# grace episcopal church



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Proper I2C

July 27, 2025

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#### Grace Episcopal Church

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WE are a diverse community united by our commitment to Jesus Christ and our desire to live the Christian life. Our prayers and the Sacraments help us find Christ in church and in the world. Seeing Christ in each other and in the faces of strangers, we are inspired to reach out in love and service.

The Rev. Rowena J. Kemp, Rector

Cell phone: 203-209-4178 Church office: 860-233-0825

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The Rev. Marta S. Rivera Monclova, PhD, *Curate*The Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon, *Associate Priest*The Rev. Canon Annika Warren, *Associate Priest*The Rev. Joseph L. Pace, *Associate Priest*Mr. Kyle Swann, *Choirmaster and Organist* 

#### The Vestry

Claudia Gwardyak, Senior Warden; Barbara Galbreath, Junior Warden Katharine Rovetti, Parish Clerk Mark Lacedonia, Treasurer; Barbara Galbreath, Assistant Treasurer Adrianne Brown, Josephine Dominguez, Linda Galarza-Rosa, Sheryl Rifkin, Sr. Gregory Simmons

ELCOME to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*. We hope you feel at home with us and that you find the love, peace, inspiration, and strength to meet the challenges of your daily life.

We hope that you will take part in our worship by making the Peoples' responses as indicated and joining in the hymn-singing.

If you would like more information about Grace Church, or the Episcopal Church, please communicate with our Rector, The Rev. Rowena Kemp, or make an appointment with her to discuss any questions you have.

Cover: Lord's Prayer, Albani Psalter

# grace episcopal church

# The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025

Sung Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Proper I2C

M

Mass Setting: *Grace Mass* 

Edward Ivor Wagner, 1987

This setting of the Ordinary of the Mass is for congregational singing.

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Voluntary: Fantasy in C minor

Johann Sebastian Bach (d. 1750)

#### ENTRANCE RITE AND THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Introit (choir) Deus in loco sancto

Tone VII

(Antiphon) GOD IN HIS HOLY HABITATION, it is he that maketh brethren to be of one mind in an house: he will give the dominion and pre-eminence unto his people. [Psalm] Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. [Repeat antiphon.]

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: ★ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

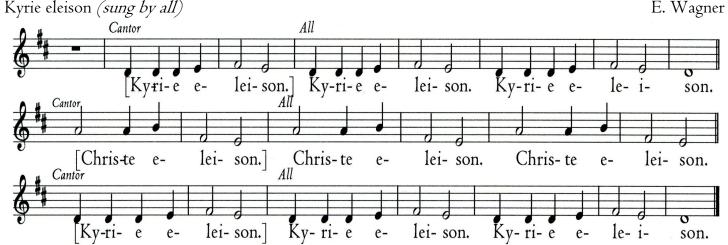
Collect for Purity

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*.

Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

THOU shalt love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.







The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The LORD be with you.

high in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

GOD, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy, that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

men.

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 18: 20-32 [NRSV]

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

THE LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how L very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.'

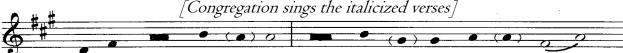
The Word of the LORD.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm I38

Confitebor tibi

Tone V.2



I I WILL give thanks unto thee O Lord with my whole | heart;

\* even before the gods will I sing | praise unto thee.

2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy Name,

because of thy loving-kindness and | truth;

\* for thou hast magnified thy Name and thy | word above ^ all things.

3 When I called upon thee thou | heardest ^ me:

\* and enduedst my | soul with much strength.

4 All the kings of the earth shall praise thee O / LORD;

\* for they have heard the | words of thy mouth.

5 Yea they shall sing of the ways of the | LORD,

\* that great is the | glory of ^ the LÖRD.

6 For though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the | lowly;

\* as for the proud he beholdeth | them afar öff.

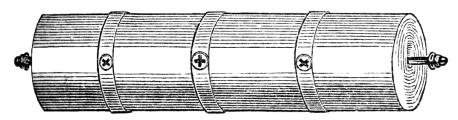
7 Though I walk in the midst of troublet, yet shalt thou re- | fresh me;

\* thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies, and thy right | hand shall save më.

