



Grace Episcopal Church
The Fourth Sunday of Easter:
Good Shepherd Sunday

April 26, 2026

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist II

Preludes: *Prelude on "St. Columba"*
Like the First Bird

Healey Willan
Alfred Fedak

Welcome and Announcements

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

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

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

Opening Hymn: *Come, Christians, join to sing*

1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3. Praise yet the Lord a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Cassarino

Glor-y to God in the High-est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
Lord God, Hea-ven-ly King, Al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, On - ly son of the fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us; you are seated at the
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, for you a - lone are the
ho - ly one, you a - lone are the Lord, 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.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 225

The people sit.

Children's Moment

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm: 23



The Lord is / **my shepherd;**
There is nothing / **I shall want.**
Fresh and green / **are the pastures**
where he gives / **me repose.**

Near restful waters / **he leads me,**
to revive my / **drooping spirit.**

He guides me along / **the right path;**

He is true / **to his name.**

If I should walk in the valley / **of darkness**

no evil / **would I fear.**

You are there with your crook / **and your staff;**

With these you / **give me comfort.**

You have prepared a banquet / **for me**

in the sight / **of my foes.**

My head you have anoin-**ted with oil;**

my cup is / **overflowing.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall fo-**llow me**

all the days / **of my life.**

I will dwell in the house / **of the Lord**

for ever and / **ever more.**

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we

might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: *My Shepherd will supply my need*

664

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

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

The Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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

The Homily

The Reverend Timothy McRee

The Creed



1. We be-lieve in God al-might-y, Au-thor of all things that be. Ma-ker of the earth and hea-vens,
2. We be-lieve that Je-sus suffered, scourged & scorned & cru-ci-fied; ta-ken from the cross, was bu-ried;
3. We be-lieve in God's own Spi-rit, bond-ing all the saints with-in one church, cath-o-lic and ho-ly,



Keep-er of the sky and sea. We be-lieve in God's son, Je-sus, now for us both
True Life there had tru-ly died. We be-lieve that on the third day Christ was raised up
where for-give-ness frees from sin; in the bod-y's res-ur-rec-tion, for the break-ing



Lord and Christ, of the Spi-rit and of Ma-ry, born to bring a-bun-dant life.
from the grave, then as-cen-ded to God's right hand. He will come to judge and save.
of death's chain gives the life that's ev-er-last-ing. This the faith that we have claimed.

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Reader Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

People We offer hearty thanks to you.

Reader For all that is gracious in the lives of mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, for creeping crawling things, for plants, and fungi and for all that reveals the image of Christ,

People We offer hearty thanks to you.

Reader For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, for our friends, for natural environments, and the richness of your Creation. We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially Simon Hartmans, Sharon Rains, and The Rev. Gary Coffey, and for those celebrating anniversaries, especially Casey Miller-Hartmans & Robert Hartmans, and Pam & Barry Maney,
People **We offer hearty thanks to you.**

Reader For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
People **We offer hearty thanks to you.**

Reader For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
People **We offer hearty thanks to you.**

Reader For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, and especially for Linda & David Adams, Joan & Allyn Aldrich, Judy Rhodes Baroody, Martha Boyette, Anne Jarema, Todd Kaderabek, Mike Miller, Walt & Joyce Noble, Natalie & Andrew Owens, Wayne & Laura Parton, Elaine Potter, Kyle Rhodes, Ann Robinson, Jeff Russell, Nancy Sink, Becky & Bill Smith, Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder, Rita Spragg, Lydia Vander Voort & Andy Steele, Jennifer Witt, Ed & Marla Woeckener... and all those you now name.

(All are invited to pray silently or aloud)

We thank you, Lord. For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

People **We offer hearty thanks to you.**

Reader For the communion of saints, in all times and places. Bring us, and all who have died, peace and assurance of the Resurrection. We especially pray for Jim Kaderabek, and on the anniversary of their deaths we pray for George Gowen, Joy Markey, Ed Duncan, Jean Whitmire, Jamie McCredie, Lewis Paine, Jr., Wanda Perry,

Bobbie Eblen, and Anne Rugh Covington, and for those who still grieve them...Are there others?

