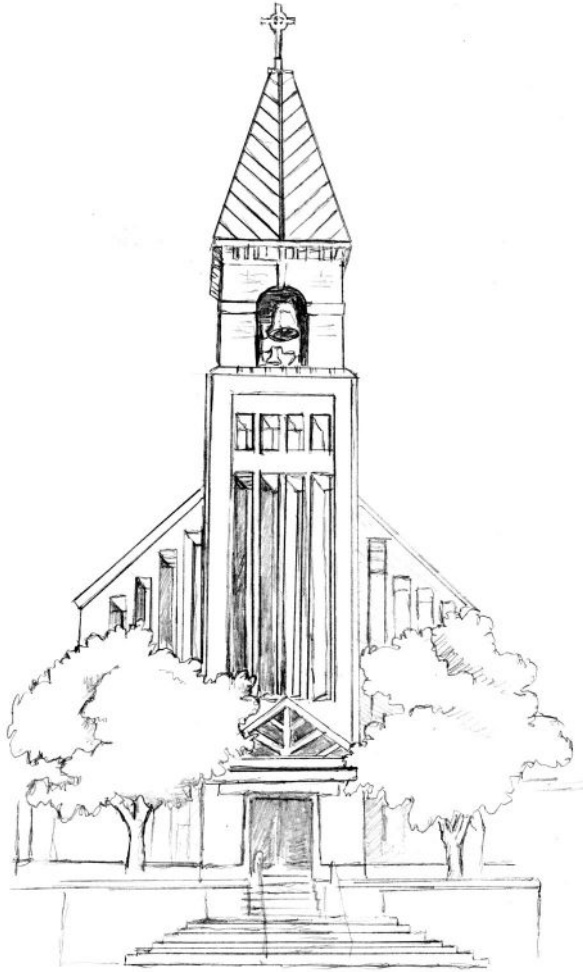


# Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

1828–2023



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Year A

September 17, 2023

Feast of the Holy Cross

*Living as a Community of  
Prayer, Compassion, and Belonging*

## 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

### The Word of God

#### Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer 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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

#### The First Reading: Isaiah 45:21-25

Leaflet, page 3

#### The Gradual: Psalm 98:1-4

Leaflet page 3

#### The Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Leaflet, page 3

#### The Gospel Reading: John 12:31-36a

Leaflet, page 3

#### The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park

#### The Nicene Creed

Leaflet, page 4

#### The Prayers of the People Form III

Leaflet, page 5

#### 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

You are invited to come to the chancel to view the stone  
from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre that is embedded in the altar.

**Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:45AM**

**Choral Introit**

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

*Pange lingua*

Sing, my tongue, the Saviour's glory, of His Flesh, the mystery sing;  
of the Blood, all price exceeding, shed by our Immortal King, destined  
for the world's redemption, from a noble womb to spring.  
To the everlasting Father and the Son who reigns on high,  
with the Holy Ghost proceeding forth from each eternally,  
be salvation, honor, blessing, might and endless majesty. Amen. Alleluia.

**Community Minute**

*Helpful notes: 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.*

**The Word of God**

**At the Entrance: Hymn 473**

*Crucifer*

**The Opening Acclamation**

Book of Common Prayer 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.**

**Song of Praise: Hymn 379 verses 1, 2**

*Abbott's Leigh*

**The Collect of the Day**

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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

**The Blessing of the Children and Dismissal to Children's Chapel**

Children ages three through second grade are invited to come forward.

*God of all, We pray for our children as they learn about you and your Word. May they live fully, love well, and honor the light of Christ within themselves and within others. 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 and hymn, the preacher will offer a sermon that seeks to help nurture our personal and communal reflection.*

**The First Reading: Isaiah 45:21-25**

Thus says the Lord, “Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the Lord? There is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is no one besides me. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness a word that shall not return: “To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.” Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed. In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

**The Gradual: Psalm 98:1-4**

Chanted by Parish Choir

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**The Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

**At the Sequence: Hymn 441 verses 1, 4, 5**

*Rathbun*

**The Gospel Reading: John 12:31-36a**

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park**

*Helpful notes: 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 Form III**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for the clergy, staff, and vestry of this parish; our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our bishop, Rob; priests and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Remembering Mark Stephens, parishioner; Jane Harris, mother of parishioner Rob Harris; Kathleen Ebeling, mother of parishioner Jessica Voyles; Colin Goracke, friend of parishioners Larry and Gale Smith; have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Remembering Linda Barclay, sister-in-law of parishioner Joe Barclay. Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.  
*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**Confession and Absolution**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Please stand*

**The Peace**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

*Please be seated.*

**The Offertory Anthem**

Rejoice in the Lord, Alway  
Philippians 4:4-7

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Felicia Hernandez, alto; Theo Schramm, tenor; James Marshall, bass

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice.  
Let your moderation be known unto all men.  
The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing;  
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be made known unto God.  
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,  
shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**At the Presentation: Hymn 408 verses. 1, 3**

*Mit freuden zart*

*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 Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*Please stand as you are able.*