8 The Lord shall make good his loving-kindness toward | me;

\* yea thy mercy O Lord endureth for ever;

despise not then the | works of thine ^ own händs.



The Epistle: Colossians: 2: 6-19 /NRSV/

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians.

A S you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,  $\mathbf{1}$ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on selfabasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

The Word of the LORD.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.



Alleluia Exsultate Deo adjutori

Tone VI



Choir:

SING WE MERRILY UNTO GOD our strength; make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob: take the psalm, bring hither the tabret.



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ ac-cor-ding to Luke. Deacon:

▼ Glory be to thee, O Lord. People:

TE was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, Tone of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive every one who is indebted to us; and lead us not into temptation."

And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything'?

I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him whatever he needs. "And I tell you, Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The Gospel of the LORD.

People's Response: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Rowena J. Kemp, *Rector* 



Knocking at the Door, Qi He

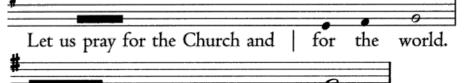


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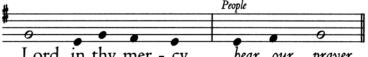








Grant almighty God, that all who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth, live together in thy love, and reveal thy glory / in the world. (Silence)



Lord, in thy mer - cy hear our prayer. (Sung after every intercession)

Leader: 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 thy mercy People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as thine own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to thy hon-/or and glory. (Silence)

LORD, in thy mercy

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Watch over thy child Leonor, O Lord, as her days increase; bless and guide her wherever they may be. Strengthen her when she stands; comfort her when discouraged or sorrowful; raise her up if she falls; and in her heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days / of her life. (Silence)

LORD, in thy mercy *People:* hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish; that we may have the hands and hearts to carry / out thy will. (Silence)

LORD, in thy mercy *People:* hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to thy gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad [especially N.]. Defend them day by day with thy heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of thine abiding presence wherever / they may be. (Silence)

LORD, in thy mercy *People:* hear our prayer.

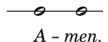
Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (pause); give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of / thy salvation. (Silence)

LORD, in thy mercy *People:* hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to thy mercy all who have died, that thy will for them may be fulfilled (pause); and we pray that we may share with all thy saints in thine e-/ternal kingdom. (Silence)

LORD, in thy mercy *People:* hear our prayer.

Celebrant: LORD, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *People* 



#### Confession of Sin and Absolution

Deacon: Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ♣ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Comfortable Words

Celebrant: Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

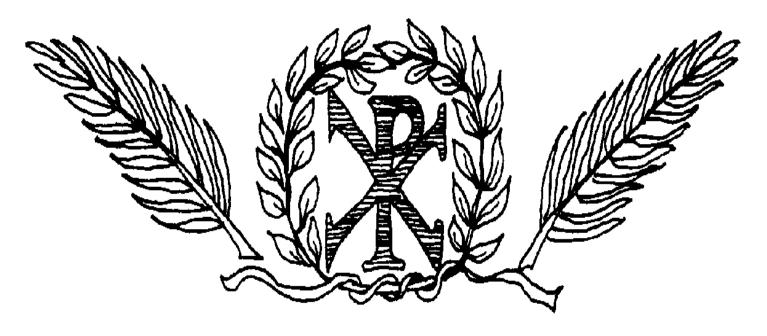
COME UNTO ME, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew II: 28* GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3: 16* 

#### The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the Name of the Lord.



#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### Offertory Sentence

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

Offertory (choir) Exaltabo te, Domine

Tone II

I WILL MAGNIFY THEE, O LORD, for thou hast set me up: and not made my foes to triumph over me. O Lord, my God, I cried unto thee: and thou hast healed me.



Presentation of the alms and oblations

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O LORD,

*People:* And of thine own have we given thee.

