

Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta
established 1828



The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord
February 2, 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 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 and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4 Leaflet, page 5

Psalm 84 Leaflet, page 5

The Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18 Leaflet, page 6

The Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40 Leaflet, page 6

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker

The Nicene Creed Leaflet, page 7

The Prayers of the People Leaflet, page 8

The Confession and Absolution Leaflet, page 9

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 *Picardy*

arr. J. J. Keim

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.

At the Entrance: Hymn 436

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The 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.

Song of Praise verses 1, 2, 5

One More Step Along the World I Go

1 One more step a - long the world I go,
 2 Round the cor - ners of the world I turn,
 3 As I trav - el through the bad and good,
 4 Give me cour - age when the world is rough,
 5 You are old - er than the world can be,

one more step a - long the world I go; from the old things
 more and more a - bout the world I learn; all the new things
 keep me trav - el - ing the way I should; where I see no
 keep me lov - ing though the world is tough; leap and sing in
 you are young - er than the life in me; ev - er old and

to the new, keep me trav - el - ing a - long with you:
 that I see you'll be look - ing at a - long with me:
 way to go you'll be tell - ing me the way, I know:
 all I do, keep me trav - el - ing a - long with you:
 ev - er new, keep me trav - el - ing a - long with you:

Refrain
 And it's from the old I trav - el to the new; keep me trav - el - ing a - long with you.

The Collect of the Day

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

Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the Incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of the bread.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 and hymn, the preacher will offer a sermon that seeks to help nurture our personal and communal reflection.

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 thank you for the joy and wonder these children bring into our lives. May they learn about you and your Word, may they grow in loving-kindness, and may they know your presence is always with them. Amen.*

The First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Reader: 8:15/Steven Hatch, 10:45/Daniel Grizzle

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

8:15/Leader: Steven Hatch, 10:45/chanted by the choir BCP 707

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
 than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
 he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
 from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O Lord of hosts, *
 happy are they who put their trust in you!

The Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Reader: 8:15/Ray Schuetze, 10:45/Chip Branch

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

At the Sequence: Hymn 277

Raquel

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:22-40

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
 according to your word;
 for my eyes have seen your salvation,
 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
 a light for revelation to the Gentiles
 and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker

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.

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 Tom Feagin, parishioner, 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, especially Philip McDonald, husband of Joanne McDonald, 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.

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 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

BCP 360

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 *O How Amiable* Psalm 84 & 90, Ralph Vaughan-Williams (1872-1958), Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house,
And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
Even the altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:
They will be always praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handiwork.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

At the Presentation: Hymn 408 verses 1, 3 *Please stand*

Mit Freuden zart

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 S130 *Hymns beginning with an S are found in the service music section at the front of the hymnal.*

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,

*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

BCP 364

The Fraction Anthem: Hymn 876 from Wonder, Love & Praise

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus

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.

The musical score is written in 2/2 time. The first system is the antiphon, followed by two systems of verses. The final system is the antiphon repeated. The piano accompaniment is in the left hand, and the vocal line is in the right hand.

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 517

Brother James' Air

Hymn 324

Picardy

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

BCP 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

*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.*

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 137

Wareham

The Dismissal

Postlude *Rigaudon*

Andre Campra, arr. Diane Bish

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Join us for a **fellowship gathering** at NoFo Brew Co. on Thursday, February 13 from 6-8 PM.
- The **Soul Work Book Club** will meet at 7 PM on Zoom on the fourth Sunday of each month, beginning February 23. Our first book is *The Great Search* by John Philip Newell.
- Representatives from **Camp Mikell** will visit during the CE hour (9:30 – 10:30 AM) on February 23 to meet with families, play games, and answer questions about retreats and summer camp.
- Mark your calendars for the **Ministry Fair** on February 23, **Pancake Supper** on March 4, and **Ash Wednesday** services on March 5.

THINGS TO NOTE

- The **altar flowers** on February 2 are given to the glory of God and in memory of
 - former Grace Church organist Neil Larson by his family.
 - Bruce Gleason, Jennie G. Benham, and Dorman Gleason by Kim and Dan Stephens.
 - Nancy M. Parks and Jean B. Parks by the Parks family.
- **Christian Education** (CE/Sunday School) classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30 AM most Sundays until May 4. This winter, classes will not meet February 16.
- If your **ministry group** would like to share information about the faithful work you are doing in this community at the February 23 ministry fair, please email Fr. Stuart (stuart@gracechurchgainesville.org) by Monday, February 17.
- 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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Picardy, arr. J. J. Kein | H436 Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878); Music: *Truro*, melody from Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt. | *One More Step Along the World I Go* Southoot, Sydney Carter (1905-2004) arr. Lionel Drakes (1924-2003) | H277 Words: Roland Ford Palmer, b. 1891; Music: *Raquel*, Skinner Chávez-Melo, b. 1944 | *O How Amiable*, Psalm 84, Ralph Vaughan-Williams (1872-1958) | H408 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 Heubtartikel des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566 | S130 Setting: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) | H876 *The disciples knew the Lord Jesus* from *Wonder, Love, and Praise*, Jack Warren Burnam (b.1946), Copyright: © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam | H517 Words: Para. of Psalm 84; sts. 1-2, *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, 1650; st.3-4, Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); Music: *Brother James’ Air*; J. L. Macbeth Bain (1840?-1925); Words: Sts 3-4 © 1982, Jr. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press. | H324 Words: Liturgy St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885); Music: *Picardy*; French carol, 17th cent; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860 | H137 Words: Latin, 15th cent; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.; Music: *Wareham*, melody William Knapp (1698-1768), alt; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, after James Turle (1802-1882); desc. Sydney; Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947) Hymn 137 Music: Descant by permission of Royal School of Church Music | *Rigaudon*, Andre Campra, arr. Diane Bish, 2000 Fred Bock Music Company.

**THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF ATLANTA**

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

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

Term ends 2025 Frank Rinker - Administration, Compassion
Julia Greene - Junior Warden
Beth Neidenbach - Participation, Formation, Compassion
Sally Pittman - Participation, Formation
Term ends 2026 Jim Brim - Compassion
Stuart Deaderick - Senior Warden
Helen Scovill - Compassion
Anita Smith - Compassion, Formation, Liturgy & Creative Expression
Term ends 2027 Sue Bowron - Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression
Kimberley Boyd - Compassion
Steve Carlson - Administration
Cheryl Kelley - Formation, Compassion

Amy Munn, Treasurer
Doug McDuff, Assistant Treasurer
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry
Jason Voyles, Chancellor

**CHILDREN OF GRACE
PRESCHOOL**

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