



Grace  
Episcopal Church

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *Sarabande on "Land of Rest"*

Gerald Near

*At the tolling of the tower bell, the congregation is asked to stand.*

**THE ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**OPENING HYMN:** *O Praise Ye the Lord*

432

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*Celebrant*

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.**

## Song of Praise

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; all you peo - ples,

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; all you peo - ples,". A fermata is placed over the first measure of the vocal line.

praise pro - claim. For God's grace and lov - ing kind - ness O sing

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "praise pro - claim. For God's grace and lov - ing kind - ness O sing".

prais - es to his name. For the great - ness of his mer - cy

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "prais - es to his name. For the great - ness of his mer - cy". A fermata is placed over the first measure of the vocal line.

con - stant praise to him ac - cord. For his faith - ful -

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "con - stant praise to him ac - cord. For his faith - ful -".

ness e - ter - nal, hal - le - lu - jah, praise the LORD!

The fifth system concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "ness e - ter - nal, hal - le - lu - jah, praise the LORD!". The system ends with a double bar line.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

*Reader*        Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 148** (*Spoken in unison*)

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*  
and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; \*  
for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the LORD from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants, \*

the children of Israel, a people who are near him.

Hallelujah!

### **The New Testament: Revelation 21:1-6**

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them as their God;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN:** *Come My Way, My Truth, My Life*

487

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

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

### **THE GOSPEL: John 13:31-35**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

## THE HOMILY

The Reverend Tim McRee

## THE NICENE CREED *(standing)*

**BCP 358**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: An Easter Form

*Leader*        The Prayers of the People for The Great 50 Days of Easter is a form written for this special season. During the prayers, the congregation's response to: "Risen Lord" is: "Hear our Prayer."

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered his people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray,

*Lector*        Risen Lord,  
*People*        **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector*        Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings God showers upon us:  
For our lives and for those whom we love,  
For the beauty of this home God has created for us,  
For our families and our friendships,  
Let us give thanks to the God of Life.

*Lector*        Risen Lord,  
*People*        **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector*        Let us pray for our clergy and our bishops: we pray for Sean (our presiding Bishop); José (our Bishop); the clergy, vestry, staff, ministries, and people of this parish; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, Camp Henry and all the children and youth in the diocese.

*Lector*        Risen Lord,  
*People*        **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for the newly baptized, especially Ginny, Gary, Nic, Angus, and Andrew, that the joy of Easter may ever grow within them, and that the Spirit may guide them in lives of active faith.

*Lector* Risen Lord,  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may decline, and that justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up.

*Lector* Risen Lord,  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, and those who struggle, especially Tim Collins; Suana Gentry; Ashley Israel; Anne Jarema; Dodie & John King; Geoff Kirsch; Bob Kistler; Bill Mooney; Wayne & Laura Parton; Guy Sayles; Al Seale; Becky & Bill Smith; Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder, Lorie Tola, and Tom Wolff. Are there others? ... Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or Spirit, that the hope born of Easter gives them peace, acceptance and renewal, and that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores.

*Lector* Risen Lord  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* We commend to your mercy all who have died, and especially Barbara McRee, The Reverend Canon Richard Rowe, Rennie Waxlax and Juliana Cooper-Goldenberg; and for the following, on the anniversaries of their deaths: Lois Saulnier, Margaret Evans, Charlie Brewer, Suzi Veteto, Walter E. MacDonald, Harold Bennett. We pray that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Lector* Risen Lord  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## **THE CONFESSION OF SIN**

**BCP 360**

## **THE PEACE**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Anthem:** *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

J.S.Bach

### DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A**

**BCP 361**

### SANCTUS

James P. Cassarino



Ho - ly, — Ho - ly, — Ho - ly Lord, God of — pow'ᵣ and might, Hea - ven and  
earth are full — of your glo - ry: 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.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*Traditional*)

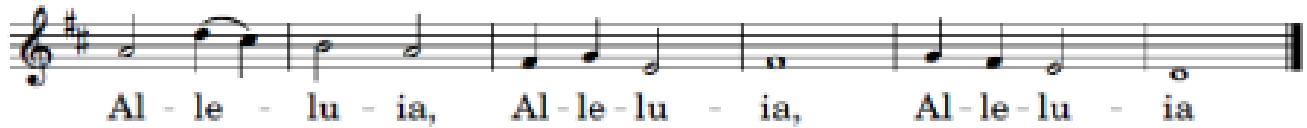
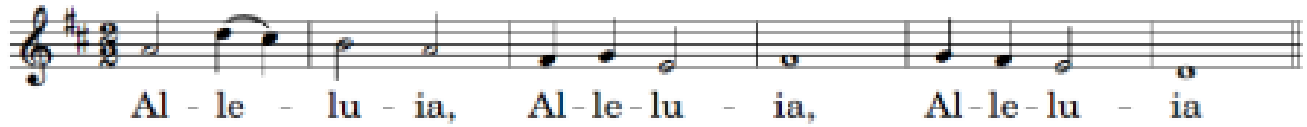
**BCP 364**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**



FRACTION ANTHEM

Cassarino



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: *I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord*

304

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

THE BLESSING

## CLOSING HYMN: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,



The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.