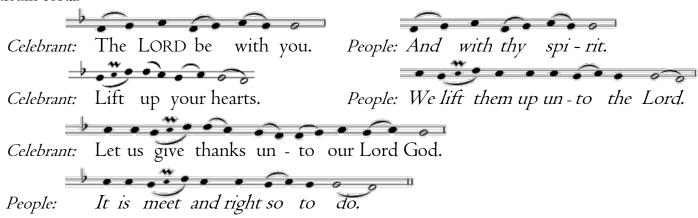
Orate

Celebrant: Pray that this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People: May the LORD receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his

holy Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.



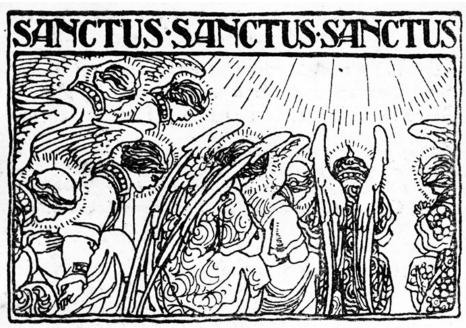


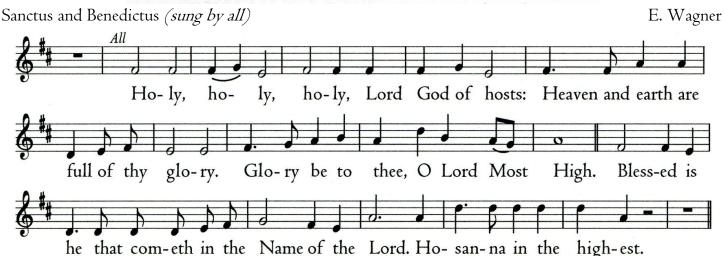
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant says,

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O LORD, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

WHO by water and the Holy Spirit hast made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth thy glory in all the world.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,





The Canon of the Mass

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." \*

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." \*

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

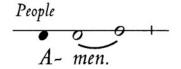
And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

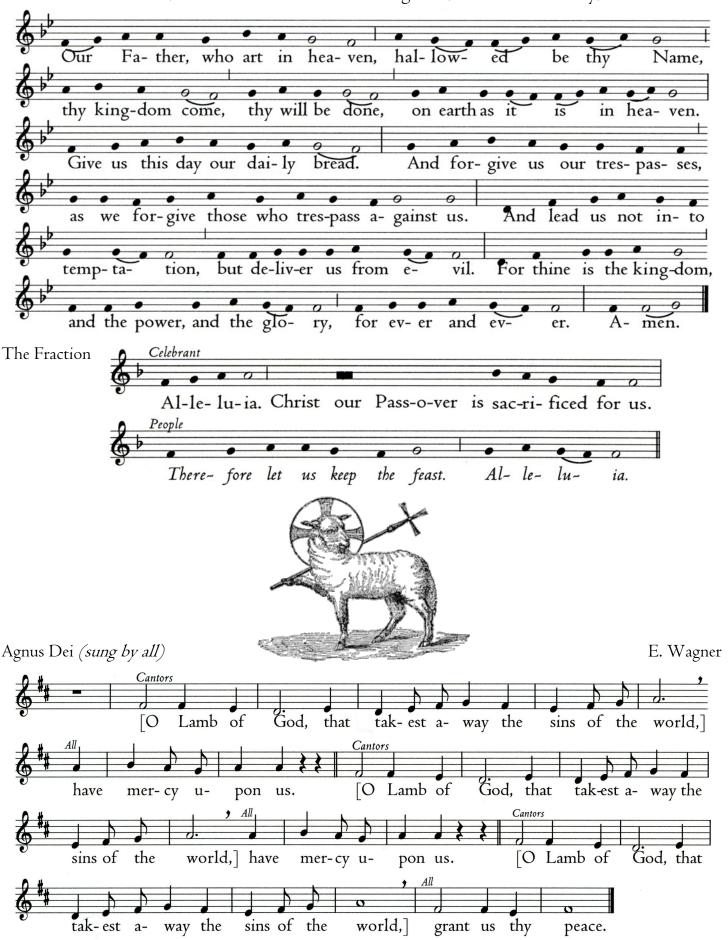
 $B^{\mbox{\scriptsize Y}}$  whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.