(All are invited to pray silently or aloud)

People **We offer hearty thanks to you.**

Reader We give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus;

People **All praise and glory, with you, dear Christ, O Father, and with the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.**

Priest O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and remembering the account that we must give one day, grant that we may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are welcome to come forward with their pets for a blessing.

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 C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

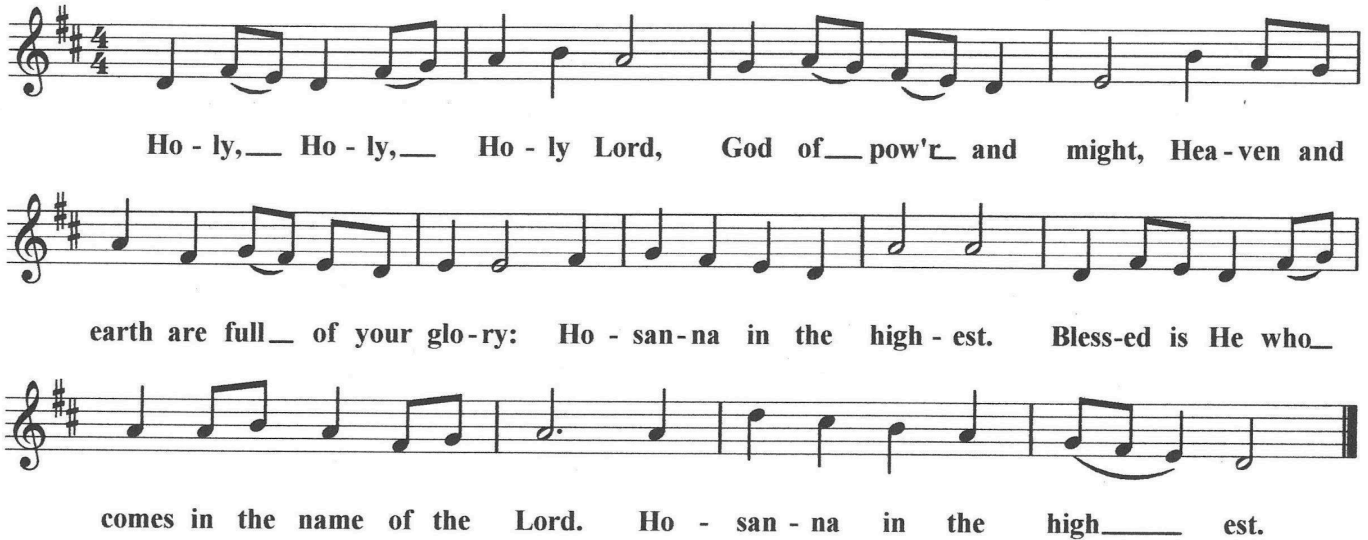
People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**

By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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 Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

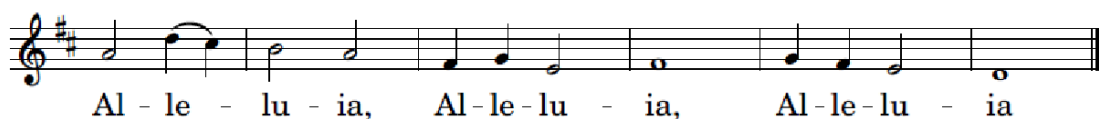
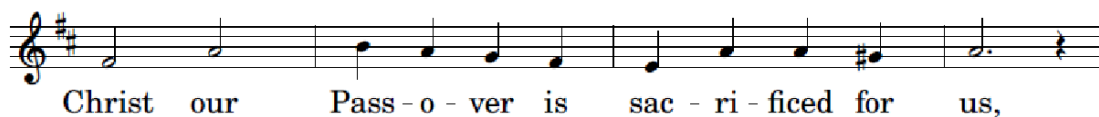
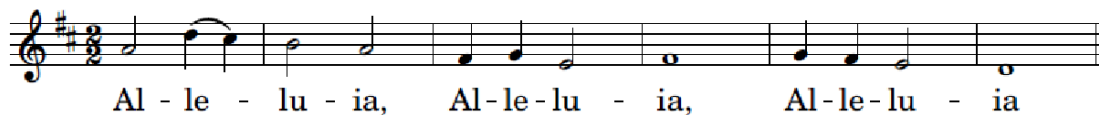
The Lord's Prayer (*Traditional*)

