

Grace Church in the Mountains

August 18, 2019 | 8:00 am



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME! / ¡BIENVENIDA!

We are honored by your presence as we gather as God's people to worship in the "beauty of holiness" through our ancient liturgy, contemporary prayers, and vibrant community.

Audio and visual aids, as well as "worship bags" for children, are available. Ask an usher for assistance.

Following the service, please join us in Thatcher Hall for coffee and fellowship.

MISSIONAL PRIORITIES

(Annually discerned by the lay leadership team)

- To steward God's creation faithfully.
- To develop a vibrant ministry to children, youth, and young adults.
- To enhance our ministries to meet the needs of seniors.

WORDS OF WELCOME & SILENCE

Beginning & ending with the ringing of a bell.

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people stand.

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

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

SONG OF PRAISE

The following is said, all standing

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Iesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

A Reading from the book of Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;

he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,

judge between me and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

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

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns:

I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting;

he expected justice, but saw bloodshed;

righteousness, but heard a cry!

THE PSALM Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18

Remain seated. Read responsively by half verse, indicated by the asterisks.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; * you cast out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You prepared the ground for it; * it took root and filled the land.
- 10 The mountains were covered by its shadow * and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

- 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea * and its branches to the River.
- 12 Why have you broken down its wall, * so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, * and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; * preserve what your right hand has planted.
- 15 They burn it with fire like rubbish; * at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

All stand.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, `It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, `There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

All stand.

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

All remain standing or kneel.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, José; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially ______].

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.

I ask your prayers for _____.

I ask your thanksgiving for . .

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Presider says

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.

The Priest stands and says

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.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Presider says this or something similar:

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14

The people stand as the offerings are brought forward.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider

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 say:

Presider and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider 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 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

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Presider

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 & Invitation

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION

Ushers will direct you forward to receive the body and blood. If you prefer a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available.

Please stand.

SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

When scheduled.

Deacon In the name of our parish family, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that {N.}

to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People We who are many are truly one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider 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.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

Holy eternal Majesty, Holy incarnate Word, Holy abiding Spirit,

Bless you for evermore. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members of Grace Church: Ben & Joanne, Jim & Eleanor, Linda & Al, JoAnn, Tom & Christy, Sallee,

Susan & Randy, Pat, Natalie, Posy & Richard, and our Homebound Members:

Betty Shore, Ken Roach, Evelyn Overman, Dot Reid, Alice Sexton, &

Elizabeth Clark.

Friends of Grace: Dale and Trish, Jeremy, Ethan, Ruth, Anthony, Spencer, Telina, Brenda's

caregiver, Nicki, Deborah, Kay, Marcia, Ida, Gretchen, Christy, Martha, Kathryn, Ann, Clint, Roney, Bruce, Carolyn & Rosemary, Major, Elaina,

Robert & Joyce, Roxanne

Those who have died: Elizabeth, sister of Jim Moore

In our Cycle of Prayer: All students, faculty, and staff returning to school

College and Campus Ministries at Appalachian State University, Western

Carolina University, UNC Asheville, and Brevard College

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa and the Most Rev. Thabo Makgoba

SERVING TODAY

Altar Guild Melanie Walt, Georgia McManus, Jim Lynn, Lauren Sutton

Coffee Hour Donna Buckner

Collection Counters Laurel Destry, Chas Lawrence

Lector Laura Armour

Eucharistic Ministers Bob Stambaugh, Donna Buckner

Eucharistic Visitor Bob Stambaugh, visiting Alice Sexton

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Stephanie and Strick Strickland, with best wishes to Scarlett for her new adventures at St. Mary's School in Raleigh.

Happening Today

EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Sunday Forum Gratitude for God's Provision

Lectionary Bible Study Library, 9:15 am

Blessing of the Backpacks: Today at both services, we will kick off the schoolyear by receiving a blessing for the coming months of studying, learning, and growth.

