



# Grace Episcopal Church

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Spirit of Faith, Come Down* – D. Burton

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #450 (VV. 1-3, 6) *(In the Blue Hymnal)* *All hail the power of Jesus' Name!*



1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros - trate  
2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar  
3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did  
6 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial



1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and  
2 call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and  
3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and  
6 ball, to him all maj - e - sty a - scribe, and



1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al  
2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of  
3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,  
6 crown him Lord of all! to him a -



1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!  
2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!  
3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!  
6 scribe, and crown him Lord of all!

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** (*Sung by all*)

*Organ* *Unison Voices*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King,  
 al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

*slower*

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:  
 have mer - cy up - on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand  
*a tempo*  
 of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone  
 are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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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, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

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

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

**PSALM 68:1-10, 33-36** (*Responsively by whole verse*)

<sup>1</sup> Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate him flee before him.

<sup>2</sup> **Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;  
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup> But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup> **Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;  
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;  
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!**

<sup>5</sup> Father of orphans, defender of widows,  
God in his holy habitation!

<sup>6</sup> **God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in dry places.**

<sup>7</sup> O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup> **The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup> You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;  
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

<sup>10</sup> **Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>33</sup> Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>34</sup> **He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;  
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.**

<sup>35</sup> Ascribe power to God;  
his majesty is over Israel;  
his strength is in the skies.

<sup>36</sup> **How wonderful is God in his holy places!  
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!  
Blessed be God!**

THE EPISTLE

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Lector A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

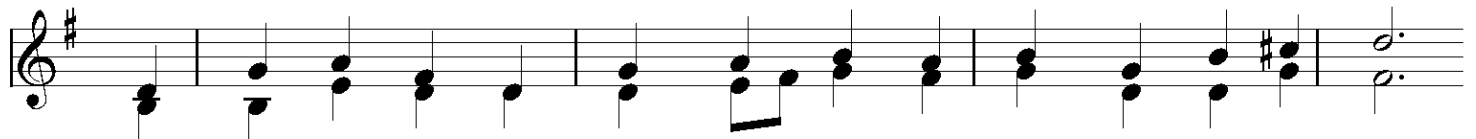
Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #483 (vv. 1-3)

(In the Blue Hymnal)

The head that once was crowned



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;  
2 The high - est place that heaven af - fords is his, is his by right,  
3 the joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low,  
6 The cross he bore is life and health, though shame and death to him:



1 a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.  
2 the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's e - ter - nal Light;  
3 to whom he man - i - fests his love and grants his name to know.  
6 his peo - ple's hope, his peo - ple's wealth, their e - ver - last - ing theme.

THE GOSPEL

John 17:1-11

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #483 (v. 6)    *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

*The head that once was crowned*

THE SERMON

The Reverend Stephen Becker

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.

388 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;

*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 Stephen 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.

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Cameron** Klass, **Julia** Klass, **Josey** Parker, **Brianna**  
Cantrall, and **Barry** Shapiro,

and those with special needs:

**Ed** Kelaher, **Chris** Davila, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Pat** Tarlton, **Lou** Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Ella** Asebes, **Bob** Beard,  
**Louise** Billings, **Tom** Blalock, **Sissy** Bolstad, **Alice** Brandon, **Lynne** Broch, **Jack** Buckheit, **Gayle** Burke,  
**Seraphina** Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Jim** Clodfelter, **Bob** Cook, **Linda** Cox, **Wesley** Crump, **Dylan** Daw,  
**Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Cathy** Farley, **Charlotte** Froehlich, **Shana** Garland, **Lilly** Griffin, **Jimmy**  
Hall, **George** Hanna, **Jennifer & Michael** Hinton, **Chris** Hodges, **Bob** Holcomb, **Marlene** Jones, **Ray**  
Kent, **Lisa** Lightfoot, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Kate** McKenzie, **Arnold** Miller, **Sherry** Moore,  
**Angela** Mott, **Walker** Peoples, **Gabby** Plott, **Ellen** Rickert, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Betty Jo** Sadler, **Jacob** Salazaar,  
**Lucas** Sanabria, **Lynn** Santolla, **Suzy** Sheets, **Lisa** Shepherd, **Carol** Sills, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Robin** Sink,  
**Clyde** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Sean** Sullivan, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Perry** Grimes Van  
Dyke, **Sandy** Wallace, **Barry** Wardle, **Flynn** 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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Lone, Wild Bird* – Traditional, arr J. Nelson  
Laurie Briggs, Flute

**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! 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*)

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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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!

