



Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Grace Episcopal Church
123 W. Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450

Celebrant
The Rev. Tucker Bowerfind, Rector

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

November 8, 2020

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Word of God

Welcome to everyone joining us on Facebook Live!

Full versions of hymns are on YouTube, link is on our website homepage: www.graceepiscopalexington.org

Prelude: Variations of My Country Tis of Thee

Hymn 525 The Church's one foundation

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900) Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gloria, spoken, accompanied by joyful ringing of bells.

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.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day (Proper 27)

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and

among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”


But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the LORD!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Psalms 78:1-7 led and accompanied by music scholars

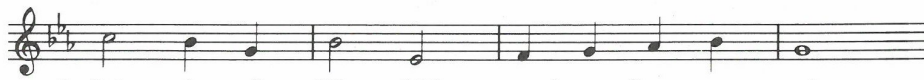
- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18


We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.




1 Fa - ther e - ter - nal, Ru - ler of cre - a - tion,
 2 Rac - es and peo - ples, lo, we stand di - vid - ed,
 3 En - vious of heart, blind - eyed, with tongues con - found - ed,
 4 Lust of pos - ses - sion work - eth des - o - la - tions;
 5 How shall we love thee, ho - ly hid - den Be - ing,



1 Spi - rit of life, which moved ere form was made,
 2 and, shar - ing not our griefs, no joy can share;
 3 na - tion by na - tion still goes un - for - given,
 4 there is no meek - ness in the powers of earth;
 5 if we love not the world which thou hast made?

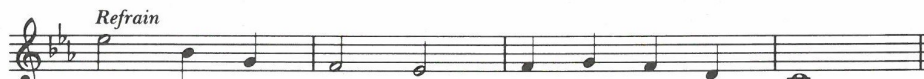


1 through the thick dark - ness cov - ering ev - ery na - tion,
 2 by wars and tu - mults love is mocked, de - rid - ed;
 3 in wrath and fear, by jea - lous - ies sur - round - ed,
 4 led by no star, the ru - lers of the na - tions
 5 Bind us in thine own love for bet - ter see - ing



1 light to our blind - ness, O be thou our aid:
 2 his sav - ing cross no na - tion yet will bear:
 3 build - ing proud towers which shall not reach to heaven:
 4 still fail to bring us to the bliss - ful birth:
 5 thy Word made flesh, and in a man - ger laid:

Refrain



thy king - dom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

Words: Laurence Housman (1865-1959), alt.
 Music: Langham, Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879-1943)

11 10. 11 10. 10

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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.

Prayers of the People

Please pray for the wider Church and intercessions requested by our Congregants:

Pray for The Anglican Communion, The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Standing Committee of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines, the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Justin Badi Arama, the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, and our Bishop Mark Bourlakas. Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to Trinity, Arrington. Pray for the people of Trinity, Arrington.

Pray for Bettie Cadden, Lynda DeMaria, Bob DeMaria, Pam Holsten, Jordan (friend of David Cox), Lynne Johnson, Melissa Hays-Smith, Susan Williams, Ned Glenn (Brother of Elizabeth Harralson), Olivia Patton, Liz Moss, Jeanne Eichelberger, Rachel Pattison, Ely Turner (friend of Rob Minor), Peter Fyfe, Jack Hershbell, The. Rev. Butch Eanes (friend of Carol and Lynn Dent), Pat Gibson, Eloise Adams, Punky Dod, Jenni Dod (niece of Punky Dod)

Pray for those serving in the military, especially Michael Bryant.

Pray for those who have died.

Pray for those affected by unsafe living conditions, poverty, disease, especially Covid-19, violence and oppression.

In thanksgiving, and with grateful hearts, for all veterans.

In thanksgiving for the birthdays for this week and next of Evan Atkins (11/8), Grace Simcoe (11/8), Doug Ayer (11/13), Julie Grover (11/13), Jim Farrar (11/13), Tim Price (11/15), René Glidden (11/15), Amy Holston

(11/15), France H Marcus (11/18), Steven Lawrence (11/19), Hank Humphreys (11/19), Tim Gaylard (11/21), Ryan Holston (11/21), Liam Murphy (11/21).

