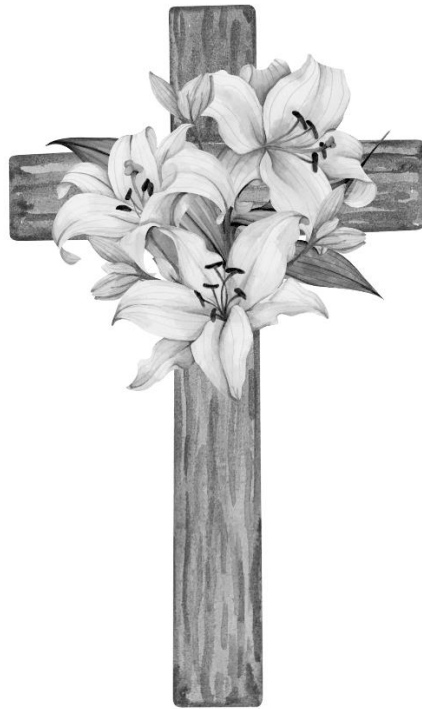


Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta
established 1828



The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025

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, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Leaflet, page 3

Psalm 148

Leaflet, page 4

The Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Leaflet, page 4

The Gospel Reading: John 13:31-35

Leaflet, page 6

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

The Nicene Creed

Leaflet, page 6

The Prayers of the People

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 *Andante religioso* from Sonata No. 4

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Community Minute & Recognition of Graduates

At the Procession: Hymn 432

Laudate Dominum

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 S280 *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, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Helpful notes: Our attention now turns to the assigned texts for the day, as we listen for the Spirit's guidance through ancient texts that connect with our present circumstances. We remember that it is not so much that "we read the texts," as it is that "the Spirit reads us through the texts." Following the readings, the preacher will offer a sermon that seeks to help nurture our personal and communal reflection.

The First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Reader: 8:15/Chip Branch, 10:45/Nancy Richardson

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Reader: 8:15/Ray Schuetze, 10:45/Daniel Grizzle

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."


And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of the Lord.


Thanks be to God.

At the Sequence: Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service *verses 1, 2 & 4*


Beach Spring




1. Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of
 2. Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry
 3. As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-
 4. Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear




hu-man need, who up-on the cross, for-sak-en,
 cry for bread; still the cap-tives long for free-dom;
 veal-ing light in its height and depth and great-ness
 name we go to the child, the youth, the a-ged,



of-fered mer-cy's per-fect deed: we, your ser-vants, bring the
 still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep com-
 dawns up-on our quickened sight, mak-ing known the needs and
 love in liv-ing deeds to show; hope and health, good will and



wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart, con-se-crat-ing
 pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your
 bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, stir-ring us to
 com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give, that your ser-vants,



to your pur-pose ev-ery gift that you im-part.
 Spir-it kin-dles still to save and make us whole.
 tire-less striv-ing your a-bun-dant life to share.
 Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know, and live.

The Gospel Reading: John 13:31-35

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

The Nicene Creed *All stand.*

BCP 358

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially Les Parsons, parishioner.

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, especially Ted Ulrich, brother of Karen Murphy, and Joan & Hugh Nichols, parents of Jennifer Romberg, 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.*

Please be seated.

Helpful notes: We have arrived at the point of the liturgy that focuses our attention on Christ's presence with us in the Holy Eucharist. "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving," and we are called to remember our gratitude to God for the blessings of our lives. Together, we share in Holy Communion, which we believe is the Real Presence of Christ both within the bread and wine and within each soul present. We offer ourselves and visualize ourselves on the altar, as we pray for a transformation of heart that will nurture our ongoing lives.

The Offertory Anthem *Nocturne from Two Pieces for Violin and Piano*

Lili Boulanger (1893 – 1918)

Ava Pakiam, violin; Cole Anderson, piano

At the Presentation

Lasst uns erfreuen

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Now all the vault of Heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abound,
Christ hath triumphed, He is living!
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear,
Repeat their song of glory here,
Christ hath triumphed, Christ has triumphed!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. | 2. Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heavenly blessed sing,
Christ has triumphed, Alleluia!
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. |
|---|--|

The Great Thanksgiving *Please continue standing as you are able.*

BCP 361

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 him 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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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 S130

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.