364 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 #603

*When Christ was lifted from the earth*



1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his  
 2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and  
 3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -  
 4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may



arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,  
 al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us  
 vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels  
 I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -



ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.  
 as his friends and loves us as we are.  
 but a face, a per - son, and a name.  
 cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

# THE BLESSING

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

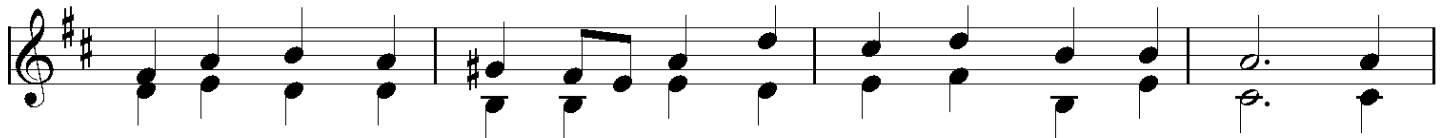
As Christ has prayed for you, that you may be protected, united, and filled with his glory, go now in peace to live that prayer in the world. And the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN #494

*Crown him with many crowns*



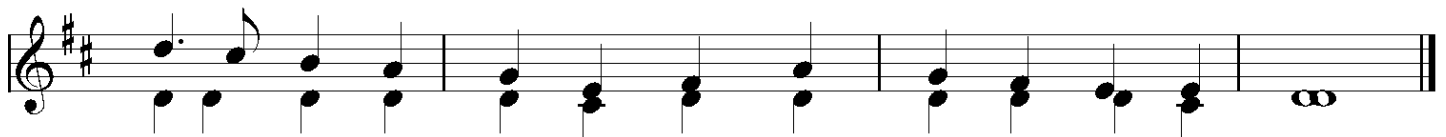
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!  
2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and  
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and  
4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who  
5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown



1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -  
2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who  
3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his  
4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now  
5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown



1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and  
3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who  
4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing  
5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, n



1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.  
3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.  
5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

## THE DISMISSAL

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

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

## POSTLUDE

*Praise the Lord His Glories Show* – arr. D. Janzer

### WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

<b>Lector:</b>	Karl Bolstad
<b>Intercessor:</b>	Elizabeth Purdy
<b>Lay Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Louie Cox, Tommy Black
<b>Ushers:</b>	Richard Wolfe, Joe Wallace
<b>Greeter:</b>	Frances Garner
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Hadley Briggs, Analise Petruzzi

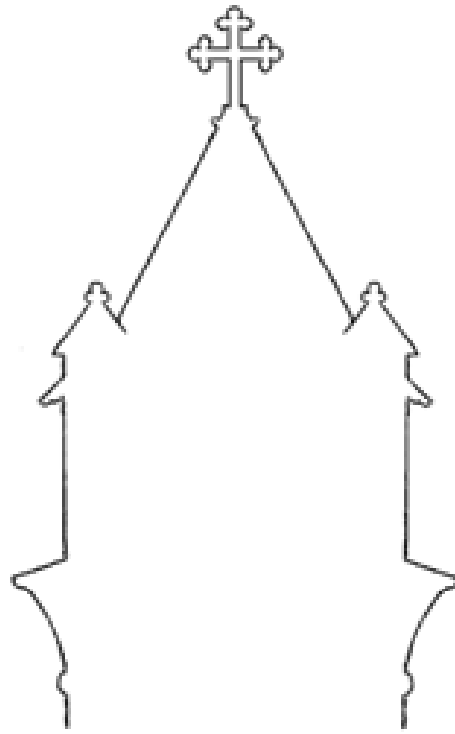
### WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

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 Donna Wiederhold.**

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 Stephen Becker, Interim 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

2027

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

2028

Kristi Allred  
Lynn Meeks Treasurer  
Neil Shepherd  
Chuck Taylor

2029

Kristie Miller  
Marjorie Parker Senior Warden  
Cathy Riggan  
Mary-Cameron Welborn

Vestry Person of the Month for May is Chuck Taylor.