

Grace Church in the Mountains

September 19, 2021 | 8:00 am



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (*Proper 20*)

WELCOME! / ¡BIENVENIDOS!

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.

MISSION FOCUS 2021

Celebrating that Christ is all and in all

by

Seeking Inviting

Belonging Serving

Reverencing God's Creation

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Presider says

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

+THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

All: Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

(Be seated)

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

¹⁸The LORD informed me and I knew.

Then he helped me see what they were up to.

¹⁹I was like a young lamb led to the slaughter;

I didn't realize that they were planning
their schemes against me:

"Let's destroy the tree with its fruit;

let's cut him off from the land of the living
so that even any knowledge of him will be wiped out."

²⁰LORD of heavenly forces, righteous judge,

who tests the heart and mind,

let me see your revenge upon them,
because I have committed my case to you.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 54 (*spoken responsively by half-verse*)

¹Save me, O God, by your Name; *

in your might, defend my cause.

²Hear my prayer, O God; *

give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For the arrogant have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, *

those who have no regard for God.

⁴Behold, God is my helper; *

it is the Lord who sustains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; *

in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶I will offer you a freewill sacrifice *

and praise your Name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble, *

and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

SECOND READING: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

A reading from the letter of James

¹³ Are any of you wise and understanding? Show that your actions are good with a humble lifestyle that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ However, if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, then stop bragging and living in ways that deny the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above. Instead, it is from the earth, natural and demonic. ¹⁶ Wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and everything that is evil. ¹⁷ What of the wisdom from above? First, it is pure, and then peaceful, gentle, obedient, filled with mercy and good actions, fair, and genuine. ¹⁸ Those who make peace sow the seeds of justice by their peaceful acts.

⁴ What is the source of conflict among you? What is the source of your disputes? Don't they come from your cravings that are at war in your own lives? ² You long for something you don't have, so you commit murder. You are jealous for something you can't get, so you struggle and fight. You don't have because you don't ask. ³ You ask and don't have because you ask with evil intentions, to waste it on your own cravings.

⁷ Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. ⁸ Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners. Purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

³⁰ From there Jesus and his followers went through Galilee, but he didn't want anyone to know it. ³¹ This was because he was teaching his disciples, "The Human One will be delivered into human hands. They will kill him. Three days after he is killed he will rise up." ³² But they didn't understand this kind of talk, and they were afraid to ask him.

³³ They entered Capernaum. When they had come into a house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about during the journey?" ³⁴ They didn't respond, since on the way they had been debating with each other about who was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be least of all and the servant of all." ³⁶ Jesus reached for a little child, placed him among the Twelve, and embraced him. Then he said, ³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one of these children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me isn't actually welcoming me but rather the one who sent me."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON *(Be seated)*

THE NICENE CREED

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

We look to you, O God, to teach us how to be whom you created us to be. Shine your light on the path ahead. Catch us when we take a wrong turn, and by your Spirit, move us in the right direction. We are your children;

Teach us how to live, O God.

We yearn for peace but are constantly at war with ourselves, our neighbors, and the nations throughout the world. We are your children;

Teach us how to make peace, O God.

We, your church, are easily distracted by things that don't matter. Turn our eyes to you; open our hearts to you; deepen our love of you. Bless our bishops, priests, and deacons. May we teach each other how to walk in love. We are your children;

Teach us how to serve you, O God.

Our bodies ache, our spirits are restless, and our minds grow weary with constant worry. Lead us to a place of wholeness and make each of us agents of healing in this world. We pray for those who have asked our prayers today: N...(after the names from our prayer list are spoken, please add your intercessions aloud or silently). We are your children;

Teach us how to trust in your healing embrace.

When a dear one dies, we ask that you receive them into your eternal kingdom as promised. We pray today for the repose of the soul of N, recently departed...(after the names from our prayer list are spoken, please add your intercessions aloud or silently). Assure those who grieve that you will not leave them desolate in their sorrow but hold their loved one close to your heart. We are your children;

Teach us the way home to you.

The presider adds a concluding collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: 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.

Presider: 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

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

Friends, do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Hebrews 13:15, 16)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Presider: All things come of thee, O Lord.
People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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, forever 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!

Presider: 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 sing the hymn below as others receive communion.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER & BLESSING

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living 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.

The Presider blesses the people.

DISMISSAL

Presider: Go in peace rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SERVING TODAY

Lector/EM	8:00 Laura Armour/Bob Stambaugh, Laura Armour 10:30 Bob Vogt/Melanie Walt, Natalie Bayless
Counters	Michael Lodico & Joe Root
Altar Guild	Melanie Walt, Georgia McManus, Lauren Sutton
Usher	Chas Lawrence
Coffee Hour	8:00 /10:30 Jesse Nelson

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members of Grace: Linda Sexton, Carol Feichter, Harriet Simmons, Betty Harrison, Vickie Pope; Becky Prevost; and our Homebound Members: Elizabeth Weber, Evelyn Overman, Charlotte Dickinson, Katherine Calhoun, & Charles Baker.

