



Grace Episcopal Church

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

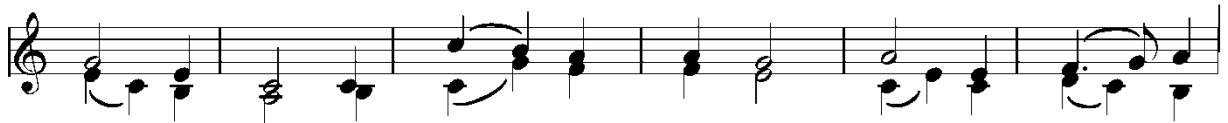
10:30 a.m.

BCP PRELUDE

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #379 *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

God is Love, let heaven adore him



1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
 2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
 3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all



earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness



and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu-man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall



da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri-umph gain; God is Love, so



all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

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 (*Collect for Rogation Days: Commerce and Industry*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lector A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.

“Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

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

PSALM 90:1-4, 14-17 (*responsively by whole verse*)

¹ Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

² **Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

³ You turn us back to the dust and say,
“Go back, O child of earth.”

⁴ **For a thousand years in your sight are like
yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.**

¹⁴ Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the
morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all
the days of our life.

¹⁵ **Make us glad by the measure of the days
that you afflicted us and the years in which
we suffered adversity.**

¹⁶ Show your servants your works
and your splendor to their children.

¹⁷ **May the graciousness of the LORD our
God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.**

THE EPISTLE

Romans 13:8-14

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

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #674 (vv. 1-3)

Forgive our sins as we forgive



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give" you
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and

taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men
 bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to

grant us grace to live the words we say.
 will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owe to us, how great our debt to you.
 God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

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

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

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.

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

and those with special needs:

Lou Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Ella** Asebes, **Bob** Beard, **Louise** Billings, **Tom** Blalock, **Sissy** Bolstad, **Alice** Brandon, **Lynne** Broch, **Jack** Buckheit, **Gayle** Burke, **Seraphina** Byers, **Jennifer** Cashion, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Bob** Cook, **Linda** Cox, **Wesley** Crump, **Chris** Davila, **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, **Peggy** Klass, **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, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Lynn** Santolla, **Suzy** Sheets, **Carol** Sills, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Clyde** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Sean** Sullivan, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Donna** Wiederhold, **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

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.**

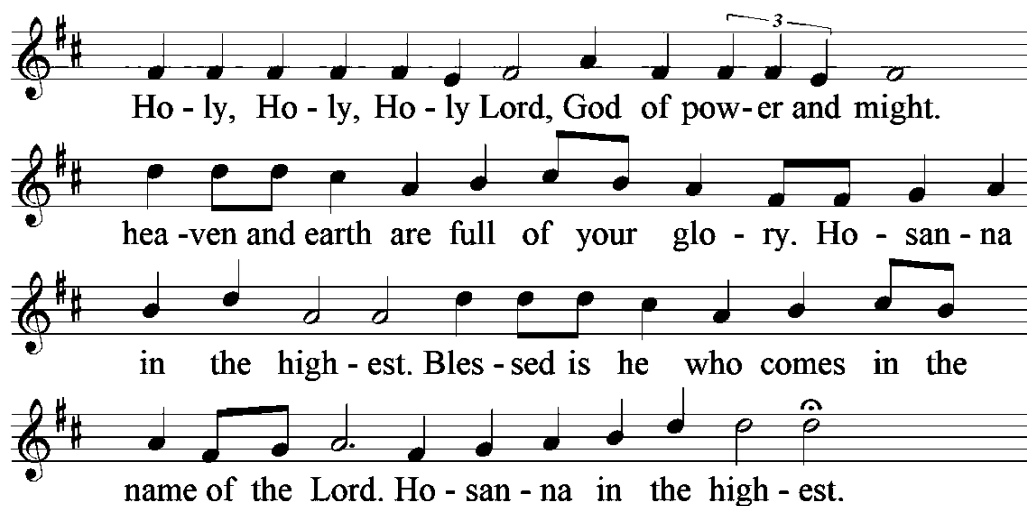
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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.

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

<i>Celebrant</i>	Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
<i>People</i>	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.

COMMUNION HYMN #593 *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

Lord, make us servants of your peace



- 1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
- 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
- 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
- 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
- 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



- 1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
- 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
- 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
- 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
- 5 night to end-less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



- 1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
- 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
- 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
- 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
- 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

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 calls us to live and work together in love give you grace to seek reconciliation, strength to serve faithfully, and joy in the work set before you. May Christ, who promises to be present wherever two or three are gathered in his Name, be with you always. 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

Sing praise to the Lord



1 Sing praise to the LORD; come, sing a new song.
2 With tim - brel and harp and joy - ful ac - claim,
3 In glo - ry ex - ult, you saints of the LORD;
4 For this is God's word: his saints shall not fail,



A - mid all his saints his praise - ses pro - long.
with danc - ing and song give praise to his name.
with songs in the night high prais - es ac - cord.
but o - ver the earth their power shall pre - vail.



Let Is - rael be glad in their Ma - ker and sing;
For God in his peo - ple his plea - sure will seek,
Go forth in his ser - vice, be strong in his might
All king - doms and na - tions shall yield to their sword—



let all Zi - on's peo - ple re - jice in their King.
with robes of sal - va - tion a - dorn - ing the meek.
to con - quer all e - vil and stand for the right.
thus God shows his glo - ry. Sing praise to the LORD!

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 Sandy Reynolds
in loving memory of Walter A. "Terry" Reynolds.*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

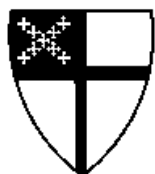
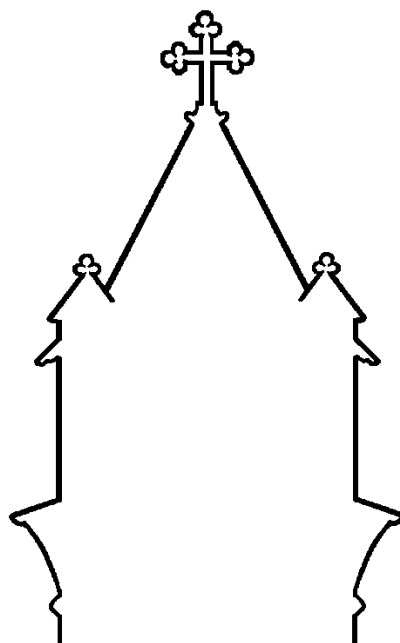
Lector:	Sally Dodd	Greeter:	Penny Taylor
LEMs:	Louie Cox, Miles Cleckley	Acolytes:	Anderson Carter
Ushers:	Richard Wolfe, Tommy Black		Chandler Allred
Intercessor:	Roberta Spencer		Tanner Sheets

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.

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

Maureen Tinch, 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 September is Kristi Allred.