



Grace Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Psalm 23*

Emma Lou Diemer

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: *Morning Has Broken*

8

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,
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
con - stant praise to him ac - cord. For his faith - ful -
ness e - ter - nal, hal - le - lu - jah, praise the LORD!

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with mostly quarter notes and some chords. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

PSALM 23 (*Spoken in unison*)

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The New Testament: Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!
Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

GOSPEL HYMN: *Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

708

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

THE GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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 Nippon Sei Ko Kai, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, Church of the Ascension, Hickory.

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. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or Spirit, that the hope born of Easter give 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 The Reverend Richard Rowe, Juliana Cooper-Goldenberg, Pope Francis; and for the following, on the anniversaries of their deaths: Joe Eblen, Charles D. Cunningham Sr., Frederich James Laube, Sue Ross, Bruce Brown, W.P. Carson, Robert Morgan, Zona Neilson, Howard Atkinson. 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: *Brother James' Air*

arr. Alan Bullard

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: *The King of Love*

645

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

verses 1-5 of 366

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: *Fanfare*

William Mathias



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 Paul and Vicki Vest in loving memory of their mothers, Angie Vest and Linda Lovin;
by Jeff and Bea Russell in honor of their mothers,
Marjorie Timmins Smolka and Irene Tilley Russell;
and by Bob and Bonnie Kistler in loving memory of their mothers, Eleanor Savin Kistler
and Rosemae Richards MacDougal.

LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Cole Woodcox Lectors: John Woodson, Elise Cassarino

Intercessor: Nancy Lewis Chalicerist: James Cannon

Ushers: Ron and Jeanne Sims

Greeters: Kim Hayes

Vestry Member of the Day: Kim Hayes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gospel PubSing this Sunday!

Join in, 3-5:00 p.m., at the Cork and Keg in downtown Asheville. As always on Mother's Day, we will be singing songs about mothers in the second half of our time. Hope to see you there. For details, contact Monty Wooten, montywooten@bellsouth.net.

A Flower Donor is needed for May 18

Please email the office, office@graceavl.com, if you are interested in giving flowers in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one.

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 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.

Men of the Church

Men of the Church will be meeting this Tuesday, May 13, 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

Grace Outreach is Sponsoring Two Tables

at Foundations of Hope, a fundraising gala to benefit Safe Shelter. The event is this Thursday, May 15, at the YMI Cultural Center, and a limited number of seats are still available on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to be our guest, please contact Tahani, tahaniweb@gmail.com. We would love to share this exciting event with you!

Food Needed for Jones Elementary!

We need the entire Grace Family to help with this one! Please bring in canned fruits and vegetables throughout the month of May to help support the **End of School Year Food Drive** for families in need at Jones Elementary School. Email 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. Scholarships are offered on a first come, first served basis until funds allocated are depleted. For details about Camp Henry, please visit www.lakelogan.org and scroll down to "Camp Henry" where session descriptions, registration, dates, and rates are provided. Please contact Cheryl Aull at ckauill@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.

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. This person also communicates with and advises Rector and Office Manager on Tech needs and collaborates with parishioners to make videos and slideshows for various church activities and services. 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 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 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. 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). If you would like to become a member of Grace, please contact Rev. John Rice at 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.

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.

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 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); **Barbara McRee** (mother of Fr. Tim McRee); **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: **The Reverend Richard Rowe, Juliana Cooper-Goldenberg, Pope Francis.**

For those celebrating birthdays: **Jennifer Witt, Ellie Silvers.**

For those celebrating anniversaries: **Andrew & Sarah Beasley, Chris & Rich Thompson.**

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 Church of Ireland**, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, **Church of the Good Shepherd, Cashier, Church of the Good Shepherd, Hayesville, and Church of the Good Shepherd, Tryon.**

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

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*