The Lord's Prayer (sung by all)

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,



Prayer of Humble Access (said by all)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful LORD, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious LORD, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

People: LORD, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Communion (choir) Dico vobis

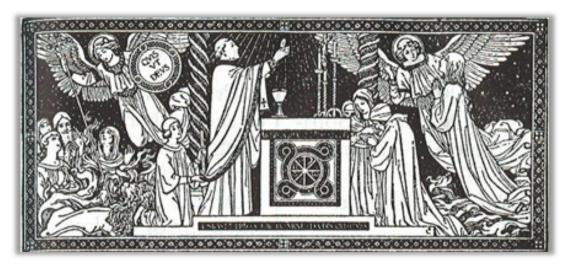
Tone I

I SAY UNTO YOU, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.



Prayer of Spiritual Communion (said by those worshipping virtually)

In union, O Dear LORD, with the faithful at every Altar of Thy Church, where Thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to Thee. And since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from Thee. Let me live and die in Thy love. Amen.





Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these Holy Mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical Body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our LORD, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our LORD; and the blessing of God Almighty, \*\* the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.* 



Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God.

The Last Gospel St. John I: I-I4

Celebrant: The LORD be with you. People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: The Beginning of the holy Gospel according to John.

*People:* ♣ Glory be to thee, O LORD.

In the BEGINNING was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him: and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men: and the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light,

but was sent to bear witness of that light.

That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.



(Here genuflect) And the Word was made flesh, (Here rise) and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

Salve Regina (choir)

Mode V

SALVE REGINA, mater misericordia: Vita, dulcendo, et spes nostra salve. Ad te Sclamamus, exsules filii Hevae. Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte. Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exsilium ostende. O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.

[Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile show us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.]



The Angelus

Celebrant: The Angel of the LORD announced unto Mary.

*People:* And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the LORD is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Celebrant: Behold the handmaid of the LORD.

*People:* Be it unto me according to thy word.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the LORD is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

(Here genuflect) Celebrant: And the Word was made flesh.

(Here rise) People: And dwelt among us.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the LORD is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Celebrant: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

*People:* That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

WE beseech thee, O LORD, pour thy grace into our hearts, that, as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his Passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection, through the same Christ our LORD. *Amen*.

## A + A + A + A + A

Hymn 709 (sung by all)

"O God of Bethel, by whose hand"

Dundee



O God of Beth - el, by whose hand thy peo - ple still are fed; Our vows, our prayers, we now pre - sent be - fore thy throne of grace:

3 Through each per - plex - ing path of life our wan-dering foot - steps guide;

4 O spread thy shel-tering wings a - round, till all our wan - derings cease,

5 Such bless-ings from thy gra-cious hand our hum - ble prayers im - plore;

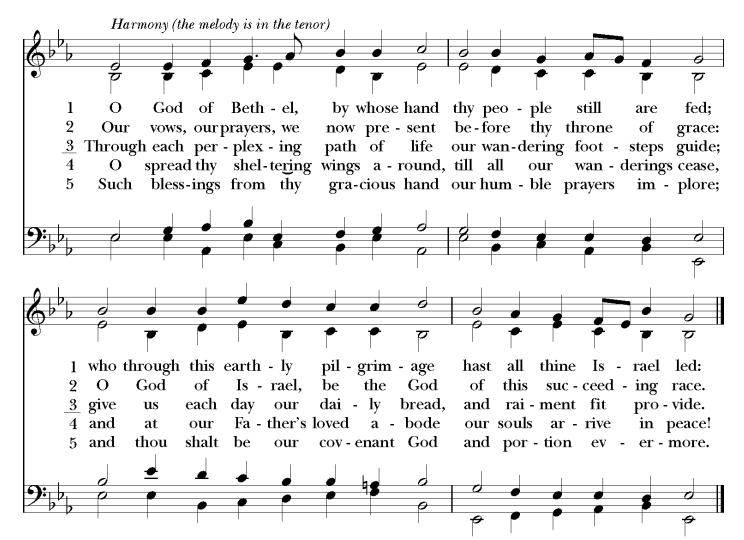


1 who through this earth - ly pil - grim - age

2 O God of Is - rael, be the God

<u>3</u> give us each day our dai - ly bread,

4 and at our Fa - ther's loved a - bode 5 and thou shalt be our cov - enant God hast all thine Is - rael led: of this suc - ceed-ing race. and rai - ment fit pro - vide. our souls ar - rive in peace! and por - tion ev - er - more.



