

# Grace Church in the Mountains

November 26, 2023 | 8:00 am

# GRACE WAYNESVILLE

## Christ the King Sunday

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 aids available. Ask an usher for assistance.

Children are welcome. We have a special children's area up front. Nursery care is also available for children ages 0 - 5.

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

**Celebrating that Christ is all and in all**

by

Seeking      Inviting

Belonging      Serving

Reverencing God's Creation

# THE WORD OF GOD

## OPENING ACCLAMATION *(Please stand)*

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

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

**GLORIA:** 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.

**All:** Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.*

The LORD God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. <sup>15</sup>I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the LORD God says. <sup>16</sup>I will seek out the lost, bring back the strays, bind up the wounded, and strengthen the weak. But the fat and the strong I will destroy, because I will tend my sheep<sup>[a]</sup> with justice.

<sup>20</sup>So the LORD God proclaims to them: I will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>You shove with shoulder and flank, and with your horns you ram all the weak sheep until you've scattered them outside. <sup>22</sup>But I will rescue my flock so that they will never again be prey. I will even judge between the sheep! <sup>23</sup>I will appoint for them a single shepherd, and he will feed them. My servant David will feed them. He will be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be their prince. I, the LORD, have spoken.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 100** (*Spoken responsively by half verse*)

1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; \*  
    **serve the LORD with gladness**  
    **and come before his presence with a song.**

2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; \*  
    **he himself has made us, and we are his;**  
    **we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
    go into his courts with praise; \*  
    **give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

4 For the LORD is good;  
    his mercy is everlasting; \*  
    **and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23**

*A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians.*

<sup>15</sup> Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that <sup>16</sup> I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you. <sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, <sup>19</sup> and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength. <sup>20</sup> God's power was at work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and sat him at God's right side in the heavens, <sup>21</sup> far above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that might be named not only now but in the future. <sup>22</sup> God put everything under Christ's feet and made him head of everything in the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body. His body, the church, is the fullness of Christ, who fills everything in every way.

*(Please stand)*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46**

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>31</sup> "Now when the Human One<sup>[a]</sup> comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

<sup>34</sup> "Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. <sup>35</sup> I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

<sup>37</sup> "Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> "Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'

<sup>41</sup> "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> I was hungry and you didn't give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me anything to drink. <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you didn't welcome me. I was naked and you didn't give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

<sup>44</sup> "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.' <sup>46</sup> And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life."

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Earle Pratt**

## THE NICENE CREED *(please 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

*Deacon:* Let us now offer our prayer and thanksgivings to God. After each bidding, I invite you to share your prayer with the whole congregation, so that we may join our prayers to yours. Before we pray together, let us in silence ask the Spirit to bring to our consciousness those things for which we should pray.

*Leader:* I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for bishop Michael and José, and our clergy Joslyn and Carter; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church, especially *(insert churches in our Cycle of Prayer)*.                      *Silence*

*Leader:* I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.                      *Silence*

*Leader:* 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 [especially \_\_\_\_\_].                      *Silence*

*Leader:* 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*

*Leader:* I ask your prayers for the departed [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Pray for those who have died.                      *Silence*

*The People add their prayers and petitions.*                      *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 & ABSOLUTION

*Deacon:* Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love. Knowing our sin and separation from Him, let us ask for mercy and forgiveness.

*Silence may be kept.*

*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.*

Offering QR



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The Presider says:* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving. Make good your vows to the Most High.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundation of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb. You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey. And so as the morning stars sing your praises, we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

**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 until...*And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*The Presider continues until...*Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

**Blessed are you now and forever. AMEN**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**hallowed be thy Name,**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**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:* Behold what you are!

*People:* **May we become what we receive.**

### COMMUNION

**A Note About Communion:** *All are welcome at God's table! You may receive the bread and sip from the cup or just receive the bread, which is considered a full communion. If you wish intinction, that is the bread dipped in the wine, the clergy will be happy to do that for*

you. Please **do not** dip the bread yourself. If you only wish to receive a blessing, simply just cross your arms over your chest. Ushers will direct you forward. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please sing the hymn below as others receive communion.

