



## Grace Episcopal Church

The Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day

June 1, 2025

10:30 A.M. HOLY BAPTISM AND HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*  
(hymn tune: Tallis' Third Mode)

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.**

*Celebrant* There is one Body and one Spirit;  
*People* **There is one hope in God's call to us;**  
*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
*People* **One God and Father of all.**

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 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.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 16:16-34

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs,

what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

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

**PSALM 97** (*Spoken in unison*)

***Dominus regnavit***

- 1 The LORD is King;  
    let the earth rejoice; \*  
    let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, \*  
    righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him \*  
    and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; \*  
    the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, \*  
    at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, \*  
    and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images  
    and delight in false gods! \*  
    Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
    because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD,  
    most high over all the earth; \*  
    you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; \*  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, \*  
and give thanks to his holy Name.

### **The New Testament: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-14, 20-21**

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words:

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."  
And let everyone who hears say, "Come."  
And let everyone who is thirsty come.  
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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

### **GOSPEL HYMN:** *Lord of All Being, Throned Afar*

**419**

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

## **THE GOSPEL: John 17:20-26**

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

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

## **THE HOMILY**

The Reverend John Rice

## **HOLY BAPTISM**

### **PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES** **BCP 301**

Today we welcome the following individuals into God's Holy Communion through the Sacrament of Baptism: Jackson Vest and Samara Vest

### **THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT** **BCP 304**

### **PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES** **BCP 305**

### **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER** **BCP 306**

### **THE BAPTISM** **BCP 307**

### **THE ASPERGES OF THE PEOPLE**

## 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 Hymn: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

Horatius Bonar, 1846

KINGSFOLD C.M.D.  
Traditional English melody  
Arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold I free - ly give  
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's Light;

Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live."  
Look un - to Me, thy morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, wea - ry and worn and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in Him my Star, my Sun;

I found in Him a rest - ing place, and He has made me glad.  
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - lived, and now I live in Him.  
And in that light of light I'll walk, till trav'l - ing days are done.

## 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

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

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us,

There - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (*gluten free wafers available upon request*)

COMMUNION HYMN: *Come, Risen Lord, and Deign to be Our Guest* 306

POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: *Praise the Spirit in Creation* 506

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* Michael Burkhardt  
(hymn tune: Kingsfold)



The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Lorie Tola in loving memory of her brothers, John and Peter Tola.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Nancy Lewis in loving memory of her husband Ralph Lewis' birthday.

### LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Cheryl Deyton Lectors: Steve Birkhofer, Nancy Lewis  
Intercessor: Vicki West Chalicerist: Steve Birkhofer  
Ushers: Ron and Jeanne Sims Greeters: Diane Wilkey, Carole Lentz  
Streaming: Ben Scales  
Vestry Member of the Day: Leslie Schoof

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Reminder! Today, our open offering (cash, change and undesignated contributions put into the offering plate) will go into our clergy's discretionary fund, allowing them to respond quickly to emergency financial needs in our parish and community.**



#### June 8 Ministry Fair

A Ministry Fair will be central to this year's Pentecost celebration next 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.

*Be sure to wear red for Pentecost Sunday, June 8!*

## **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***

*There will be no adult formation classes on Sunday, June 8.*

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.

## **Donate Food to Jones Elementary through June 8**

There's still time 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.

## **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).

## **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.

**If you are the last person to leave the church building, before you set the alarm,** please make sure ceiling fans are turned off, windows are closed and outside doors are securely pulled shut and locked. Then, you can engage the alarm system to the "Armed Away" option and leave the building. If you have questions, contact Kim at [kimhys53@gmail.com](mailto:kimhys53@gmail.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; Bob Kistler; Bill Mooney; Wayne & Laura Parton; Guy Sayles; Al Seale; Becky & Bill Smith; Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder; 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); **Rachel & Judith Benjamin** (friends of Gary Coffey); **Bob Brennan** (relative of Anne Jarema); **Molly Breslin** (friend of Gary Coffey); **Christa Bridgman** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Gabriel & Lara Brongel & family** (grandson and daughter of Jackie Schauer); **Marcie Coleman** (friend of Lynda McCredie); **Deanna Glasner** (friend of Ginny Moser); **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); **Daniel McRee** (son of Fr. Timothy McRee) and **David** (partner of Daniel McRee); **Megan** (friend of George & Pat Davis); **Barney Noble** (son of Joyce & Walt Noble); **Diana Noble** (daughter of Walt & 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, The Reverend Canon Richard Rowe.**

*For those celebrating birthdays:* **Kendall Beasley, Miller Kaderabek, Steve Booth, Levi Godfrey, Howard Dusenbery.**

*For those celebrating anniversaries:* **Rob & Cheri Potter, Garrett and Darragh Greene.**

*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, in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for **The Anglican Church of Kenya**, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, **Trinity Church, Spruce Pine, and Trinity, Asheville.**

*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*