

Alpha and Omega, we long for the day when you will make all things new. We long for the day when death will be no more, when mourning and crying and pain will be no more. We trust in the power of your love. Lead us in the way of everlasting life. (*silence*)

Loving God; **Make all things new.**

*Celebrant:* We thank thee, heavenly Father, for that thou hast delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and hast brought us into the kingdom of thy Son; and we pray thee that, as by his death he hath recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to joys eternal; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Peace**

*Welcome*

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Offertory*

**The Great Thanksgiving : Eucharistic Prayer II**

Lord's Prayer

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion. Those not receiving communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing; simply signify by crossing your arms over your chest.*

Postcommunion Prayer

**Blessing and Dismissal**

#### Altar Guild

Elizabeth Harralson, Marlys Craun, Sharon Humphreys, Nancy Walker,  
Sue Denson, Elizabeth Branner, Jane Brooke, chair

#### Flower Guild

Elizabeth Boetsch, Claudia Ellis, Catherine Harcus,  
Elizabeth Harralson, Peggy Riethmiller, Joy Harris, Kathy Kozak

#### Readers & Chalicists

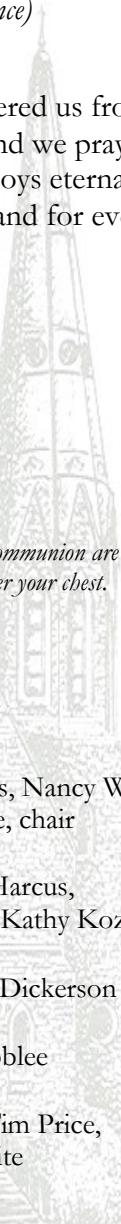
Joanne Robblee, John Milford, Lu Dooley, Gail Dickerson

#### Ushers

Holt Merchant, Paul Robblee, Joanne Robblee

#### AV Team

Keith Gibson, Patrick McGuire, Mary Price, Tim Price,  
Joanne Robblee, Jim White, Sharon White



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## GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

8:00 a.m.

Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church! Thank you for blessing us today as we worship God together. Please fill out a visitor card located in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or our minister on your way out.

*Announcements*

♦9:15 am Forums, Parish Hall: Today, Doug Ayer will be treating from an historical perspective three Kings of Israel who exemplify prominent aspects of the development of Israel's Monarchy.

**May 22**, Invite. Welcome. Connect. What's It All About? with Sharon White—a preview of the IWC summit. **June 5**, Understanding Pronouns and other Gender Terminology with James Keane.

♦Wednesday, May 18, Compassion and Community: Supporting People with Opioid Use Disorder to Recover A presentation with Q&A, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Please register for the online presentation on our website graceepiscopallexington.org. This is a free training session and appropriate for all members of our faith community.

♦Saturday, May 21, 10:30 a.m. Chessie Nature Trail, Buena Vista. Please join us for a nature walk, fellowship and beautiful spring weather. At the end of the walk we will offer a Noonday service and lunch. If you are interested please sign up by emailing lisa@graceepiscopallexington.org so we can plan our meal! More information is available on our website!

♦Friday, May 27, 6:30 p.m. Join us for Music in the Garden at Boxerwood! Tom Artwick and the Regency Trio will kick off the season!

♦Tuesday, May 31, 6:30 p.m. Storytelling Workshop with Anne Grizzle & Martha Burford.

♦Saturday, June 4 - Invite, Welcome, Connect Summit, Parish Hall, 9-1 pm, Jenni Faires, DIOSWVA Canon of Youth and Evangelism will be our facilitator as we discover how the IWC ministry can equip and empower our congregation in practices of evangelism, hospitality and belonging.

## THE WORD OF GOD

**Opening Acclamation**

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 323

**Gloria**

BCP 324

**Collect of the Day**

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons**

*Acts 11:1-18*

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its

four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

### Psalm 148

*Revelation 21:1-6*

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

*John 13:31-35*

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

### The Sermon

**Nicene Creed**

**The 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*

Fr. Tuck  
BCP 326

*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 Archbishop, The Most Rev. Justin Badi Arama; the Episcopal Church in the United States of America and our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael B Curry; the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, and our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas.*

*Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to St. Paul's, Lynchburg. Pray for the people of St. Paul's, Lynchburg and their rectors, The Rev. Diane Vie and the Rev. Todd Vie.*

*Pray for Lynda DeMaria, Peter Fyfe, Lucy Moise, Bob Crewdson, David Burford, Mary Jane Hubbard, Glen Jones, Don Ellis, Robyn Fleming (uncle of Pat McGuire), Alice Furgerson, Julie Jennings, Mary Froehlich, Hunter Headings, Betty Swope, Richard Jones, Sally Capets, Mary & Scott Hudgins, Helen Head, Kaleb (grandson of Pat & Keith Gibson), Emily Griffis Stephens (sister of Melanie Griffis), Sue Ellen Booth and Lynn Morris Butler (cousins of Melanie Griffis), Bill Stone & Joe Little (friends of David Connolly), Elisabeth Dhillon, daughter of Hugh and Ann Henderson, Elizabeth Locher, Elizabeth Shields, Diana Kenney, Laurent Boetsch, Samuel Pech, Sarah Cumming, Tom Strickland, and those we name aloud or in our hearts. Pray for those who have died.*

*We pray for an end to violence and for those fleeing Ukraine, and we also pray for Episcopal Relief & Development and other ecumenical agencies working to respond to the current crisis.*

*In thanksgiving for the marriage of Sam & Anna Burford (son and daughter-in-law of Martha Burford).*

*In thanksgiving for the graduation of Samson Mamour from Virginia Theological Seminary.*

*We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week – Jenny Mastin (5/15), Ren Price (5/16), Ginny Price (5/16), John Dickerson (5/17), Cynthia Robertson (5/17), Joan Crawford (5/20).*

*Celebrant: Siblings, let us praise the name of the Lord! The promises of God are trustworthy and true, so let us pray, "Loving God, make all things new."*

*Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus commands us to love one another as he loves us. Help us to do as he commands. Give your Church the will to seek and serve Christ in all persons. (silence)*

**Loving God; Make all things new.**

*Gracious God, you blessed the world in your incarnation. Come and make your home with us. Establish your reign of peace on earth as in heaven. (silence)*

**Loving God; Make all things new.**

*Glorious Lord, you created the heavens and earth and all that is therein. At your command all things came into being. Give us ears to hear the praise coming forth from the worlds. May our voices join the song of creation. (silence)*

**Loving God; Make all things new.**

*Grant, O God, that our city might become more like your heavenly city. Banish from our borders the pain of violence and addiction, abuse and hatred. (silence)*

**Loving God; Make all things new.**

*Mighty God, wipe every tear from the eyes of your children. Come with healing. Come with strength. Come to your people. You may add your intentions silently or aloud. (silence)*

**Loving God; Make all things new.**