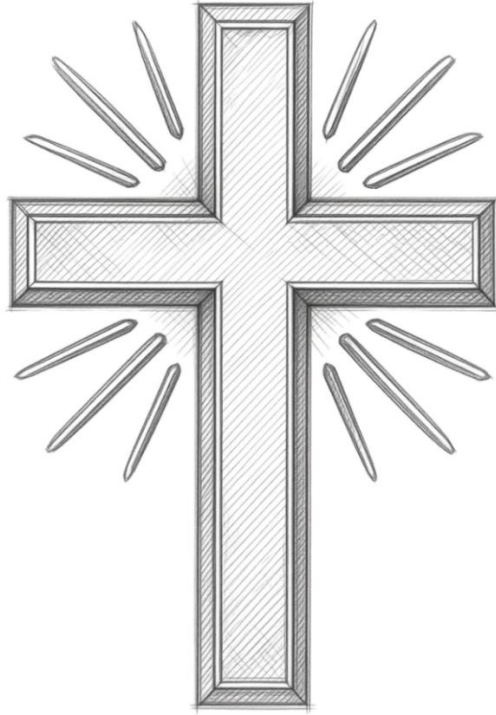


Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta
established 1828



The Feast of the Ascension, observed
May 17, 2026

Our Mission

Grace Episcopal Church is a congregation in communion with all that is in God, seen and unseen.

We are led by the example of Jesus Christ and are empowered by the Holy Spirit
to support each other through prayer, formation, worship, and service.

Our Vision

We will welcome all with kindness, acceptance, and love, with God's help.

We are Grace, grounded in faith and relentless in compassion.

Holy Eucharist Rite I 8:15AM

Helpful notes: The 8:15 early service is a simple, contemplative service that offers you a time and space for prayer. It uses the more traditional language that can be found within the Anglican Tradition and primarily comes from the earlier 1928 Book of Common Prayer. Please feel free to take advantage of the quiet space before the service begins for your personal devotions.

Community Minute

Opening Acclamation

BCP 323

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People *The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria

BCP 324

The Collect of the Day

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abideth with his Church on earth, even unto the end of the ages; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Leaflet, page 4

Psalm 93

Leaflet, page 5

The Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

Leaflet, page 5

The Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-53

Leaflet, page 5

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker

The Nicene Creed

Leaflet, page 6

The Prayers of the People: Form VI

Leaflet, page 7

The Peace

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP 333

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

BCP 339

The Blessing

The Dismissal

BCP 339

Prelude *Welsh Wanderings* "Rhosymedre"

arr. Phil Lehenbauer (b. 1960)

Community Minute & Recognition of Graduates

At the Procession: Hymn 215

In Babilone

The Easter Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People *The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Collect for Purity

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.*

Gloria S278 *Hymns beginning with an S are found in the service music section at the front of the hymnal.*

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Reader: 8:15/Rachel Pearson, 10:45/Nancy Richardson

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- 1 The LORD is King;
he has put on splendid apparel; *
the LORD has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.
- 2 He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;
- 3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.
- 4 The waters have lifted up, O LORD,
the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.
- 5 Mightier than the sound of many waters,
mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.
- 6 Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O LORD,
for ever and for evermore..

The Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

Reader: 8:15/Steve Hatch, 10:45/Bob Willis

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

At the Sequence: Hymn 450 verses 1, 2, 5

Coronation

The Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-53

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker

The Nicene Creed *All stand.*

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Rob our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For Janet Patterson and Fran Brailsford, parishioners, and for all the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Grace Episcopal Church is a congregation in communion with all that is in God, seen and unseen. We are led by the example of Jesus Christ and are empowered by the Holy Spirit to support each other through prayer, formation, worship, and service.

We will welcome all with kindness, acceptance, and love, with God's help. We are Grace, grounded in faith and relentless in compassion.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People *And also with you.*

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,
We beheld the glory of the Father.
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word.
The Word was with God, was with God,
In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
He came to his own, and his own,
And his own, and his own received him not.

At the Presentation: Hymn 174 *verses 1 & 2*

Salzberg

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A *Please stand as you are able.*

BCP 361

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (The celebrant will offer a prayer for the day.)

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Hymn S128

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread.

*And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem: Hymn S154

Celebrant Behold who you are: The Body of Christ.