**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:** (*stand or kneel*)

Let us pray.

**All:** God of Abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

**BLESSING**

**DISMISSAL**

*The Deacon dismisses the people.*

**All:** Thanks be to God.

*JOIN US FOLLOWING THE SERVICE IN THATCHER HALL FOR COFFEE HOUR.*

**SERVING TODAY**

**Altar Guild:** Mary Lockey, Margaret Fite, Chris Smith, Elise Greenberg, Kim Kranker

**Counters:** Clyde Austin, Joe Root

**Lectors/Ems:** 8:00 Laura Armour/Lorelei Yerse, Pat Robinson

10:30 Jesse Nelson, Lauri SoJourneyer/Jack Geist, Mary Lockey

**Ushers:** Walt Austin, Blake Hadley, Daniel Atterholt

**VPOD:** 8:00 10:30 Mary Lockey

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

<b>Members of Grace:</b>	Bob Vogt, Elise Greenberg, Melissa Van Noppen, Gary Clarke, Bob Stambaugh, Charlie Baker, K G Watson, Marie Shaginaw, Vicky Pope, Paul Daniel, and our Home-Bound Members: Gloria Moe, Becky Prevost, Elizabeth Weber, Katherine Calhoun.
<b>Friends of Grace:</b>	James Cloninger, friend of Jack Geist; Johanna & William Hennenberg, sister & brother-in-law of Joslyn Schaefer; Mike Pcenici, father of Trent; Larry Martin, brother of Kim Kranker; Shannon Leatherwood, friend of Kim Kranker; Sharon Wood, sister of Teresa Roberts; Libby Case, cousin of Teresa Riley; Jason Nurse, son of Peter & Jane Nurse; Katie Ferguson, cousin of David Ferguson; Kris Nyland, friend of Patty Coulter; Isabel, granddaughter of Gary & Susan Clarke; Jamie Justice, friend of Chris Smith.
<b>For those preparing to welcome a child:</b>	Megan & Kendrick Carpenter; Julia & Joe Lucas
<b>For those who have died:</b>	Dick Morris, husband of Karen Morris; Sue Marshall, friend of Walt & Clyde Austin.
<b>Thanksgivings:</b>	Birth of John Walker Ogden, cousin of Susanah & Elias Schaefer.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dick Morris by Laurel Destry.

**HAPPENING TODAY**

- **9:15 Sunday Forum:** How many times have you attended a memorial service and thought, “I wish \_\_\_\_\_ could have heard all of the wonderful things said?” Have you ever experienced the deep sadness that comes from having left something unsaid to a loved one? Have you ever heard a loved one question the impact of his/her life? Do you sometimes question the impact of your own life? Let's explore Celebration Circles as a way we can deepen our Grace community connections. Presented by counselor and parishioner, Liza Ely. Leigh

Ann Mertens of Haywood End of Life Coalitions will also be on hand.

- **Children’s Formation in the Nursery @ 9:15**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Next week’s Forum:** The first in an Advent study of *The Lord’s Prayer*. Led by Joslyn.

**Men of Grace:** First Saturday of the month @ 9:30, Fellowship, Prayer, Study and Service

**Volunteers Needed for the Carol Lans Memorial Cookie Walk and Bake Sale benefiting Pathways :**

- Bakers & candy makers;
- Advertisers—Everyone by word of mouth, notices to other churches & publications
- Setup—Tables in Thatcher Hall on Dec 15
- Intake—Collect items from bakers on Dec 14-15
- Cookie decorators-Dec 14
- Greeters Dec 16
- Check-out clerks Dec 16
- Clean Up Dec 16 after 1pm

All volunteers may sign up during coffee hour or contact: Kathie Johnson at 396-299-4979 or sign up in Thatcher Hall.

