



Grace Episcopal Church

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

10:30 a.m.

BCP PRELUDE

Air from *The Water Music* - G. F. Handel

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Take my life and let it be

1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed,
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly,
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would
 5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no
 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its

Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days; let them
 of thy love. Take my feet and let them be swift and
 for my King. Take my lips and let them be filled with
 I with - hold. Take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery
 long - er mine. Take my heart— it is thine own; it shall
 trea - sure store. Take my - self, and I will be ev - er,

flow in end - less praise, let them flow in end - less praise.
 beau - ti - ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 mes - sag - es from thee, filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 power as thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.
 be thy roy - al throne, it shall be thy roy - al throne.
 on - ly, all for thee, ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

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 *(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.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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

Isaiah 51:1-6

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

PSALM 26:1-8 (*responsively by whole verse*)

¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have
lived with integrity; I have trusted in the Lord
and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence,
O Lord,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #675 (vv. 1-4)

Take up your cross



1	Take	up	your	cross,	the	Sa - vior	said,	if
2	Take	up	your	cross,	let	not	its	weight
3	Take	up	your	cross,	heed	not	the	shame,
4	Take	up	your	cross,	then,	in	his	strength,
5	Take	up	your	cross,	and	fol - low	Christ,	nor



1	you	would	my	dis -	ci - ple	be;	take	up	your	cross	with
2	your	weak	spi -	rit	with	a -	larm;	his	strength	shall	bear
3	let	your	fool -	ish	heart	be	still;	the	Lord	for	you
4	calm -	ly	ev -	ery	dan -	ger	brave:	it	guides	you	to
5	think	till	death	to	lay	it	down;	for	on -	ly	those



1	will -	ing	heart,	and	hum -	bly	fol -	low	af -	ter	me.
2	spi -	rit	up,	and	brace	your	heart,	and	nerve	your	arm.
3	cept -	ed	death	up -	on	a	cross,	on	Cal -	vary's	hill.
4	bun -	dant	life	and	leads	to	vic -	tory	o'er	the	grave.
5	bear	the	cross	may	hope	to	wear	the	glo -	rious	crown.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #675 (v. 5)

Take up your cross

THE HOMILY

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.

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 **Julia** Klass, **Josey** Parker, **Brianna** Cantrall, and **Barry** Shapiro,

and those with special needs:

Jennifer Cashion, **Donna** Wiederhold, **Peggy** Klass, **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, **Bob** Cook, **Linda** Cox, **Wesley** Crump, **Chris** Davila, **Dylan** Daw, **Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Phyllis** Finger, **Shana** Garland, **Lilly** Griffin, **Jimmy** Hall, **George** Hanna, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris** Hodges, **Bob** Holcomb, **Marlene** Jones, **Ed** Kelaher, **Ray** Kent, **Beattie** Logan, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Arnold** Miller, **Sherry** Moore, **Walker** Peoples, **Gabby** Plott, **Cheryl** Reed, **Shirley** Remsburg, **Ellen** Rickert, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Betty Jo** Sadler, **Jacob** Salazaar, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Lynn** Santolla, **Suzy** Sheets, **Carol** Sills, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Clyde** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Sean** Sullivan, **Pat** Tarlton, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Flynn** Williams, **Paul** Wylie, and **Charlotte** Young.

“Are there others?”

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

Celebrant

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, 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

Passacaglia in A Minor - G. F. Handel

Aiden Bowers, Piano

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS HYMN 178 (v. 4)

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his Name.

Repeat Refrain

4. Come, let us praise the liv - ing God, joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

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.

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*)

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,

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.



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa - tience the race, we



star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The



night and the day are both a - like. The



Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Celebrant and People

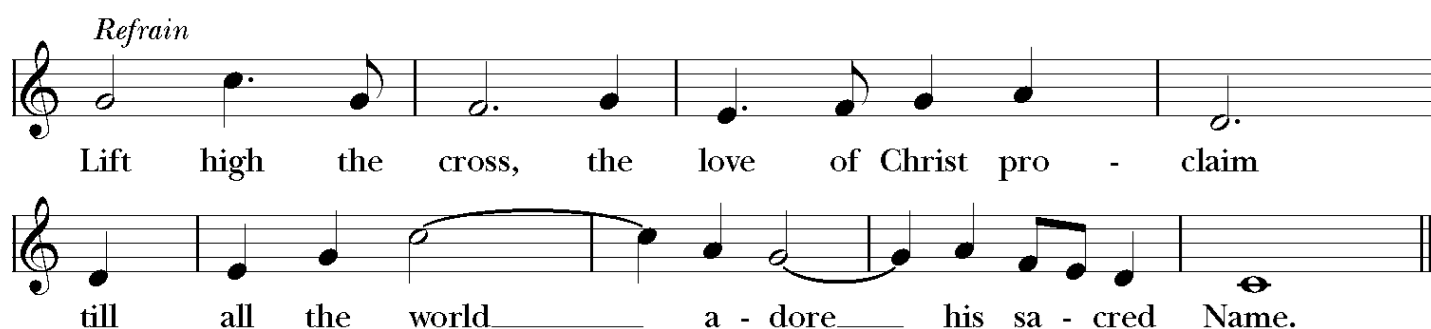
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness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

