



# Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church

Independence Day 2024

July 4, 2024 – 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II



Connecting @ Grace

Address: 3601 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA 22305 ♦ Phone: 703.549.1980 ♦ Website: [www.gracealex.org](http://www.gracealex.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GraceEpiscopalChurchAlexandriaVa](https://www.facebook.com/GraceEpiscopalChurchAlexandriaVa) ♦ Instagram: @graceepisalexva

X: @graceepisalexva ♦ YouTube: Search Grace Episcopal Alexandria, Virginia on Youtube.com

## WELCOME TO GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are pleased to welcome you to Grace Church. If you are joining us for the first time, please send us a message at [welcome@gracealex.org](mailto:welcome@gracealex.org), so we can get to know you. We can also add you to our mailing list by request. We're glad to have you join with us in worshipping God in the beauty of holiness, something which is central to our identity at Grace. We hope you will join with us in sharing the love of God with this world that needs healing. Assisted listening devices are available for use during worship. Please see an usher if you'd like to use one.



Please silence your cell phones during worship.

### Our Mission Statement

To Love, Proclaim, and Serve God

*Through + life-giving liturgical worship + joyful community + empowering others*

### Contacting Grace

Please feel free to contact our staff.

Office hours during the summer (June 17<sup>th</sup> – August 30<sup>th</sup>): Monday – Thursday 9 am – 2 pm, Closed on Fridays.

*Clergy are not in on Fridays during the summer.*

*(Mother Jenny holds office hours on Mondays, Tuesdays, and half-day on Wednesdays.)*

### Staff

**Betsy Bamford**

**Jane Avery**

*Nursery Worker (part-time)*

**The Rev. Emma Brice**

*Assistant Rector & School Chaplain*

[emma.brice@gracealex.org](mailto:emma.brice@gracealex.org)

**Patti Culbreth**

*Head of Grace Episcopal School*

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**Mary Cyrus**

*Financial Administrator (part-time)*

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**Kevin Hamilton**

*Director of Operations and Communication*

[director.of.operations@gracealex.org](mailto:director.of.operations@gracealex.org)

**Pedro Hernández**

*Sexton*

**Amorita Quintanilla**

*Sexton*

**Madeline Manaker**

*Finance Assistant (part-time)*

[madeline.manaker@gracealex.org](mailto:madeline.manaker@gracealex.org)

**The Rev. Dr. Jenny Montgomery**

*Priest Locum Tenens*

[jenny.montgomery@gracealex.org](mailto:jenny.montgomery@gracealex.org)

**The Rev. Santiago Rodriguez**

*Associate Rector*

[santiago.rodriguez@gracealex.org](mailto:santiago.rodriguez@gracealex.org)

**Addie Budnick**

*Communications Support*

Announcement requests - [announcements@gracealex.org](mailto:announcements@gracealex.org)

**Dr. Alain Truche**

*Director of Music*

[alain.truche@gracealex.org](mailto:alain.truche@gracealex.org)

### IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE?

Clergy and staff are available for pastoral care. Please call the church office at (703) 549-1980 if you're ill or need pastoral care. For emergencies after hours, please call the **After-hours Emergency Number: (703) 261-9079**, and the priest on call will assist you.

### HOME COMMUNION

Home Communion is available upon request for parishioners who desire this service by Eucharistic Visitors every Sunday. Home Communion will be in one form, Bread only. To request Home Communion, parishioners are asked to contact the Parish Office by telephone at 703-549-1980 no later than 12 pm on the Wednesday prior to the Sunday on which they would like to receive Home Communion.

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2024  
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

*The people stand.*

HYMN 718

God of our Fathers

*National Hymn*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, p. 355

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 355

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 *(said in unison)*

**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

BCP, p. 357

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 10:17-21

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

The Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm is read responsively by whole verse.*

PSALM 145:1-9

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

**2 Every day will I bless you \*  
and praise your Name for ever and ever.**

3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
there is no end to his greatness.

**4 One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
and shall declare your power.**

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
and all your marvelous works.

**6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
and I will tell of your greatness.**

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

**8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

9 The Lord is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 11:8-16

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of Hebrews.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old- and Sarah herself was barren- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

HYMN 719

America the Beautiful

Materna

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:43-48

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people are seated.*

SERMON

Father Santiago Rodriguez

*Silence is kept.*

*The people stand.*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

**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

Form III; BCP, p. 387

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence is kept.*

#### A COLLECT FOR THE NATION

*Celebrant & people*

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people kneel.*

#### THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

EOW, p. 19

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

*All* **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

*The people stand*

#### THE PEACE

BCP, p. 361

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

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

*The people are seated.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE OFFERTORY

*We invite you to give to the work of the church electronically via Tithe.ly by scanning this QR code.*



*The people stand.*

#### HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION 717

My country tis of thee

*America*

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP p.372

*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 him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages. 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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS *(said in unison)*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then 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,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

**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

BCP, p. 337

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP, p. 338

*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

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the eucharist.*

*Please come forward to the altar rail at the direction of the ushers.*

*A full communion is made with the bread alone, but if you choose to receive the wine, you may either drink from the cup, or you may offer your wafer to the person holding the chalice, who will dip the bread in the wine for you.*

*If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available; simply ask the priest.*

*If you do not wish to receive communion at the altar, please let an usher know, and communion can be brought to you in your pew.*

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**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 BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*The people stand.*

CLOSING HYMN 720

The Star-Spangled Banner

*National Anthem*

THE DISMISSAL

*Priest* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**SERVING @ GRACE TODAY**

*Celebrant & Preacher*  
*Acolytes*  
*Usher*  
*Altar Guild Crew*

Father Santiago Rodriguez  
John Barker, Stephanie Reed  
Cindy MacIntyre  
Lucy-Lee Reed, Chad Eckles