



Grace Church in the Mountains

September 8, 2019 | 8:00 am



Thirteenth 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

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 forever. 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,
Jesus 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.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Lessons *You may be seated.*

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 18:1-11

A Reading from the book of Jeremiah.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

¹LORD, you have searched me out and/known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from a/far.

²You trace my journeys and my/resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my/ways.

³Indeed, there is not a word on my/lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it alto/gether.

⁴You press upon me behind and be/fore *
and lay your hand u/pon me.

⁵Such knowledge is too/wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot at/tain to it.

¹²For you yourself created my inmost/ parts; *
you knit me together in my mother’s/womb.

¹³I will thank you because I am marvelously/made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it/well.

¹⁴My body was not/hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the/earth.

¹⁵Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your/book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was/none of them.

¹⁶How deep I find your thoughts, O/God! *
how great is the/sum of them!

¹⁷If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the/sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like/yours

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

A Reading from the letter to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 this or some variation

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, Joe & Kathy, Posy & Richard, Kar, and Suzanne, and our Homebound Members: Betty Shore, Ken Roach, Evelyn Overman, Dot Reid, & 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, Colin, Laura
- In our Cycle of Prayer:** Church of the Holy Communion, Glendale Springs; Pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan The Most Revd Ezekiel Kumir Kondo - Archbishop of the Province of Sudan & Bishop of Khartoum

SERVING TODAY

- Altar Guild John Zeller, Edwina Costley, Posy Williams
Coffee Hour Lorelei and Dale Yerse
Collection Counters Fred Deeb, Dale McDonald
Lector Janine Geenan
Eucharistic Ministers Bob Stambaugh and Lorelei Yerse
Eucharistic Visitor Kent Clary visiting Betty Shor

Because no flower offering was made for today, a plant from our memorial garden reminds of God's glory in creation. The sign-up for flower offerings is in Thatcher Hall.

Happening Today

Education Hour @ 9:15 am

Sunday Forum in Thatcher Hall: *Episcopal 101* 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! This class will continue for the next three weeks.

Children & Youth Formation: Downstairs, ed by parishioner Sarah Yeagin

Lectionary Bible Study – Library – Study this Sunday's Scripture readings.

Serving our Neighbor: Today, Grace serves dinner at Haywood Pathways. It only takes a couple of hours of your time to help beginning with meal prep around 4:30 pm at the Haywood Pathways Center, 179 Hemlock St. Please join us. For more information or to volunteer, contact Natalie Bayless, nbayless1@gmail.com or 828-565-0444.

The Gathering at Grace Today at 5:00 pm: Join us for a new worship service offered monthly this Fall. It is called "The Gathering," and is inspired by the prophet Joel's vision of Spirit-led communities where everyone's voice is needed. It will feature acoustic music, communion and Scriptures chosen around the theme of God's Creation. We describe it as "informal & reverent, ancient & relevant," for the "old & young." It will be followed by a vegetarian meal.

Announcements

Pub Theology meets this Monday at 7:00 pm at Blue Ridge Beer Hub here in Waynesville (non-alcoholic beverages are also available). This group explores what it means to “live the questions” about who God is, how God is active and absent in the world, and what it means to be human....

Grace Giving Garden Work Day will be on Saturday, Sept. 14 around 9:00 am. We have tools - just bring gloves and well set to diverse tasks from light weeding to straightening the shed, all for our mission: "*to grow and share God's bounty in community and learning with people of all ages.*" Blessings, and bring friends! We're out back below the memorial garden.

Parish Picnic: Sunday, Sept 15 around 12:30 pm at Lake Logan (25 Wormy Chestnut Lane, Canton). This is a potluck picnic. We'll aim to eat around 1:00 pm. Bring some food to share along with tables and chairs. Grills will be available, as will a fire pit for s'mores! We will meet up at the lake front. Boats, kayaks, swimming, hiking and games for all ages. Parking available near the tennis courts. For those with mobility challenges, parking is available adjacent to the boat house, where we'll be gathering. Check out www.lakelogan.org for directions and an interactive map.

Homebound Ministry is Growing! Many of us will reach a point in life where we want to stay connected with our parish community but can't easily get to church due to mobility reasons. Grace Church is blessed with a growing community of elders who would enjoy visits, prayers, friendship and support. We will offer a training for this sacred ministry September 20 & 21. More information is available online. Contact the rector with questions. Notify the office to sign-up.

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.

Cards for Don & Nancy Haynes: Just a reminder that Jane Haynes, daughter-in-law of Don Haynes is collecting cards for his 95th birthday and their 50th anniversary. Cards may be sent to Jane at 7 Dwelling House Ct, Catonsville, MD 21228.

REGULAR GATHERINGS THIS WEEK

**indicates open to all*

***Pub Theology**, Monday, 7:00 pm, Blue Ridge Beer Hub, 21 East St, Waynesville

***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

Lillian Pearson, Interim Organist and Choir Director

Dawna Keilman, Nursery Supervisor

Andrea Croskery, 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 SoJourney (2021)

Paula Welling, Sr. Warden (2019)

Kenneth Ratcliffe (2020)

Mary Lockey (2021)

Sandra Curtis, Treasurer Karen Morris, Clerk

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