THE BLESSING

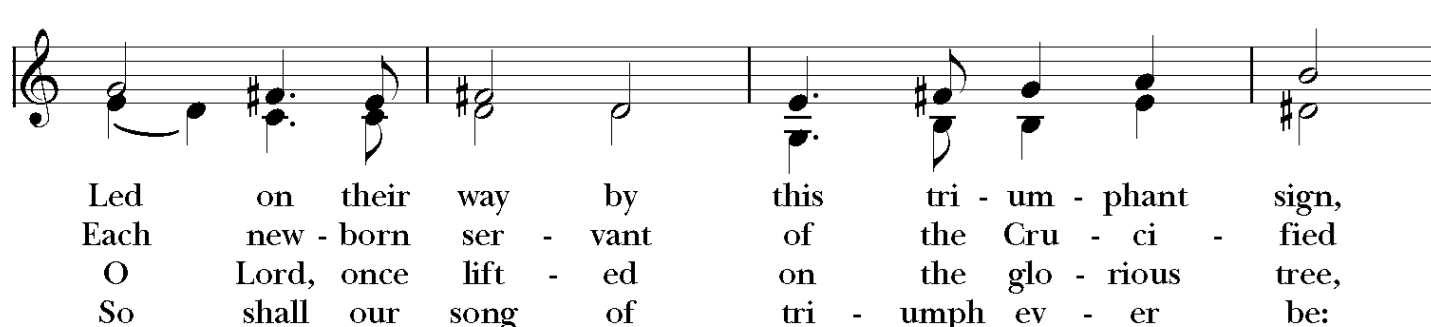
Go forth in the way of Christ, taking up your cross with courage, following him with faithful hearts, and trusting that in giving ourselves to God, we find true life. And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMN #473*Lift high the cross*

Refrain

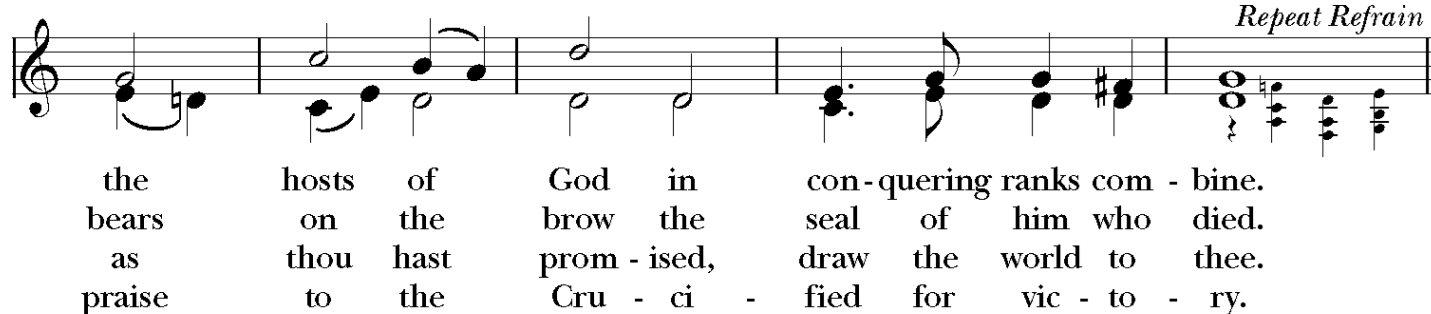


Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim
till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDEHornpipe from *The Water Music* - G. F. Handel

*The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God
in honor of Kristie Miller, Maureen Tinch, John Taylor,
Bill Herndon, The Reverend Canon Jeff Jackson,
and the Parish Life Commission.*

*The Mack Family truly appreciates your kindness
and care during such a difficult time.*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector:	Lynn Meeks	Intercessor:	Marjorie Parker
LEMs:	Staley Nance, Karl Bolstad	Greeter:	Frances Garner
Ushers:	Wes Allred, Chandler Allred	Acolyte:	Anderson 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.

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 Stephen Becker, Interim Rector

Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director

Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator

Kristi Allred, Media Specialist

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

David Inabinett

2029

Kristie Miller

Marjorie Parker Senior Warden

Cathy Riggan

Mary-Cameron Welborn

Vestry Person of the Month for August is Cathy Riggan.