The Sup-per is end-ed, O now be ex-tend-ed  
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,



His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us  
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing



The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.  
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.



To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.  
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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## DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE: *Let All Things Their Creator Bless*

Alfred Fedak



The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Kim & Rick Hayes  
in thanksgiving for the Grace Church family.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Flower Guild  
in memory of Barbara McRee, mother of Father Tim McRee.

## LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Sally Withers Lectors: Kristen Dusenbery, Cole Woodcox  
Intercessor: Kim Hayes Chalicerist: Cole Woodcox  
Ushers: Todd and Katherine Kaderabek Greeters: Kim Hayes  
Vestry Member of the Day: Monty Wooten

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### June 8 Ministry Fair

A Ministry Fair will be central to this year's Pentecost celebration on Sunday, June 8, so please plan on coming to church a little early prior to worship and/or staying a little late after worship to learn more about the many ministry opportunities at Grace. Explore ways to get involved, meet new friends, learn new skills. Each of our ministries needs people.

**On Pentecost Sunday, June 8, come see what calls to you.**

*Ministry leaders – please consider the information you would like to share with the parish during the Fair, i.e. a blurb about what you do, a sign-up sheet, photos, etc. If you need guidance, contact Shannon Townsend at [gstownsend@att.net](mailto:gstownsend@att.net), or Lorie Tola at [lorie.tola@gmail.com](mailto:lorie.tola@gmail.com).*

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

We offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our children *Sundays between 9:00 and 10:15 a.m.*, (through June 8), and at an additional *Monday afternoon class offered from 3:30-4:30 p.m.* Children may attend either one or both at any time. Contact Shannon Townsend for a tour, or further information at [gstownsend@att.net](mailto:gstownsend@att.net) or 828-713-5081.

### **Adult Formation Class: *Loving the Questions***

Join us at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall, to explore the Nicene Creed with Fr. Tim, using the book, *Loving the Questions*, by Marianne H. Micks. The book is available for \$11.00 in the Parish Hall. If you need financial assistance, just call the office and let us know. All are welcome.

### **Final Two Weeks to Donate Food to Jones Elementary**

There's still time, this Sunday and next, to bring in your canned fruits and vegetables for our **End of School Year Food Drive**. As school ends and free school meals are no longer available, this will fill a critical need for food insecure children and their families in our community. Email [sdkbeasley@gmail.com](mailto:sdkbeasley@gmail.com) with questions.

### **ECW Partial Scholarships for Camp Henry**

Is your child interested in attending Camp Henry this summer? ECW would like to help by offering partial scholarships of \$235 for children of Grace attending a camp session. For details about Camp Henry, please visit [www.lakelogan.org](http://www.lakelogan.org) and scroll down to "Camp Henry" where session descriptions, registration, dates, and rates are provided. Please contact Cheryl Aull at [ckaul@charter.net](mailto:ckaul@charter.net) for more details about the scholarship.

### **Donation Information for the ECW Rummage Sale coming this Fall**

ECW will be holding a rummage sale on **Saturday, November 8, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon**. We are grateful for your donations which make our sale possible. Since we no longer have access to the storage house, we can only accept donations in the parish hall during the week prior to the sale. Times for donating items will be provided closer to the sale. **Are you doing some spring cleaning?** Remember to hold items you think could be sold at our sale! Look for a flyer with items to be donated in the church foyer.

### **Tai Chi for Health**

The 8-week summer series of Tai Chi for Health meets on Wednesdays from June 25 to August 13 in the Parish Hall. Beginner classes are from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Intermediate classes are from 2:15 to 3:00 p.m., and Advanced classes are from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. **This summer, Grace parishioners who wear their Grace-issued Name Tags when attending their first class receive a 50% discount on their first series of classes.** For more information, or to register for classes online, please check the website for WNC Tai Chi for Health: [wnctaichiarthritis.com](http://wnctaichiarthritis.com).

### **Tech Director Needed**

The Tech Director handles weekly service livestreams, including: operation of remote camera, maintaining knowledge of all hardware and software associated with livestreams, regular updating of introduction slides with church announcements, completion of regular "hygiene" on all devices used to stream or record. If you or someone you know is interested in this paid position, call the office, 828-254-2086, for details.

### **Request for Office Volunteers**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-4:00 p.m.* Please continue to support this ministry of Grace hospitality by signing up and encouraging your friends to do the same. Contact Kim Hayes at [kimhys53@gmail.com](mailto:kimhys53@gmail.com) for more details.

### **Coffee Hour Help Needed**

You're depending on others to take care of this important ministry. Are they depending on you? Please consider sharing your gifts with us as a Coffee Hour Host. For more information, contact Beth Hill at [ehill3600@gmail.com](mailto:ehill3600@gmail.com) or 828-550-4352.