**Artist Guild Creative Expressions:** Second and fourth Tuesdays from 10:30-1:00. All are invited! Bring your own materials and a snack. We can all learn from each other. Community Room downstairs.

**Taizé:** Join us for this reflective service offered on the first Sunday of each month.

**Name Badges** may be ordered by parishioners by emailing Al Fortney: lafortneyjr@gmail.com. First time orders are provided as part of our Welcoming Ministry. Replacement badges are \$10.00. Deadline for next order is next Sunday.

**Renewed by Grace:** Thank you to the 108 families who have made commitments.

**UPCOMING**

**Wednesdays in Advent:** Evening Prayer at 6:00 followed by a tea and discussion of *Keep Watch with Me*. Copies of the book can be purchased through Cokesbury, Amazon or Blue Ridge Books in Hazelwood.

**Save the Date - Advent Quiet Day: Saturday, Dec. 9 from 10:00 – 3:00** Drop in or stay for all of it. Parishioners will give talks throughout the day on the theme “Hope in Darkness” Music is also parishioner led. Don’t miss it!

**Women of Grace Cookie Walk: Saturday Dec. 16 from 9:00 – 1:00.** To volunteer to help bake cookies or work the sale, contact Mary Lou Daily {mldaily7@gmail.com; 828.424.1452}.

**Greening of the Church/Christmas Party:** Sunday, Dec. 17 beginning @ 3:00; potluck @ 5:00; ham provided by Grace.

**Liturgy of the Longest Night:** Thursday, Dec., 21 @ 7:00 pm. For those who are grieving or sad during the holidays.

**THIS WEEK**

**\*indicates open to all**

Tues., Nov. 28	8:00 10:30 Noon	Lectionary Bible Study in the Library and on Zoom. Link on website.* Artist Guild Creative Expressions Workshop in the Community Room. All welcome.* Deadline for announcements*
Wed., Nov. 29	9:00 Noon 12:45	Chime Choir Rehearsal Eucharist & Healing Service* Choir Practice
Thurs., Nov. 30	10:00	Marthas Knitting Group* Sew Graceful Quilt Class – Community Room*
Sat., Dec. 2	9:00 9:30	Renewal Workshop – Community Room Men of Grace: Fellowship, Prayer, Study and Service*
Sund., Dec. 3	7:00	Taizé – Join us for this service of contemplation, chant, and candlelight*

**CHRISTMAS @ GRACE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE\***

4:00 pm – Children & Family Focus  
7:00 & 10:00 pm – Festive Eucharist w/candlelight.  
special music begins 20 minutes prior to each service  
Sunday Dec. 24 Morning Service @ 9:15

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Holy Eucharist @ 10:00 am  
Lessons & Carols @ 10:30 service **Sunday, Dec. 31**  
**EPIPHANY (JAN. 7)**  
Breakfast Potluck @ 9:15  
Pageant @ 10:30

# GRACE CHURCH IN THE MOUNTAINS, EPISCOPAL

394 N. Haywood Street, Waynesville, NC 28786

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Treasurer/Bookkeeper: [finance@gracewaynesville.com](mailto:finance@gracewaynesville.com)

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[Facebook.com/gracewaynesville](https://www.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*

*The Rev. Carter A. Smith, Deacon*

*Virginia Moe, Music Director*

*Andrea Croskery, Parish Administrator*

*Judy Dykes, Bookkeeper*

*Tony Caldwell, Sexton*

*Emma Thomas, Nursery Supervisor*

## MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Laura Armour, Sr. Warden (2023)	Tracy Bahm (2024)	Suzanne LeClaire (2025)
Kathie Johnson (2023)	Barbara Rowe, Jr. Warden (2024)	Joyce Brooks (2025)
Mariah Nehus (2023)	John Turley (2024)	Mary Lockey (2025)

Gary Roberts & Walt Austin, Treasurers

David Ferguson, Clerk

**GRACE**  
**WAYNESVILLE**