

Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta
established 1828



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
July 6, 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 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 Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

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 God, who hast taught us to keep all thy commandments by loving thee and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to thee with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Diversity of Races and Cultures

BCP 840

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Isaiah 66:10-14

Leaflet, page 4

Psalms 66:1-8

Leaflet, page 5

The Second Reading: Galatians 6:1-16

Leaflet, page 5

The Gospel Reading: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

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 Confession and Absolution

BCP 330

The Peace

BCP 332

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 *24 pièces 1 op. 6* (Prelude Modal)

Jean Langlais

Community Minute

At the Procession: Hymn 718

National Hymn

The Acclamation

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

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

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, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Diversity of Races and Cultures

BCP 840

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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: Isaiah 66:10-14

Reader: 8:15/Linden Gaspar, 10:45/Sue Bowron

Thus says the Lord: "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her-- that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom. For thus says the Lord:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass;

and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- 1 Be joyful in God, all you lands; *
sing the glory of his Name;
sing the glory of his praise.
- 2 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! *
because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.
- 3 All the earth bows down before you, *
sings to you, sings out your Name."
- 4 Come now and see the works of God, *
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.
- 5 He turned the sea into dry land,
so that they went through the water on foot, *
and there we rejoiced in him.
- 6 In his might he rules for ever;
his eyes keep watch over the nations; *
let no rebel rise up against him.
- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

The Second Reading: Galatians 6:1-16

Reader: 8:15/Martha Nesbitt, 10:45/Donna Yaughn

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads.

Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised-- only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule-- peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

At the Sequence: Hymn 719

Materna

The Gospel Reading: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

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.

Prayers of the People Form IV

Leader: 8:15/Linden Gaspar; 10:45/Susan Lahey BCP 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Bev Hanson, parishioner, and Kyani Trammell, friend of parishioner Mike Francis, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

The Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

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 Adoration

Florence Price

At the Presentation: Hymn 380 verses 1 & 3

Old 100th

Eucharistic Prayer 2

Enriching our Worship

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

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Sanctus: Hymn S125

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with [_____ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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 S155

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

Hymn 594

Cwm Rhondda

Hymn 580

Holy Manna

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 414

Stuttgart

The Dismissal

Postlude *Menuet Gothique* from *Suite Gothique*, Op. 25

Leon Boellmann

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- The **Women's Summer Book Study** continues Thursday, July 17! We will gather in room 115 (Youth Room) of The Grace Center at 5:30 PM and begin at 6:00.
- Join us in the parish hall at 10 AM on Saturday, July 26 to **stuff backpacks** full of donated supplies for Lula, Myers, and Tadmore Elementary Schools!
- We invite students, teachers, and school staff of all ages to bring your **backpack/satchel/tote to be blessed** during the 10:45 AM service on July 27. We'll also bless the backpacks of donated supplies.
- Our inaugural **Park Lecture** is Saturday, August 9! The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park will lead us in exploring the spiritual and therapeutic practice of giving voice to the silenced or hidden parts of our own stories. Get all the details and register online at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/park-lecture

THINGS TO NOTE

- This morning we welcome Catherine Barkes, **Guest Organist**.
- The **altar flowers** on July 6 are given by Roger and Malinda McLendon to the glory of God and in honor of Sonja McLendon. *Flowers may be given in memory or honor of loved ones at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/flowers.*
- Today's **bread** was lovingly made by Karen Klas. The **wine** is a favorite of Josh Higgins, son of Richard and Connie Higgins, who lives in the Napa area.
- From now until July 25 we are **collecting school supplies** for students attending Lula, Myers, and Tadmore Elementary Schools in Hall County. Full details in the parish newsletter.
- 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. Children's Chapel is on summer break.
- 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**

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

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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

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