BCP 361

**Eucharistic Prayer A**

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

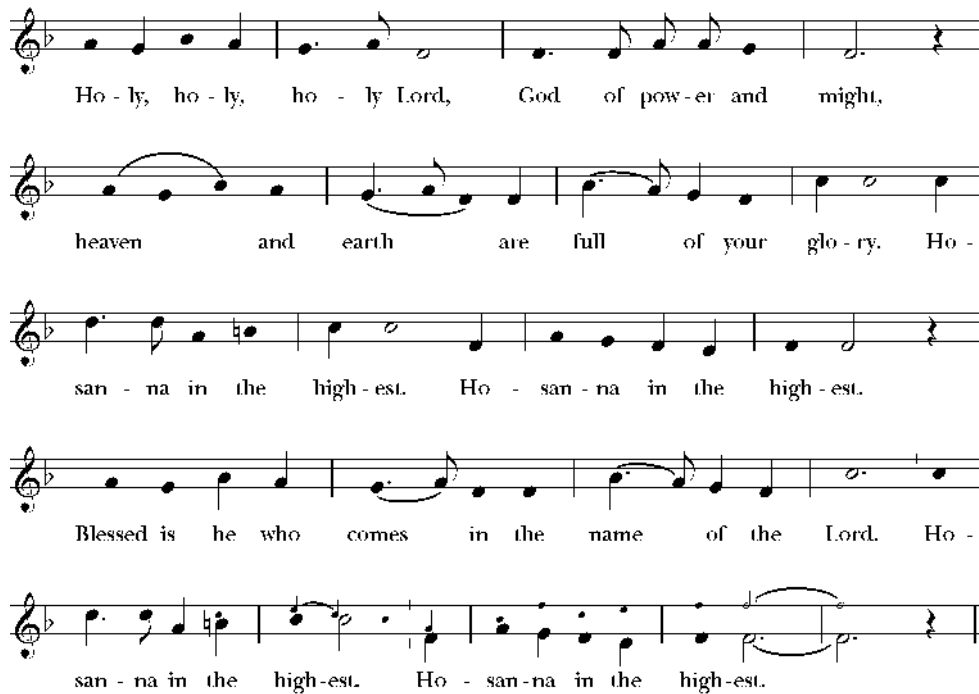
- Staff 1:** Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And al - so with you.
- Staff 2:** Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them to the Lord.
- Staff 3:** Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- Staff 4:** People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**Celebrant**

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 S125



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 876**

Wonder, Love, and Praise

*Antiphon  
Cantor, then all*

The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

*Fine Verses*

of the bread. 1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -  
2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -

*All repeat Antiphon*

ia, is the com - mun - ion of the Bod - y of Christ.  
ia, for though ma - ny we share one bread.

Celebrant Behold who you are: The Body of Christ.

People *May we become what we receive.*

*Please be seated.*

**Communion Music**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS  
William Marion Runyan (1923)

Steve Brailsford, tenor

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be  
Great is Thy faithfulness Great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me  
Summer and winter and springtime and harvest Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

**Hymn 474**

*Rockingham*

**Hymn 470**

*Beecher*

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

BCP 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

*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.*

*Helpful notes: 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 477**

*Engelberg*

**The Dismissal**

**Postlude**

Air

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

During the postlude you are invited to come to the chancel to view the stone from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre that is embedded in the altar.

We invite visitors and newcomers to fill out a Welcome Card, online at [www.gracechurchgainesville.org/welcome](http://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](http://www.gracechurchgainesville.org/photo-video-policy)

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THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ATLANTA

The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop

GRACE CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Stuart Higginbotham, DMin., Rector, [stuart@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:stuart@gracechurchgainesville.org)

The Rev. Cynthia Park, PhD., Senior Associate Rector, [cynthia@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:cynthia@gracechurchgainesville.org)

The Rev. Brandon Nonemaker, EdD., Associate Rector for Children, Youth & Families  
[brandon@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:brandon@gracechurchgainesville.org)

The Rev. Mary Hemmer Demmler, Priest Associate  
[mdemmler@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:mdemmler@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Lynn Swanson, Music Director/Organist, [lswanson@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:lswanson@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Reba Page, Parish Administrator/Finance, [rpage@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:rpage@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Brenda Morgan, Executive Assistant to the Clergy, [bmorgan@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:bmorgan@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Jennifer Williams, Director of Communication, [jwilliams@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:jwilliams@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Jeremy Landers, Facility Manager, [jlanders@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:jlanders@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Jessica Voyles, Ministry Coordinator, [office@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:office@gracechurchgainesville.org)

VESTRY & OFFICERS

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

Term ends 2024

Barbara Batog—Participation

Vance Holifield—Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression

Daniel Grizzle—Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression

Sonja McLendon—Senior Warden

Term ends 2025

Frank Rinker—Administration

Julia Greene—Junior Warden

Beth Neidenbach—Compassion, Formation

Sally Pittman—Formation, Participation

Term ends 2026

Jim Brim—Compassion, Liturgy & Creative Expression

Stuart Deaderick—Formation, Participation

Helen Scovill—Formation, Compassion

Anita Smith—Formation, Compassion

Amy Munn—Treasurer

Doug McDuff—Assistant Treasurer

Susan Lahey—Clerk of the Vestry

Jason Voyles—Chancellor

CHILDREN OF GRACE PRESCHOOL

Meg McPeek, Director, [mmcpeek@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:mmcpeek@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Liz Katz, Assistant Director, [lkatz@gracechurchgainesville.org](mailto:lkatz@gracechurchgainesville.org)

Office Hours: 9 AM - 1PM

**Grace Episcopal Church**

Main entrance on Boulevard

Office address: 422 Brenau Avenue, Gainesville, GA 30501

Phone: 770-536-0126 Website: [www.gracechurchgainesville.org](http://www.gracechurchgainesville.org)