

Historic Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

Est. 1828



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Year C

August 7, 2022

Holy Eucharist Rite I 8:15AM

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

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation	BCP 323
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. People <i>And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.</i>	
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. <i>Amen.</i>	
Gloria	BCP 324
The Collect of the Day	BCP 180
Grant to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot exist without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. <i>Amen.</i>	
The First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6	Leaflet, page 3
Psalm 33:12-22	Leaflet, page 3
The Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Leaflet, page 4
The Gospel Reading: Luke 12:32-40	Leaflet, page 5
The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham	
The Nicene Creed	Leaflet, page 5
The Prayers of the People	Leaflet, page 6
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

Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:45AM

Prelude

Freu Dich Sehr, O Meine Seele

Johann Pachelbel

Community Minute

The word "liturgy" means "the public work of the people that has a personal cost." We invest our energy and resources into our common prayer. The opening portion of the liturgy invites us to gather in this space at this time, bringing all of ourselves into this shared worship as we focus our attention on God's love for us. We are made more aware of our union with God and with one another as we remember that our worship of God is the core element of our lives as Christians.

At the Entrance: Hymn 533

Words: Henry Ustick Onderdonk (17599-1858), alt.; para. *The Song of the Redeemed*.
Music: Lyons, att. Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806)

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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: Hymn S278

William Mathias (b.1934)
©1976, Oxford University Press, Inc.

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - 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 -

6. for
 weise our prayer
 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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
 People *And also with you.*
 Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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 and hymn, the preacher will offer a sermon that seeks to help nurture our personal and communal reflection.

The First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
 People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 33:12-22

BCP 626

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! *
 happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- 13 The LORD looks down from heaven, *
 and beholds all the people in the world.
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
 on all who dwell on the earth.

- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.
- 16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,
- 19 To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.
- 20 Our soul waits for the LORD; *
he is our help and our shield.
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

The Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

At the Sequence: Hymn 580 stanzas 1, 3, 4

Words: Catherine Cameron (b. 1927), alt.
Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

The Gospel Reading: Luke 12:32-40

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he

comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

Following the readings and sermon, we continue our worship by reciting the Nicene Creed, first adopted after Emperor Constantine called the Council of Nicaea in the year 325. It was further developed in the year 381 at the Council of Constantinople. The Creed is the collective Church’s way of capturing a glimpse of the foundational elements of the Christian faith. Following the Creed, the community shares the Prayers of the People and the Confession of Sin and Absolution, with the pause just prior to the Confession being a crucial moment to remember our own growing edges.

The Nicene Creed *said by all*

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.

The Prayers of the People *Please continue standing or kneel as you are able.*

For the blessings of our lives, we give thanks to you, O God. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather here on this day in our common worship of you. In all that we do, help us to be more aware of your presence in our lives, so that we may never lose hope.

We are aware of so much pain in the world, so much anger and fear, and often we don't know how to respond. We feel overwhelmed, and we struggle to find ways to offer help or to receive help ourselves. Help us to remember that we are all connected through the Spirit of Christ that weaves all of creation together in one tapestry of love.

With an awareness of your presence, let us be bearers of light in a struggling world.

Make us aware of the concerns of our nation, our state, and our community as we are challenged to pay attention to where we can share our own gifts and strengths. Let us hold our leaders to standards that promote the common good, that encourage respect and decency, and that support compassion and justice. May we all nurture honesty as we resist greed and the urge to manipulate fears.

With an awareness of your presence, let us be bearers of light in our community.

Within this community, we remember the concerns of those we love, those who are struggling, those who are ill, those who are grieving, and those who are recovering. Today, we especially remember parishioners Nonnie Marett, Joan Hopkins, Carol Adams, Joyce Dewey, Nancy Richardson; Willard Camp, father of parishioner Evan Kohler-Camp; Craig Tonely, friend of parishioner Susan Childs; Sharon Pittman, friend of parishioner Melissa McCollum; Adrian Cutchshaw, family friend of parishioner Sandra Lykins; Barry Maine, friend of parishioner Alice Ann Mundy; Sally Amtmann, sister of parishioner Doug Smith. As we gather here, we remember that we never carry our burdens alone.

With an awareness of your presence, let us be bearers of light with one another.

As we come to share the Eucharist today, we remember those who have died, those souls we will always love but no longer see here in the way we once did. Even as we are honest about our own grief, we pay attention to the ways that the Light of Christ shines in our hearts, reminding us that all is held in God's loving embrace.

With an awareness of your presence, let us nurture the light within ourselves.

Open our eyes to see you, our ears to hear you, and our hearts to celebrate our connection with you and one another. May we take seriously the call to grow spiritually as we pray for our lives to be transformed as we practice our faith in the world today.

The Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant

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,
People and Celebrant

*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

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b.1942)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - liced for us: There - fore let us keep the feast,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Celebrant Behold who you are: The Body of Christ.
People *May we become what we receive.*

Please be seated.

Communion Music

Hymn 685

Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt.
Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)

Hymn 676

Words: Afro-American spiritual
Music: *Balm in Gilead*, Afro-American spiritual

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

BCP 366

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,

*we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious **Body and Blood***

*of your **Son our Savior Jesus Christ;***

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

*that we are living members of the **Body of your Son,***

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out

to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you

as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

We remember now that we have not left the world; rather, we have brought our entire selves into this time and space to be transformed by the Spirit's presence in our hearts. Now, we give thanks for this time of shared prayer, and we look toward the ways we can embody the Light of Christ in the world.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 625

Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691); rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862)

Music: *Darwall's 148^o*, melody and bass John Darwell (1731-1789);
harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson ((1875-1947))

The Dismissal

Postlude

Postlude on "Old Hundred"

John E. Bolt
Lorenz Publishing Co.

We invite visitors and newcomers to fill out a Welcome Card, online at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/welcome or in the pew, so we can share additional information about Grace Church and answer any questions you may have.

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

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*To contact vestry members please go to the
parish website to the "about" tab.*

Class of 2023

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Chaudron Gille—Junior Warden
Tom Rossi—Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression
Christy Wagner—Compassion, Participation

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Vance Holifield—Liturgy & Creative Expression, Participation
Daniel Grizzle—Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression
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Susan Lahey—Clerk of the Vestry
Jason Voyles—Chancellor

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