



Grace Episcopal Church

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Largo from Sonata VI*

Antonio Vivaldi

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

The Acclamation

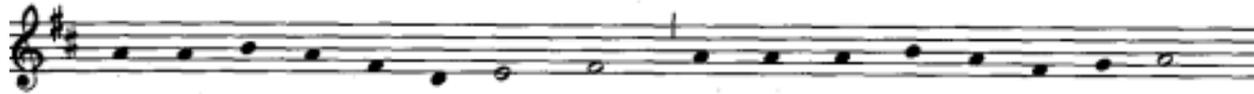
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: *The God of Abraham Praise*

401

Collect for Purity



1. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.



6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



7. You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Lesson: Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 33:12-22 (*Spoken antiphonally*)

12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

13 The LORD looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.

14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.

15 He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.

16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.

18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,

19 To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.

20 Our soul waits for the LORD; *
he is our help and our shield.

21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.

22 Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

The Epistle: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking

of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word*

440

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

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

The Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

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

The Homily

The Reverend Timothy McRee

The Nicene Creed (*standing*)

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People: Form II

BCP 385

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Lector

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops; for this gathering; for all ministers and people; and in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, La Capilla de Santa Maria, Hendersonville, St. Mary of the Hills, Blowing Rock, and St. Mary's, Asheville.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

Lector

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Lector

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. I ask for those who have requested our prayers and support today, especially: Joan & Allyn Aldrich, Suana Gentry, Anne Jarema, Todd Kaderabek, Nancy Lewis, Wayne & Laura Parton, Anne Plyler, Becky & Bill Smith, Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder, Alex Thwaites, Briar Thwaites & Sara Howard, Ed & Marla Woeckener, ...Are there others?

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

Lector

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

Lector

I ask your prayers for the recently departed, especially Janet Hutchings. Comfort those who mourn.

Silence

Lector

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays, especially Todd Kaderabek, Micki Newton, John Rigsby, Bryn Whitner, Karen Compton, Sally Bierhaus, and Villary LaRue, and for those celebrating anniversaries: The Reverend Gary & Astrid Coffey, Cynthia & Jeffrey Garland, Bea & Jeff Russell, and Laura & Roger Snyder.

Silence

Lector

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, especially June Peacock, Doris Rigsby, Norman Cullum, Florence Millard, Shannon Coward, George Macatee, and Henry Sinclair, on the anniversary of their deaths, and for those that still grieve them...Are there others? Pray that we may have the grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

A Prayer for Discernment

Celebrant (in unison)

Most gracious and loving God; we, the people and Vestry of Grace Church come before you as we enter this period of discernment which will culminate in the choosing and calling of our next priest and pastor. We pray that you would unite us in heart, mind and spirit as we engage this work together. We pray especially for our Vestry as they enter into conversations and discussions with the candidates whom you will send to us. Pour into them the Spirit's gifts of Wisdom and Discernment. May they be so guided by your will and your Grace that they will prayerfully choose the one that you have chosen to come among us as our Shepherd, priest and pastor. We ask these things in

the Holy Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

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 Musical Offering: *Ave Verum*

W.A. Mozart

Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

Sanctus

S-124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en 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.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Lord's Prayer (*Traditional*)

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

S-154



(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.)

Setting: From *New Plain-song*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Invitation to Communion

(gluten free wafers available upon request)

Communion Musical Offering: *Sarabande for Unaccompanied Cello* 516

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Sending Forth of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

When a Eucharistic Minister is to be sent forth, the following is said

Celebrant In the name of God and this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: *I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

408

Dismissal

Postlude: *Allegro in D Minor*

Michel Corrette



The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Don Hawkins
in loving memory of his wife Martie.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Carol & Steve Booth
in loving memory of Theresa Sabo.



LAY MINISTERS

Soloist: James Lestock, *cello*

Acolyte: Steve Birkhofer Lectors: Bonnie Kistler, Ben Dupree

Intercessor: Cliff Albertson Chalicerist: James Cannon

Presenter: Kelly Thompson, Kim Hayes

Ushers: Elaine & Nate Potter Greeters: Diane Wilkey, Jennifer Witt

Coffee Hour: Jane Jones Streaming: Ben Scales

Vestry Member of the Day: Kim Hayes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector Survey Update

Check your August 1 *Growing in Grace* newsletter for key take-aways from our recent parish survey.

Request from Grace's Pastoral Care Team

Please reach out to us with any pastoral care needs that you, or your family, may have, by emailing the team at FrJohn@graceavl.com. That way we have a written request that we can share with the team and the office, as needed.

Annual Back-to-School Supply Drive

Local foster children, ages K - College, could use our help. Can you donate a box of crayons, pencils and erasers, a calculator, paper, notebooks, backpacks? The deadline for donations is today. Check the church foyer for a flier listing needed items, or find it in the Growing in Grace Newsletter.

Attention Acolytes and Chalicists. If you are currently an acolyte or a chalicist – or if you're interested in becoming one – please plan to attend an important training session today, following worship. We'll have lunch in the library followed by the training session.