Helpful notes: To receive, please proceed up the center aisle and fill around the altar from the back to the front. 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. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail. Please return to your seat by the side aisles.

Communion Music

Be Still My Soul sung by the Grace Choir

Finlandia

Be still, my soul! the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still my soul! thy best, thy heavenly Friend
Thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul! thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul! the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Hymn 304

Land of Rest

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

Enriching Our Worship 1, page 70

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 372

Leoni

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude *The Fanfare Fugue*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

- **High School** Evelyn Higginbotham, Alliance Academy for Innovation; Jackson Newton, Lakeview Academy; Savannah Jane Wells, North Hall High School; Anna Courtney West, North Hall High School
- **College, undergraduate degree** Caroline Pendarvis, BS, University of Georgia; Connor Pendarvis, BS, University of North Georgia
- **College, graduate degree** Thomas Dayton, MS, Georgia Institute of Technology

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

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Friends of Music welcomes virtuoso **violinist Ava Pakiam**, performing with **pianist Cole Anderson**, at 4 PM today. Concert is free and a reception will follow. Ava will offer a Q&A session at 3 PM in the nave for anyone interested.
- Women of Grace are invited to share in a **summer book study** of *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People*, by the Reverend Nadia Bolz-Weber. We will gather in the Youth Room of The Grace Center at 5:30 PM on Thursdays – June 5, 19, July 17, 31, and August 14.
- Save the date for an important **Town Hall Meeting** on June 8 at 9:30 AM.
- Grace Church, in collaboration with Cherokee Bluff Theatre, will offer an exciting summer **Performing Arts Camp** for rising 3rd to 8th graders, June 16-20 and June 23-28. Register by May 30! www.gracechurchgainesville.org/pac
- Rebecca Turk will offer a **Sound Bath** in the nave at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, June 18.
- Join a group from Grace at Coolray Field on Friday, July 18 to watch the **Gwinnett Stripers** take on the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp! Save the date and watch for details.

THINGS TO NOTE

- **Altar flowers** may be given in memory or honor of loved ones at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/flowers.
- Regular Sunday **CE classes** are on summer break and will resume September 7.
- Explore the **Glimpses of Grace** podcast on your podcast app of choice or at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/podcast.
- 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 8:00 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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Prelude *Andante religioso* from Sonata No. 4, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) | H432 Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt., based on Psalms 148 and 150; Music: *Laudate Dominum*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918) | S280 Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932) | *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service* Words: Albert F. Bayly, 1961, alt.; Music: Attr. to B. F. White, 1844, harm. by Ronald A. Neslon, 1978 | *Nocturne* from *Two Pieces for Violin and Piano*, Lili Boulanger (1893 – 1918) | S130 Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), Adaptation copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. | S154 Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (h.1950), Copyright © 1981, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. | *Be Still My Soul, Finlandia*, Jean Sibelius | H304 Words: Brian A. Wren (b.1936), alt.; Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) | H372 Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926); Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt. | Postlude *The Fanfare Fugue*, J. S. Bach

**THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF ATLANTA**

GRACE CHURCH

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

VESTRY & OFFICERS *Emails found at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/about/vestry*

Term ends 2026 Jim Brim
Stuart Deaderick, Senior Warden
Helen Scovill
Anita Smith
Term ends 2027 Sue Bowron
Kimberley Boyd, Junior Warden
Steve Carlson
Cheryl Kelley
Term ends 2028 Jim Bradley
Jo Brewer
Darlene Hauserman
Jason Voyles
Amy Munn, Treasurer
Doug McDuff, Assistant Treasurer
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry
Jason Voyles, Chancellor

**CHILDREN OF GRACE
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