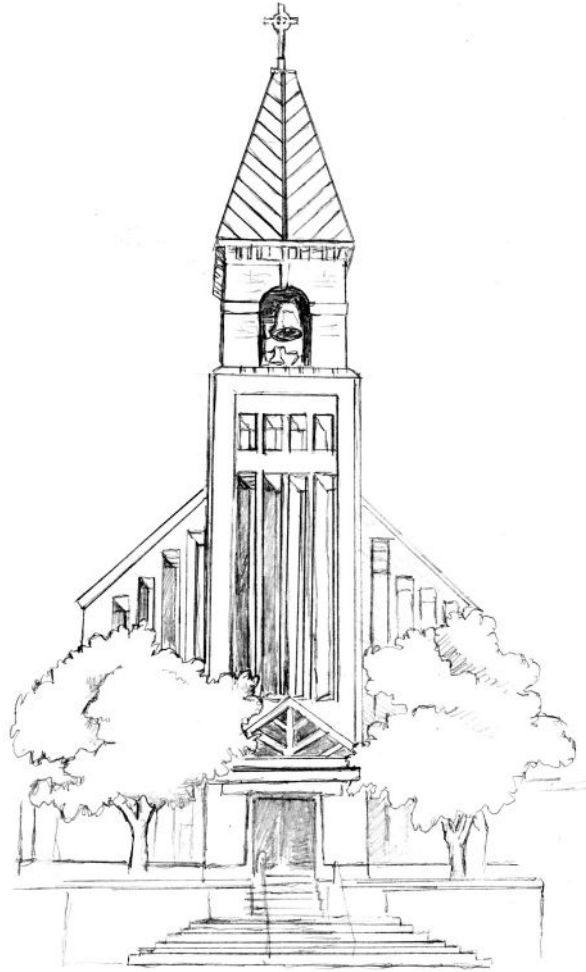


Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

1828–2023



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

*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

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that, by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Leaflet, page 3

The Gradual: Psalm 90:1-8, 12

Leaflet, page 4

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Leaflet, page 4

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Leaflet, page 4

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

The Nicene Creed

Leaflet, page 5

The Prayers of the People Form VI

Leaflet, page 5

The Confession and Absolution

Leaflet, page 6

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

Choral Prelude

Cantate Domino
sung in Latin

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni
(1657-1743)

*Cantate Domino canticum novum, laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum.
Sing to the Lord a new song, Let His name be in the church of the saints.*

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 680

St. Anne

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.

Gloria: Hymn S278

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-

ceive our prayer. 6. For

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

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

People: *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: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time, says the LORD, I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD'S wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Gradual: Psalm 90: 1-8, 12

Chanted by Parish Choir

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
“Go back, O child of earth.”
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you; *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

At the Sequence: Hymn 561 verses 1, 3, 4

Morning Light

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not

scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

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 VI

BCP 392

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 those serving in the military at home or abroad and for our first responders:

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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Rob, our Bishop; for all bishops and other ministers; and especially for the clergy, staff, and vestry of this parish.
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially Greg Hillis, colleague of Father Stuart; Alan Sirmans, parishioner; Larry Dillard, brother of parishioner Chaudron Gille.

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.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

*Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

But who may abide; Refiner's Fire from *Messiah*
James Marshall, bass

G. F. Handel (1684-1759)

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth?
For he is like the a refiner's fire. Who shall stand when he appeareth
But who may abide the day of his coming and who shall stand
when he appeareth for he is like a refiner's fire

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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

Hymn 632

Hymn 635

Hymn 625

Munich

Wer nur lieben Gott

Darwall's 148th

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 541

Ora Labora

The Dismissal

Postlude

Marche in D

Louis Gauthier

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of Carolyn Smith's birthday by Mary Jardine.

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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Hymn 680 Words: Issac Watts (1674-1748), alt; para. of Psalm 90:1-5 Music: *St. Anne*, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt., harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt. Hymn S278 William Mathias (b.1934) S278 ©1976, Oxford University Press, Inc Hymn 561 Words: George Duffield, Jr. (1818-1888), alt. Music: *Morning Light*, George James Webb (1803-1887) Hymn 408 Words: Johann Jacob Schütz (1640-1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt. Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from "Une Pastourelle gentile," 1529; Adapt. *Pseaumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kirchengeseng darinnen die Heubtarticke des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566 Hymn S125 Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright © 1971, 1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Hymn 876 Wonder, Love, and Praise Composer: Jack Warren Burnam (b.1946) Copyright: © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam Anthem More Love, Sid Davis Beckenhorst Press Hymn 632 Words: William Walsham How Music: *Munich*, melody from *Neu-vermehrtes und zu Ubung Christl. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningsches Gesangbuch*, 1693; adapt. and harm. *Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)* Hymn 635 Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681) Hymn 625 Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691); rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862) Music: *Darwall's 148th*, melody and bass John Darwell (1731-1789); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson ((1875-1947)) Music: Descant by permission of Hymns Ancient & Modern Limited Hymn 541 Words: Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813-1897), alt. Music: *Ora Labora*, Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ATLANTA

The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop

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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

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Meg McPeck, Director, mmcpeek@gracechurchgainesville.org

Liz Katz, Assistant Director, lkatz@gracechurchgainesville.org

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