Friends of Grace: Gretchen Gorfine, friend of Georgia McManus; Debra & Jimmy Weems, sister & brother-in-law of Carol Linker; John Blount, cousin of Clyde Austin; Aaron Vaughen, son of Pam Vaughen; Mary, mother of BJ Minturn; Jason, son of Margaret Violet; Catterlin, brother-in-law of Joe Root & Natalie Bayless; Allen & Charles Davis, husband and son of Diane Davis; Fr. Matthew Venuti, son-in-law of Paula & Peter Welling; Ken Rich, friend of Gary Roberts; Carmen Suter, Joelle & Jeff Clark, friends of Karlinne Wulf-Lamphear & Ken Clark, her brother-in-law; Paul Mehaffey, grandfather of Jesse Nelson; Gary, cousin of Joyce Brooks; Genevieve Conrad friend of Lorie Ray; Roney Sutton, friend of Melissa VanNoppen; Debby Coughlin, sister of Dale McDonald; Kathy McNeil, former organist at Grace Church.

For those who have died Beverly McCree, Wife of Tim McCree, former rector of St. Andrew's, Canton

Flowers this morning is offered to the glory of God.

HAPPENING TODAY

FORMATION HOUR @ 9:15 am

Ministry Fair is TODAY during Formation Hour: outside under the tent.

Lectionary Bible Study in the Library and on Zoom (Open to All)

The Gathering: Our contemporary service returns next Sunday 9/19 @ 5:00 p.m. The service will be in the Church followed by a Fellowship meal under the tent. All ages welcome. Make plans to join us

THIS WEEK* indicates all are invited

Sun., Sept. 19	5:00	The Gathering –contemporary worship followed by fellowship meal*
Tues., Sept. 21	Noon 6:00	Deadline for eNews & bulletin announcements* Vestry Meeting
Wed., Sept. 22	Noon 7:00	Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer* Choir Practice in person
Thurs., Sept. 23	10:00 7:00 7:30	Marthas Knitting Group viz Zoom* Spiritual Direction Conversation via Zoom* Mid-Life Grace for Women
Fri., Sept. 24	9:00	Morning Prayer via Facebook*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prayer Requests: We have made a few changes to the way we will be handling prayer requests. First, we have added a new section for Prayers of Thanksgiving. Please send us your prayers for birthdays, anniversaries, and all that you are thankful for. Secondly, prayer requests for Friends of Grace will only be kept in the bulletin for one month. If you would like to renew your prayer request, please keep the office updated by sending in another request at the end of the month.

Spiritual Direction Panel: Join us Thursday, September 23rd at 7:00pm to learn more and hear from Joslyn Schaefer, Maureen Hunt, and Tim Hussey about their perspectives and experiences with spiritual direction.

Children and Youth Offerings at the 9:15 Education Hour: Bring everyone in the family to the 9:15 Education Hour! Offerings for Children and Youth during the 9:15 hour will start next week, Sunday, September 26th. Little ones up to 2nd Grade will meet in the nursery for Godly Play with Dawna Kielman. 3rd grade and up will meet in the Martha's room for a Youth Hangout with Daniel Yeargin and Madison Owen.

As We Forgive + 6 Week Forgiveness Workshop: Join us next Sunday for the showing of As We Forgive, an inspiring movie about reconciliation after the Rwandan 1994 genocide. This movie will kick off a 6 week Forgiveness Workshop offered by Joslyn during the 9:15 hour. The workshop focuses on becoming a more forgiving person by teaching an 'evidence-based method' for people who have been hurt, wounded or offended by a hard-to-handle transgression, want to forgive, have tried to forgive, but have not been able to forgive. Folks who choose to engage this should know: the workshop is about becoming a more forgiving person overall, but it focuses on forgiving a single hurt and learning a method of forgiving, which they can apply to other hurts with the same person or with other people and therefore eventually become a more forgiving person.

The Blessing of the Animals will be held Sunday, October 3rd at 4:00pm outside in the back by the fire pit. All are welcome to bring their pets to receive a special blessing. Invite your friends and plan to stay after for banana splits!

GRACE CHURCH IN THE MOUNTAINS, EPISCOPAL

394 N. Haywood Street, Waynesville, NC 28786

(828) 456-6029 • www.gracewaynesville.com

General email: admin@gracewaynesville.com

Rector: rector@gracewaynesville.com

Director of Parish Programs: programs@gracewaynesville.com

Music Director: music@gracewaynesville.com

Treasurer: finance@gracewaynesville.com

Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper: admin@gracewaynesville.com

Facebook.com/gracewaynesville • Instagram: @GraceChurchIM

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

The Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer, Rector

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

Virginia Moe, Music Director

Madison Owen, Director of Parish Programs

Andrea Croskery, Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

Tony Caldwell, Sexton

Dawna Keilman, Nursery Supervisor

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Dale McDonald, Sr. Warden (2021)	Michael Lodico, Jr. Warden (2022)	Laura Armour (2023)
Lauri SoJourney (2021)	Patricia (Pat) Robinson (2022)	Kathie Johnson (2023)
Mary Lockey (2021)	Laurel Destry (2022)	Mariah Nehus (2023)

Gary Roberts & Walt Austin, Treasurers

Karen Morris, Clerk

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