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Cassarino



Invitation to Communion

(gluten free wafers available upon request)

Communion Hymn: *The King of love my shepherd is*

645

Sending Forth of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

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

Celebrant (Cliff/Lorie/James), 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.**

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: *Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!*

205

Dismissal

Postlude: *Litany of Joy*

Alfred Fedak



The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by
Cathy Adkins in loving memory of her sister, Linda Adkins Swaim.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Teesha Holladay
In loving memory of her dear friends, Liza & Eddie Burke

LAY MINISTERS

Crucifer: Greg Townsend Torches: Lorie Tola, Jack Frue
Chalicer: Mary Foster Lectors: Bill Smith, Hannah Buckner
Intercessor: Elise Cassarino Presenters: Ann Lewis, Rusty Herman
Ushers: Mike Vines, Kyle Rhodes
Greeters: Jennifer Witt, Carole Lentz Streaming: James Cannon
Vestry Member of the Day: Ali Schaefer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Robert's Office Hours

Rev. Robert can be found at the church on Tuesday afternoons, Monday and Thursday mornings, and by appointment. He can be reached in person or at hartmansrobert@gmail.com or by his cell 423-400-0826 for any pastoral care concerns.

Church Access

Now that the new door lock is working, the church building can be accessed during business hours and around regularly-scheduled worship services. If you need to get in at other times, please call the office at 828-254-1086.

No Children's Chapel Today

Almost every Sunday, the 10:30 service will begin with a Children's Moment followed by a procession to the Children's Chapel for ages 5-12. Children will return during the passing of the peace. Children are welcome to join the chapel or remain with their grown-ups in the congregation. If you would like to get involved, please email Casey Miller, casandra.miller@gmail.com.

Advocacy and Action at Noon Today

Join us today in the downstairs conference room. All are welcome. If you're interested in meeting with a group of like-minded Grace members and friends to discuss how we might help bring justice in a more effective and joyful way, together rather than alone, please send an email or text to Tahani Sticpewich (tahaniweb@gmail.com; 828-301-0550).

ECW – Save This Date and Time

ECW will hold its annual Derby Day Potluck Luncheon in the parish hall on Saturday, May 2, at 11:30 a.m. All women of the church are members of ECW, and we look forward to seeing you. We especially encourage our newcomers to attend. Please bring your favorite dish and wear a hat or fascinator if you wish! This will mainly be a social event, but we will also have a short business meeting. Looking forward to gathering with you all!

Jones Elementary School Annual Food Drive

April 19-May 24 – Donate items listed below for the end of school year food drive for 50 families in need from Jones Elementary. Grace is collecting the donations and Mosaic Realty group will be packing and delivering bags to the 50 family homes in June. We need 50 of each item: Oatmeal, Rice, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Beans, Soup, Proteins, Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Fruit and Canned Vegetables. Contact Sarah Beasley at sdkbeasley@gmail.com with questions.

Pastoral Care Team

You might not know that there is a dedicated group of lay people who meet every week to pray for those on our parish prayer list and coordinate pastoral care. They are led by Lorie Tola and Cliff Albertson and they direct our clergy and other resources to meet people at Grace in difficult moments. If you are interested in their work please talk to Cliff, Lorie, or to Rev. Robert. We would love to plug you into the care network at Grace.

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: *Sundays a.m.; Mondays p.m.* We offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our children *Sundays between 9:00 and 10:15 a.m.*, and a *Monday afternoon class from 3:30-4:30 p.m.* Children may attend either one or both at any time. Contact Shannon Townsend for further information at gstownsend@att.net or 828-713-5081.