Men of the Church

The Men of the Church meets on the second Tuesday of the month for good food and great fellowship. Their next meeting is Tuesday, August 12, hosted by Randy and Eleanor Jameson, 8 North Dogwood Road, 28804. All men are welcome.



A BIG Welcome Back Celebration: Sunday, August 17

Don't miss this special Sunday – a blessing during worship for students, teachers and all who work with students in our schools (children – be sure to bring your backpacks), a blessing of our acolytes and chalicists, and a blessing and grand opening of our new playground – all followed by playtime (including a water slide!) and a picnic.

Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks provided. If you're able, please bring a side dish or dessert to share as well as a picnic blanket to sit on. And parents, be sure to bring swimsuits and towels for your children. **All are welcome!**

Gospel PubSing

The next Gospel PubSing happens next **Sunday afternoon, August 17**. We will meet at the **Cork & Keg** in Downtown Asheville. Come join us to lift your voice in song from **3:00-5:00 p.m.** For more information, contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net.

We're Taking an Entire Weekend to Celebrate our Newcomers!

If you began attending Grace within the past year, we want to celebrate you – on **Saturday, August 23 and Sunday, August 24**. Join other newcomers and vestry members at a potluck lunch at noon on Saturday. Bring your favorite dish to share. Then on Sunday, join us for worship, followed by cake and coffee in the parish hall.

A New Class: Tai Chi for Diabetes

Please note the schedule change!

Tai Chi for Health is offering **Tai Chi For Diabetes**, a new option on **Tuesday evenings, August 19-December 16, 5:00-5:45 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. The Tai Chi for Diabetes program is designed to gradually increase physical activity and reduce stress. It is a safe and accessible program for various levels of fitness and experience. The class is also open to anyone without diabetes who is looking to practice a Tai Chi for Health program. Get details and register online at <http://wnctaichiartthritis.com> or contact Anne Plyler for more information. Members of Grace who wear their Grace Name Tag may come at 1/2 price.

ECW Rummage Sale

The ECW's rummage sale is **Saturday, November 8, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon**. *Remember to hold onto suitable items until closer to the sale.* Look for the "suggested items to donate" flyer in the church foyer. Please contact Cheryl Aull at ckaul@charter.net, for more information.

Coffee Hour Help Always 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 Bea Russell at 828-775-4304 or bsrussell46@gmail.com.

2025 Asheville Episcopal House Build

Thank you for your support of the next Asheville Episcopal House, scheduled for construction starting in August. The Gomez-Flores family are the approved future homeowners of Episcopal House 16. Their four-bedroom home will be built in the New Heights neighborhood, located in West Asheville. If you haven't already signed up to volunteer, please contact George Bottiger, gbottiger70@gmail.com or 828-206-3796. George is our Habitat contact at Grace, so look for him during Coffee Hour, too. Thank you for supporting Habitat's efforts to build homes, communities, and hope. They can't do it without us!

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

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: **Joan & Allyn Aldrich, Suana Gentry, Anne Jarema, Todd Kaderabek, Nancy Lewis, Wayne & Laura Parton, Anne Plyler, Becky & Bill Smith, Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder, Alex Thwaites, Briar Thwaites & Sara Howard, Ed & Marla Woeckener.**

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

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); **Dixie Berg** (friend of Tyler Swanson), **Judah Benjamin** (friend of Gary Coffey); **Bob Brennan** (relative of Anne Jarema); **Molly Breslin** (friend of Gary Coffey); **Jim Brickey** (step-father of Mary Foster); **Christa Bridgman** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Gabriel & Lara Brongel & family** (grandson and daughter of Jackie Schauer); **Marcie Coleman** (friend of Lynda McCredie); **Jill Franklin** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Deanna Glasner** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Tom Hunnicutt** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Nancy Hutchens** (friend of Eleanor Jameson); **Kathleen** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Sally Mackay** (mother of Lesley Heiser); **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); **Judy Wells Mayhan** (friend of Rusty Herman); **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); **Keven Randall** (friend of Ron & Jeanne Sims); **Peter John Rouse, Sr.** (grandfather of Mike Vines); **Anne Spruance**; **Wiley Thornton** (cousin of Carol McClellan); **Tomlinson Family**; **Stephanie Tugurian** (daughter of Ron & Jeanne Sims).

For the recently deceased: **Janet Hutchings.**

For those celebrating birthdays: **Todd Kaderabek, Micki Newton, John Rigsby, Bryn Whitner, Karen Compton, Sally Bierhaus, and Villary LaRue.**

For those celebrating anniversaries: **The Reverend Gary & Astrid Coffey, Cynthia & Jeffrey Garland, Bea & Jeff Russell, and Laura & Roger Snyder.**

For Those in Service to Our Country: **Tommy Brown** (grandson of Ed & Marla Woeckener); **Matt & Martha Cardenas** (daughter & son-in-law of Hannah Buckner); **John Davids** (nephew of Elaine Potter); **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, we pray for **Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda**, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, **La Capilla de Santa Maria, Hendersonville, St. Mary of the Hills, Blowing Rock, and St. Mary's, 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's Mission Statement

Grace Church exists as a diverse community of the Body of Christ, to serve Jesus Christ our Lord. Our mission is to nurture and develop each individual to reach out and share God's love.



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*