Voluntary: Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Ehr'

I, S. Bach



#### July 27, 2025 – Pentecost 7 (C) The Feast of William Wilberforce

On July 30, the Episcopal Church remembers William Wilberforce (1759 – 1833), along with Anthony Ashley Cooper (1801-1885), prophetic witnesses of the Gospel of Christ. Wilberforce was a British statesman and evangelical Anglican who used his position as a Member of Parliament from the Yorkshire area to advocate for the abolition of the slave trade throughout the British Empire.

Noted for personal charm and great eloquence as a public speaker, Wilberforce was elected to Parliament from his home town and district of Hull at the age of 21. After a conversion experience in 1784, he joined the evangelical wing of the Anglican church and became interested in social reform movements.

Lady Margaret Middleton, the wife of another Member of Parliament, approached Wilberforce as a likely person to work within the government for the abolition of the slave trade. The enormity of the task was daunting to Wilberforce, who wrote, "I feel the great importance of the subject and I think myself unequal to the task allotted to me."

But Wilberforce accepted the mission. "God Almighty has set before me two great objects, the suppression of the slave trade and the reformation of manners," he wrote in his journal in 1787. His health, however, had never been good, and illness prevented him from immediately taking on the challenge. It was May 1789 before he made his first speech in the House of Commons on the subject of the slave trade.



When Wilberforce formally proposed abolition of the trade in 1791, his fellow members voted against his motion by nearly two to one. Wilberforce continued to press the matter, making similar proposals some nine times by 1805. During that time, due to the efforts of many reformers, the British people learned about the horrific conditions endured by enslaved Africans, and public opinion gradually turned against the slave trade.

It took longer to convince Parliament, but the Abolition of the Slave Trade bill was eventually passed in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords by large majorities and took effect in March 1807. Although the successful bill was introduced by another Member of Parliament, Wilberforce received full credit — and a rare standing ovation from the House of Commons — for his untiring efforts. Unfortunately, the 1807 bill did not immediately stop the slave trade. Seafaring traders flouted the law, sometimes covering this illegal commerce by throwing their captives overboard to drown when ships of the British navy approached. Many people became convinced that only the abolition of slavery would stop the trade.

Wilberforce at first resisted calls for outright abolition, writing in 1807, "It would be wrong to emancipate [the slaves]. To grant freedom to them immediately would be to insure not only their masters' ruin, but their own. They must [first] be trained and educated for freedom." But he eventually came to support full emancipation and worked to bring public opinion and political will together to that end. He continued to serve in Parliament, supporting a variety of causes, including overseas Christian mission, increased education, and greater freedom for Roman Catholics. He retired in 1825 due to ill health but continued to campaign for an end to slavery.

Wilberforce saw his efforts rewarded when Parliament passed a law in July 1833 outlawing slavery throughout the British Empire. He died three days later at age 73. In honor of his service to the nation, he was buried in the north transept of Westminster Abbey.

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# July 27 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost FOR PASTORAL ASSISTANCE

**Our Rector, THE REV. ROWENA KEMP** welcomes hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact her if there's something you'd like to discuss, and please contact her immediately should there be an illness, hospitalization, or any other pastoral emergency that she should know about. [For such emergencies, please note Rev. Rowena'scell phone number: 203-209-4178.]

#### PEOPLE AND PLACES TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

A reminder: Tori Burns manages this list for us, and prayer requests need to be renewed after 2 weeks.

Please communicate all prayer requests & updates with her (860-539-8790); (tburns@gracehartford.org).