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.

Chair Aerobics: *Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m.*

All are invited! Join Susan Robinson for a chair exercise class in the Parish Hall. Bring a pair of dumbbells. There is no fee to participate. This class is appropriate for people of all abilities. It can be done standing or seated. If you have questions, email Susan at SusanMac2@gmail.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.

Soaking Prayer: *Wednesdays at 12:00 noon*

Our Soaking Prayer Service continues every Wednesday from noon to 12:45. Come and see if this might be that special spiritual discipline that you have been looking for. All are welcome!

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

Meet in the Bird Sanctuary parking lot by Beaver Lake for a walk around the lake and some spiritual reflection with like-minded women. For more information, contact Ann Lewis at annaflewis7@gmail.com or call her at 815-441-2282.

GRACE'S PRAYER LIST

For Congregants: **Linda & David Adams, Judy Rhodes Baroody, Anne Jarema, Todd Kaderabek, Mike Miller, Natalie & Andrew Owens, Wayne & Laura Parton, Elaine Potter, Kyle Rhodes, Ann Robinson, Jeff Russell, Becky & Bill Smith, Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder, Lydia Vander Voort & Andy Steele, Jennifer Witt.**

For Homebound Congregants and Those in Healthcare Facilities: **Joan & Allyn Aldrich, Martha Boyette, Walt & Joyce Noble, Nancy Sink, Rita Spragg, Ed & Marla Woeckener.**

For Others: (Names will remain on the list for six weeks unless we hear otherwise). **Allen** (brother of Cheryl Aull); **Geraldine Allen** (aunt of Carole McClellan); **the Anderson Family** (friends of Bonnie Kistler); **Aubrey** (friend of Joe & Cheryl Aull); **Bob Brennan** (relative of Anne Jarema); **the Brongel family** (daughter and family of Jackie Schauer); **Christa Brigman** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Betty Ann Bryant** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Marcie Coleman** (cousin of Linda McCredie); **Presley Foxx** (granddaughter of Susan & Mark Sudimak); **Kathy Gerhardt** (daughter of Nancy Clark); **Brady Gotwald** (great-nephew of Vicki & Paul Vest); **Tom Hunnicutt** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Robert & Katie Lyons** (friends of Ginny Moser); **Sally Mackay** (mother of Leslie Heiser); **Daniel McRee** (son of Fr. Timothy McRee) and **David** (husband of Daniel McRee); **Judy Wells Meehan** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Robert Noble, Jr.** (brother of Walt Noble); **Meredith Peppers** (aunt of Carol McClellan); **Val & Kip Pritchard** (friends of Cliff Albertson); **Kevin Randall** (friend of Ron & Jeanne Sims); **Sarah Ray** (cousin of Doug McClellan); **Sarah Schuman** (niece of Fr. Timothy McRee); **Wiley Thornton** (cousin of Carol McClellan); **Susan Thigpen** (friend of Jennifer Witt); **Tom & Joan** (friends of James Cannon); **Stephanie Tugurian** (daughter of Ron & Jeanne Sims); **Bev Whiting** (friend of Rusty Herman).

For the recently departed: **Jim Kaderabek.**

*For those celebrating birthdays: **Simon Hartmans, Sharon Rains, and The Rev. Gary Coffey.***

*For those celebrating anniversaries: **Casey Miller-Hartmans & Robert Hartmans, Pam & Barry Maney.***

*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); **John Massey** (son-in-law of Mary Foster); **Brady Paschall** (granddaughter of Gael Paschall); **Sarah Jane Wilkey** (daughter of Diane & Tony Wilkey).*

*For Those in the Episcopal Church: **Sarah**, Archbishop of Canterbury; **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 Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean**; and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, **St. Philip's, Brevard.***

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 * graceavl.com

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 of WNC*

The Reverend Robert Hartmans

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*

Paula Foggo

Caroline Parson-Chambliss

Trinity Mickens

Nursery Workers