### **The Pastoral Care Team at Grace**

Reach out to us with any pastoral care needs you, or your family, may have, by emailing the team at [FrJohn@graceavl.com](mailto:FrJohn@graceavl.com). You can also email, text or call Fr. John Rice at 828-371-7281.

### **Grace Members: Have You Checked Out Our Directory?**

An online directory is available to all our members (contact Lorie Tola for details, [lorie.tola@gmail.com](mailto:lorie.tola@gmail.com)). If you would like to become a member of Grace, please contact Rev. John Rice at [FrJohn@graceavl.com](mailto:FrJohn@graceavl.com).

## WEEKLY GATHERINGS

### **Monday Morning Bible Study:** *Mondays at 10:30 a.m.*

Guided by Fr. Tim, we study the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday service. Please join us virtually by clicking on the button at [graceavl.com](http://graceavl.com).

### **Taizé:** *Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.*

Weekly Taizé services are held in the sanctuary. Healing prayer is offered throughout the service for oneself or on behalf of someone else. For more information on Taizé at Grace visit: [graceavl.com/taize-grace](http://graceavl.com/taize-grace).

### **Women Walking the Way:** *Thursdays at 8:20 a.m.*

Meet at the Bird Sanctuary parking lot by Beaver Lake. For more information, contact Ann Lewis at [annaflewis7@gmail.com](mailto:annaflewis7@gmail.com) or call her at 815-441-2282.

## GRACE'S PRAYER LIST

*For Parishioners:* **Tim Collins; Suana Gentry; Ashley Israel; Anne Jarema; Geoff Kirsch; Dodie & John King; Bob Kistler; Bill Mooney; Wayne & Laura Parton; Guy Sayles; Al Seale; Becky & Bill Smith; Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder; Lorie Tola; Tom Wolff.**

*For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities:* **Ed Denison; Nancy Sink; Rita Spragg.**

*For Others: (Names will remain on the list for six weeks unless we hear otherwise.)*

**Geraldine Allen** (aunt of Carole McClellan); **Allen** (brother of Cheryl Aull); **Bob Brennan** (relative of Anne Jarema); **Christa Bridgman** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Gabriel & Lara Brongel & family** (grandson and daughter of Jackie Schauer); **Marcie Coleman** (friend of Lynda McCredie); **Winnie Gaffney** (cousin of Lorie Tola); **Cherry Howe** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Tom Hunnicutt** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Nancy Hutchins** (friend of Eleanor Jameson); **Kathleen** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Bunky Manship** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Chuck McDonald** (brother of Susan Robinson); **Daniel McRee** (son of Fr. Timothy McRee) and **David** (partner of Daniel McRee); **Megan** (friend of George & Pat Davis); **Peggy, Mac, & Chris** (friends of Lucy & Larry Bowen); **Barney Noble** (son of Joyce & Walt Noble); **Diana Noble** (daughter of Walt and Joyce Nobel); **Kathleen Peacock** (friend of Pat & George Davis); **Meredith Peppers** (cousin of Carole McClellan); **Kip & Val Pritchard** (friends of Cliff); **Peter John Rouse, Sr.** (grandfather of Mike Vines); **Anne Spruance; Wiley Thornton** (cousin of Carol McClellan); **Tomlinson Family; Wayne Wheeler & Family** (friends of Bea & Jeff Russell).

*For the recently deceased:* **Barbara McRee, Rennie Waxlax, the Reverend Canon Richard Rowe, Juliana Cooper-Goldenberg.**

*For those celebrating birthdays:* **Shannon Wall, Tahani Sticpewich, Monty Wooten, Lorie Tola, Judy Rhodes and Nancy Walters.**

*For Those in Service to Our Country:* **Tommy Brown** (grandson of Ed & Marla Woeckener); **Matt & Martha Cardenas** (daughter and son in law of Hannah Buckner); **Matthew George** (son of Zoe Davis); **Jason Marino** (son of Lynda McCredie); **Brady Paschall** (granddaughter of Gael Paschall); **Sarah Jane Wilkey** (daughter of Diane & Tony Wilkey).

*For Those in the Episcopal Church: Sean* (our presiding Bishop); *José* (our Bishop); **the clergy, vestry, staff, ministries, and people of this parish;** in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, **The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East;** and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, **Camp Henry and all the children and youth of the Diocese.**

*For our Nation and the Wider World:* For the President and his Cabinet; for Congress; and for our country; for victims of violence around the world; for local agencies and those who work for relief of the poor; for stewardship of the environment; for resolution of crises throughout our world.

**Grace Episcopal Church**

871 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804

828-254-1086

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

[office@graceavl.com](mailto:office@graceavl.com)

The Right Reverend José McLoughlin, *Bishop*

The Reverend Timothy McRee, The Reverend John Rice, *Clergy*

James Cassarino, *Director of Music*

Cathy Adkins, *Organist*

Anne Spruance, *Office Administrator*

Katie Douglas, *Finance Manager*

Angel Stoudt, *Sexton*