- Bishops and Clergy: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, Presiding Bishop; Jeffrey and Laura, Bishops of ECCT; Rowena, Jerry, Annika, and Joseph, our priests, and Marta, our curate.
- Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish, that we may have the hands and hearts to carry out thy will; for the Episcopal Church in CT & the Anglican Communion; St. John's, Salisbury; Trinity, Seymour; Christ Church, Sharon; parish office volunteers, curates, seminary interns, parish assistants & associates; and missional curacies. The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea).
- World & Community Concerns: For peace throughout the world, especially between Iran, Israel, and Gaza, and in the Middle East; in Sudan; and between Russia and Ukraine; for Christians being persecuted around the world, particularly in China and Palestine; for those who are suffering because of extreme climate; for the hungry and poor in our midst; and the volunteers who serve A Place of Grace food pantry.
- Serving Our Country in the Military (especially those associated with Grace Church): Brian, Spencer, Bradley, Curtis, Jordan, John, Carrington, William, Noel, James, Ryan, Michael, Karl, Alec, Jeff, David, Tom, Michael, and Charles.
- Thanksgiving and Celebrations: We give thanks and ask for thy blessings upon Leonor Snow (Sun.), whose birthday we celebrate this week.
- Sick or in need: The Gwardyak Family; Paulo Junior; Felix & Carmen; Adrianne & Kenneth; Mark; Jerry; Bonnie & the Burns Family; Tom & Elaine; Ellen; Sally; Errol, Norma & the Kemp Family; Barbara; Nigel, Kraig & Deidre; Mary; Josephine, Melissa, Jaden, Tay, Soraya & Rapael; Julia, Mike, André & Maria; Linda, Tiffany & the Galarza Family; Camden; Joan; David; Neil; Lea; Megin; Kathy; Patti; Delores; Nancy; Marcolina; Peter; Sr. Linda; Leonard; Joy; Cori and the Mackey Family; Judy; Jane; Bill, Carolyn & Susan; McJohn; Doreen; Ted; Kanata; Betty & John; Mary & Lou; Nelda Sue; Diane; Michael; Mark & Diane; Jean; and all victims of natural and man-made disasters.
- The Deceased: We pray for the repose of The Very Rev. Bishop Jeffery Rowthorn, Jo-Ann Gorgacz, Waylon Francis, Susan Mommsen, all soldiers and civilians killed in war or civil strife, and in memory of Lawrenzo Knight, Aaron Ward, Douglas Morgan, Lyda Smith, and Wayne Pokorny, in whose memory the flowers are given(by Dr. Barb Galbreath).

### \$\$\frac{\phi}{\phi}\$\$\rightarrow \text{\$\phi\$} \rightarrow \text{\$\ph

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Visit "Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford, CT" on <u>FACEBOOK</u>. & <u>YouTube</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/GECHartford</u>; <u>https://www.youtube.com/@GraceEpiscopalHartford</u>

#### THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, July 27 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost ~ Proper 12

**8:00 am:** Low Mass

**10:30 a.m.:** Sung Mass (also on Facebook Live)

Tuesday, July 29 Mary and Martha of Bethany

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.:** Office Hours

**6:00 p.m.:** SOLEMN EVENSONG presented by HAVEN RELIGIOUS (followed by supper)

Wednesday, July 30 William Wilberforce, 1833

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.:** Office Hours

Thursday, July 31 Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, 1556

**10:00 a.m.:** "A Place of Grace" food pantry distribution

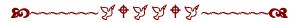
Friday, August 1 Joseph of Arimathea

**1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.:** Office Hours

Sunday, August 2 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Proper 13

**8:00 am:** Low Mass

**10:30 a.m.:** Sung Mass (also on Facebook Live)





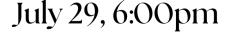
Visit "Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford CT" on <u>FACEBOOK</u> & <u>YOUTUBE</u>

Please join, and help us spread the good news online!





# Evensong of Sts. Mary and Martha



The service will be followed by a light supper.

To sing in the Schola, please arrive at 5:00pm.

All are welcome!



Grace Episcopal Church 55 New Park Ave, Hartford, CT



