



Grace Episcopal Church

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Suite Gothique: Prière à Notre-Dame*

Léon Boëllmann

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: *Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve*

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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: Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 82 (*Spoken antiphonally*)

1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?

3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;

4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.

5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince."

8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.

The Epistle: Hebrews 11:29–12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run

with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: *My Faith Looks up to Thee*

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

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

The Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

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

The Nicene Creed *(standing)*

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People: Form IV

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

Lector Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Lector 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

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Lector 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. Give blessings for our Bishops; for this gathering; for all ministers and people; and in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, for The Scottish Episcopal Church, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: all students, faculty and staff returning to school; College and Campus Ministries at Appalachian State University, Western Carolina University and University of North Carolina, Asheville.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Lector 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

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Lector 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. Let us give thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays, especially Cheryl Aull, Dorothy Engel, Anna-Kate Hall, Hunter Israel, and Brad Thorne, and for those celebrating anniversaries: Janet & Charles McKenzie, Bobbie & Brady Blackburn, and Sylvia & Buddy Greenwood.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Lector 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. We pray especially for 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?

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Lector We commend to your mercy all who have recently died, and for Helen MacDonald, Louise Speed, Kimberly McFarland, Theresa Sabo, and Betty Stroud, on the anniversary of their deaths, and for those that still grieve them...Are there others? We ask that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

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 Hymn: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

490

Doxology

Old 100th

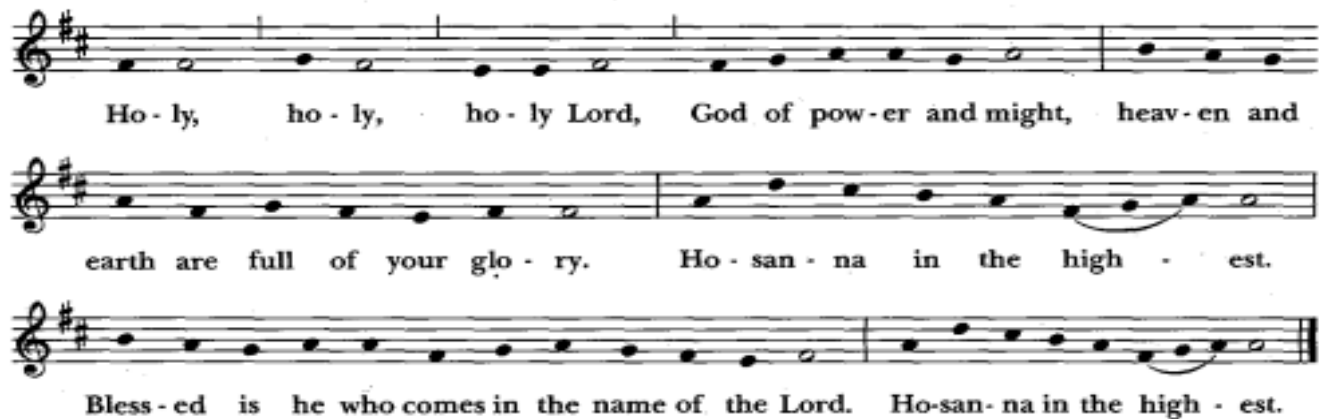
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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 Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Invitation to Communion

(gluten free wafers available upon request)

Music During Communion: *Jesus Loves Me*

Jason Payne

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: *How Firm a Foundation*

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Dismissal

Postlude: *Suite Gothique: Menuet*

Léon Boëllmann



Today we welcome the Reverend Katherine Johnson into the pulpit. She was ordained into the Presbyterian Church, but has been a familiar sight around Grace, as she was the Wedding Coordinator and has served as Office Administrator on more than one occasion.



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 Joe Aull in thanksgiving for Cheryl, Michael, Lael, Bill, Debbie, Harrison, Mallory, Chelsea, Joel, and Daniel.



LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Greg Townsend Torches: Alex & Blair Thwaites

Lectors: Elaine Potter, John Woodson

Intercessor: Vicki Vest Chalicerist: Lorie Tola

Presenters: Louise Cate Wernicke, Bonnie Kistler

Ushers: Pat & George Davis

Greeters: Diane Wilkey, Ginny Moser, Jeff Russell

Coffee Hour: Bea Russell Streaming: James Cannon

Vestry Member of the Day: Monty Wooten

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our BIG Welcome Back Celebration

Welcome to this special Sunday! We will bless our students, teachers and all who work with the students in our schools, and bless and host a grand opening for our wonderful new playground—all followed by playtime (including a water slide!) and a picnic. Hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and potluck sides (provided by parishioners) will be available. **All are welcome!**

Gospel PubSing

The next Gospel PubSing happens **this afternoon**. 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

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. This program is designed to gradually increase physical activity and reduce stress. The class is open to those without diabetes. Get details and register online at wnctaichiarthritis.com or contact Anne Plyler for more information. Members of Grace who wear their Grace Name Tag may come at 1/2 price.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Returning August 24: We offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our children *Sundays between 9:00 and 10:15 a.m.*, 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.

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.

2025 Asheville Episcopal House Build

Thank you for your support of the next Asheville Episcopal House. If you haven't already signed up to volunteer, please contact George Bottiger, at 828-206-3796, or gbottiger70@gmail.com George is our Habitat contact at Grace, so look for him during Coffee Hour.

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.

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

Returning tomorrow – Monday Morning Bible Study: Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

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: 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); ***Bridget Black*** (cousin of Lorie Tola); ***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); **Jess & Mary Daniels Chapman** (friends of Nancy Porter); **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); **Judy Wells Mahan** (friend of Rusty Herman); **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); **Keven Randall** (friend of Ron & Jeanne Sims); **Peter John Rouse, Sr.** (grandfather of Mike Vines); **Anne Spruance**; **Wiley Thornton** (cousin of Carol McClellan); **Stephanie Tugurian** (daughter of Ron & Jeanne Sims).

For those celebrating birthdays: **Cheryl Aull, Dorothy Engel, Anna-Kate Hall, Hunter Israel, and Brad Thorne.**

For those celebrating anniversaries: **Janet & Charles McKenzie, Bobbie & Brady Blackburn, and Sylvia & Buddy Greenwood.**

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 **The Scottish Episcopal Church**, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: **all students, faculty and staff returning to school; College and Campus Ministries at Appalachian State University, Western Carolina University and University of North Carolina, 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*