

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
*A COMMUNITY OF GRACE, ANCHORED IN CHRIST,
 LIVING TO LOVE, GROWING TO SERVE*



First Sunday of Advent
Celebration of the holy Eucharist: Rite II at 10:30 AM

Prelude
 Processional

*Sleepers Wake! A Voice is Calling
 Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending*

*arr. Martha Sobaje
 St. Thomas*

The Liturgy of The Word

Opening Sentences

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

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

Collect for Purity

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.**

Grace Choral Ensemble

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Irish Melody

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit for the lessons

The Lessons

First Lesson (see insert)

The Response (see insert)

Grace Choral Ensemble

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

St. Thomas

Second Lesson (see insert)

Music Meditation

All Earth is Hopeful

arr. David Cherwien

The Gospel (see insert)

Sermon

*The Rev. H. Pickett Wall***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, Form II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Michael+, for Andrew+, our Bishop; for our rector Pickett; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.
Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; for Donald our President; for Joe our President-Elect; Henry our Governor, and Alfred Mae our Mayor; for all first responders in our city and country; for those serving in the Armed Forces: Alex Baker, Afghanistan; William E. Branham, Cherry Point, NC; Holden Brunson, Okinawa, Japan ; Will Cox, MCRD Parris Island; Bran Feller, Kuwait; Mitchell Edwards, Charleston; Allen Dempsey, Texas; Campbell Freitas, Norfolk, VA; AMN Dara O'Neal, McChord AFB, Washington; Chris Smith, Korea; Joe Todd, Ft. Gordon, GA; Parker White, New River, NC; Joey Wilson, Charleston and those around the world and at home.
 Pray for justice and peace.
Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially those for whom our prayers have been asked: Wade Allen, Fraser Almond, Patty Baker, Bob Barinowski, Matthew

Baskins, Elizabeth Basil, Dawn Carver, Gracie Chapman, Kelly Clay, Joan Dillard; Barbara Goode, Don Goode, Julia Halford, Kim Hanright, Mary Hendricks, Mark Hill, Rodney Hungerford, Evelyn Kalutz, Billie Karnes, Carol Lane, Rachel McClocklin, Bill McMullan, Jack McGee, Nancy, Laurie Owen, Jim Parrish, Mel Pearson, Rich Pinkerton, Mary Rainwater, Alma Raley, Jamie Raley, Mark Raley, Tim Rauseo, Wesley Ring, Parker Robinson, Billy Smith, Kam Stake, Neal Stegner, Isabel Strickland, Bob Vaughn, Earl Warren, Tommy Warren, Judy Whalen, Walter Whalen.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

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

I ask your prayers for the departed. [especially _____],

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Silence

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

(Grace Church Specific Supplications and Thanksgivings)

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister 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 says

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 peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE ALTAR

The Offertory

Presentation of the gifts

Choral Anthem

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

arr. K. Lee Scott

The Holy Communion

The people remain standing

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

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 him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____. and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

The People stand

Officiant and People

**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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

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

Music Meditation

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for
you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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.**

The Dismissal

The People Respond ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Helmsley

For those celebrating birthdays this week: 11/29-George Little, ; 11/30-Catharine deLoach, John McCarney, Gregg Ogburn, Locklan Robbins-Murphy; 12/2-Henry Egleston, Phil Jackson; 12/4-John Hungerford

For those celebrating anniversaries this week: 11/29- Dick and Meta Markley

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of The Rev. Harry E. Lawhon, Jr. and Jo Lawhon by Kay Fletcher

Christmas Poinsettias sign up - Please **email** your memorial or honorarium to **office@gracechurchcamden.org**. The cost is \$16.00, you may put check in the mail, offering plate or use our Venmo account. Just make sure to note that it is for the Christmas Poinsettias. **Deadline to turn in names December 11th**