Celebrant: We offer our prayers in the presence of Wisdom, who makes herself known to all who seek her gifts, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Reader: In thanksgiving for our church school teachers, who awaken in their students the mystery of faith: Yahweh's great acts of deliverance, Christ's victory of life over death, and the eternal light that breaks through every darkness; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep us ever watchful for your face shining through the faces of the poor and downtrodden, the wait staff and the salesperson, the toll collector and the crossing guard, lest that in missing them we may not see you; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Place your wisdom in the heart and mind of our President and Governor, that the decisions they make this year may bring righteousness and justice to all peoples everywhere; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Inspire us with a sense of urgency, that we may relate to others the joy of a Christ-centered life, welcoming others into our fold, and showing increase in the household of faith; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for those who have served in the armed forces, defending our country in times of war, and ensuring peace where there is instability; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for those who have died, especially during military service, may they and all the faithful departed live with the Lord forever; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your 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 your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant

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

The Holy Communion

Offertory

Offertory Hymn: Meditation on *Materna*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant 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:

(With ringing bells)

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 Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.*

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

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Music

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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.

Hymn 404 Almighty Father, strong to save

1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the
 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traf - fic
 3 O Spi - rit, whom the Fa - ther sent to spread a - broad the
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, our peo - ple shield in

rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its
 runs a - main by moun - tain pass or val - ley low; wher -
 firm - a - ment; O Wind of hea - ven, by thy might save
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed li - mits keep: O hear us when we
 ev - er, Lord, thy peo - ple go, pro - tect them by thy
 all who dare the ea - gle's flight, and keep them by thy
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 guard - ing hand from ev - ery per - il on the land.
 watch - ful care from ev - ery per - il in the air.
 rise to thee glad praise from space, air, land, and sea.

Words: Sts. 1 and 4, William Whiting (1825-1878), alt.; sts. 2-3, Robert Nelson Spencer
 (1877-1961), alt.
 Music: *Melita*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

88. 88. 88

Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Readers

Laurent Boetsch, Michael McLaughlin, James Keane

Ushers

James Keane, Peter Fyfe

Altar Guild

Jane Brooke, Heather McBrayer, Gail Dickerson, Liz Moss, Lori Sadler, Joanne Robblee

Flower Guild

Elizabeth Boetsch, Claudia Ellis, Gail Dick, Rene Glidden, Carol Gosse, Catherine Harcus,
Elizabeth Harralson, Peggy Riethmiller, Joy Harris, Kathy Kozak

Clergy, Staff and Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church

Wendy Moses Bearden, Financial Secretary (bookkeeper@graceepiscopallexington.org)

The Rev. Tuck Bowerfind, Rector (frtuck@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Connie Bryant, Sexton

Martha Jones Burford, Minister of Music (martha@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Sharon Massie, Program Director (sharon@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Lisa McGuire, Parish Administrator (lisa@graceepiscopallexington.org)

David Connolly (term ends 2022), Gail Dickerson, Sr. Warden (gdickerson447@gmail.com, term ends 2020), Punky Dod (term ends 2021), Don Ellis (term ends 2020), Tom Gosse (term ends 2020), Diana Kenney (term ends 2022), William McCorkle (term ends 2022), John Milford (term ends 2022), Elizabeth Moss, Jr. Warden (emoss267@gmail.com, term Ends 2021), Judy Schram (term ends 2021), Steve Shultis (term ends 2020), Cecile West-Settle. (term ends 2021), Buster Lewis, Treasurer (term ends 2020), Lisa McGuire, Clerk (term ends 2020).

Music largely recorded remotely and assembled. Musicians this week include: Alexandra Brown, Martha Burford, Jennifer Byrnes, Jonathan Clawson, Mary Davis, Carol Dent, Mary Doyle, Demmanuel Gonzalez, Libby Gruner, Anne Hershbell, Levi Lebsack, Buster Lewis, Tim Price, Anne Sauder, Tevin Ware.

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