Diocesan Youth Splash: Sunday, August 18 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. 6th through 12th graders are invited for an awesome afternoon of fellowship and fun at Camp Ridgecrest. Cost is \$10 per person, which includes snacks and access to the lake. Meet the Joslyn+ at 1:15 pm in the parking lot to caravan together.

Announcements

Interested in Homebound Ministry? Check out the flyer in this bulletin for more information.

Noontime Noshing tomorrow, August 19, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Bring a lunch to Thatcher Hall to engage in fellowship with other parishioners. Newcomers especially welcome!

Bible Study: Jesus' Parables in Luke's Gospel – Thursdays in August at 7:00 pm in the library. Join the clergy for a time of contemplative Bible Study going deeper into the mysteries of Jesus' parables – short stories with meanings that are never cleanly "figured out." We'll have some discussion, teaching, and about 10 or 15 minutes of silence for you to prayerfully engage these teachings. The classes will end no later than 8:30 pm. Contact the rector to sign-up. Come to one or come to all.

The Annual Tablescapes Luncheon is right around the corner: Saturday, August 24 at 12:00 noon, with a table preview to begin at 11:30 am. This year's performers are the Song Spinners. Spots are limited, so get your tickets ASAP! They are \$20 and will be sold at both coffee hours until August 18. You may also purchase them—or sign up to host a table—by emailing Donna Bucker (ddbuckner2@gmail.com).

Reforesting Faith: A Book Study on Trees in the Bible. On August 25 and September 1, our Sunday Forums will pull themes from this book by Dr. Matthew Sleeth, who makes a convincing case for why trees are essential to every Christian's understanding of God. If you would like to purchase the book to delve more deeply into this idea, you may do so by contacting the church office. Copies are available in the Parish Office for \$19.

Episcopal Church 101 to take place during Education Hour on September 8, 15, and 22 and October 13. Take a dive deep into the world of the Episcopal Church, its sacraments and liturgy, its polity and governance, its interpretation of scripture, and the church year. A great refresher or a helpful introduction to all Episcopalians!

September Summer Dinner Bunch: The schedule with hosts and guests has been posted in Thatcher Hall to the left of the serving area. Those who are participating should be hearing from their hosts regarding date and arrangements. Please contact Betty Smith (smithliz43@gmail.com) with questions.

UPCOMING FORMATION

August 25 & Sept 1: *Reforesting Faith* - a brief introduction of the role trees play throughout Holy Scripture. These forums will include a tour of Grace Church's grounds with an eye to our amazing trees and other special activities.

A Bible study on today's Scripture is offered most Sundays in the Library.

REGULAR GATHERINGS THIS WEEK

*indicates open to all

- * Noontime Noshing, Monday, 11:30 am 1:30 pm, Thatcher Hall
- * Open Library Use, Wednesday, 9:00 am 12:00 noon
- * Holy Eucharist and Healing Service, Wednesday, 12:00 noon, Church

Choir Rehearsal, Wednesday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Choir Room

* Marthas Knitting Guild, Thursday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, Marthas Room

Sisters of Grace, Thursday, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, call Donna Buckner or Mary Lou Daily for location

GRACE CHURCH IN THE MOUNTAINS, EPISCOPAL

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The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer, Rector

The Rev. Br. Raymond Escott, OSB, Deacon

The Rev. Gaelyn Evangreene, Curate

The Revs. Orion Davis, Earle Pratt, & Harriet Simmons, Priest Associates

Charles M. Banks, Director of Music

Dawna Keilman, Nursery Supervisor

Sarah Yeargin, Interim Parish Administrator

Alyson Nelson, Bookkeeper

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Linda Deeb (2019) Crystal Clary (2020) Dale McDonald (2021)

Rob Viau (2019) Mary Hartman, Jr. Warden (2020) Lauri SoJourner (2021)

Paula Welling, Sr. Warden (2019) Kenneth Ratcliffe (2020) Mary Lockey (2021)

Sandra Curtis, Treasurer Karen Morris, Clerk

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