**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

May you go forth with hearts untroubled, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. May Christ find you ready, alert, and full of light, your lives shining with generosity, faith, and hope. And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
 2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
 4 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People* Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

*When in Our Music God is Glorified* - arr. R. Hobby

*The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God  
 by the Ewbank Family  
 in loving memory of our parents, Ralph & Anita,  
 and sister Rebecca Ewbank.*

## WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

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**Lector:** Tere Wagner  
**Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Matthews, Pam Harvey  
**Ushers:** Tommy Black, Bill Gilleland

**Intercessor:** Elizabeth Purdy  
**Greeter:** Sandra Husted  
**Acolyte:** Fisher Welborn

**Guest Organist:** Edwin Walker

### 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 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 Tinchler, 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 August is Leslie Sheets.