People *May we become what we receive.*

Please be seated. Ushers will guide the congregation forward for Holy Communion. To receive, proceed up the center aisle and kneel or stand at the rail in front of the altar. If you do not wish to receive the consecrated bread and wine, simply cross your arms over your chest. We will offer a blessing for you as we share in Holy Communion. Return to your seat by the side aisles.

Communion Music *sung by all*

Hymn 686

Nettleton

Hymn 705

Forest Green

Prayer after Communion *Please kneel or stand as you are able.*

BCP 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 460

Hyfrydol

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude *Fugue in Eb* (BWV 552,2)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

- **High School** Keaton Gossett, Johnson High School; Aidan Voyles, North Hall High School
- **College, undergraduate degree** Nathaniel Boyd, BA, Georgia Institute of Technology; Kali Lyons, BBA, Mercer University
- **College, graduate degree** Emma Williams, MA, University of Georgia

A link to the recognition slideshow can be found in the email newsletter.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Sr. Genevieve Lynn and Father Brandon will offer an intergenerational study of J.R.R. Tolkien's **The Fellowship of the Ring** on Sundays, June 7 - July 26 (except July 5) during the 9:30 AM CE hour. Sign up on our website!
- Summer **Charis Circles** will meet at 10:30 AM on June 17 and July 15.
- Kids in rising PreK - 6th grade are invited to join us for **Vacation Bible School**, June 22-26 from 9 AM - 12 PM. Get details and register at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/vbs

THINGS TO NOTE

- Welcome Bill Hildebrandt, **Guest Organist**.
- Explore the **Glimpses of Grace** podcast on your podcast app of choice or at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/podcast.
- Regular Sunday **CE classes** are on summer break and will resume in August.
- Prayer is at the heart of our life as a faith community. Grace Church invites members of the parish to **request prayer** at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/prayer.
- We invite **visitors and newcomers** to fill out a Welcome Card, online at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/welcome or in the pew (and dropped in the offering plate), so we can share information about Grace and answer any questions.
- The **nursery** is located in the children's education wing and is available to all children age 4 and under on Sunday mornings from 9 AM until noon.
- Services at Grace Church are **live-streamed/recorded** so that we may include those who cannot be with us physically. www.gracechurchgainesville.org/photo-video-policy.

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**THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF ATLANTA**

The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop
Website: www.episcopalatlanta.org

GRACE CHURCH

Main entrance on Boulevard
Office address: 422 Brenau Avenue, Gainesville, GA 30501
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Phone: 770-536-0126
Website: www.gracechurchgainesville.org

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Stuart Higginbotham, DMin, Rector, stuart@gracechurchgainesville.org
The Rev. Brandon Nonnemaker, EdD, Associate Rector for Family Ministries and Discipleship
brandon@gracechurchgainesville.org
Lynn Swanson, Music Director/Organist, lswanson@gracechurchgainesville.org
Sr. Genevieve Lynn, OSB, Pastoral Assistant, sistergl@gracechurchgainesville.org
Reba Page, Parish Administrator/Finance, rpage@gracechurchgainesville.org
Jennifer Williams, Director of Communication, jwilliams@gracechurchgainesville.org
Jeremy Landers, Facility Manager, jlanders@gracechurchgainesville.org
Jessica Voyles, Assistant for Finance and Operations, jvoyles@gracechurchgainesville.org
Meg McPeek, Assistant for Formation and Community Life, mmcpeek@gracechurchgainesville.org
Mike McPeek, Worship Technology Assistant

PRIEST ASSOCIATES, RETIRED

The Rev. David B. Powell
The Rev. Betsy Jennings Powell, MD
The Rev. Cynthia Park, PhD

VESTRY & OFFICERS

Term ends 2027 Sue Bowron
Kimberley Boyd, Junior Warden
Steve Carlson
Cheryl Kelley
Term ends 2028 Jim Bradley
Jo Brewer
Jeff Whalen
Jason Voyles, Senior Warden
Term ends 2029 Laura Rives
Tracy Troutman
Ben Wagner
Spencer Walker
Rachel Pearson, Treasurer
Doug McDuff, Assistant Treasurer
Rob Harris, Clerk of the Vestry

**CHILDREN OF GRACE
PRESCHOOL**

Office Hours: 9 AM - 1PM
Phone: 770-536-9088
Website: www.gracechurchgainesville.org/cog
Denise Wilkins, Director, dwilkins@gracechurchgainesville.org
Koleigh Turner, Assistant Director, ktturner@gracechurchgainesville.org