



Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 15, 2024 – 10:30 am
Choral Eucharist, Rite II



Children playing at the Shrine Mont Parish Retreat last weekend.

Connecting @ Grace

Address: 3601 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA 22305 ♦ Phone: 703.549.1980 ♦ Website: www.gracealex.org

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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, 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.

Our regular office hours are Monday to Thursday 9 am - 3 pm, and Fridays 9 am - 12 noon.

(Mother Emma is out of the office on Mondays and Father Santi is out of the office on Fridays)

Staff

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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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CHORAL EUCHARIST, RITE II

Children 3 months until 3 years are welcome in the nursery. Please ask an usher to direct you.

PRELUDE

Variations on 'Kelvingrove'

Denis Bédard (b. 1950)

The people stand.

HYMN 10

New every morning is the love

Kedron

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

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.

Children ages 3 years – 3rd grade follow the Crucifer to Children's Chapel.

SONG OF PRAISE S-236

John Rutter

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord

God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;

glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____

_____ for the ra - di-ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will

praise you and high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your

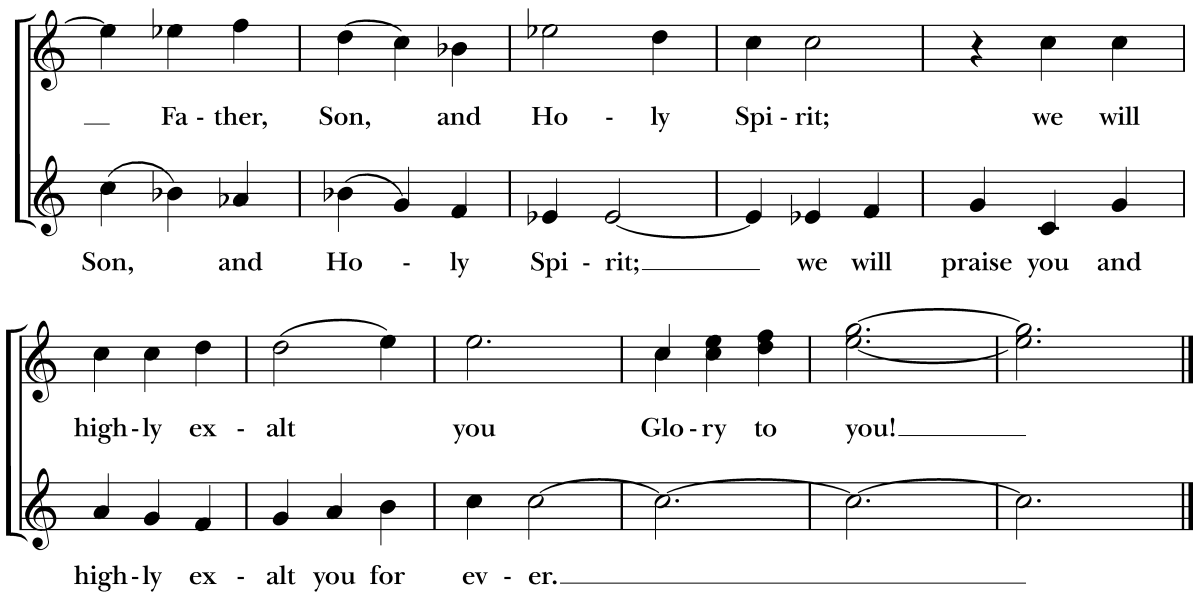
tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
 you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
 ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and
 high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be -
 5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; _____ in the high vault of
 depths; _____ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, _____
 you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,



— Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
 Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and
 high-ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you!
 high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945). Copyright © 1985 Oxford University Press, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 1:20-33

Lector A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sung by the Choir

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleans me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Lector A reading from the Letter of James.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue— a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand for the Gospel Procession and sing the hymn.

HYMN 574

Before thy throne, O God, we kneel

St. Petersburg

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people are seated.

SERMON

Canon d’Rue Hazel

Silence is kept.

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 II; BCP, p. 385

In the course of 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, our Presiding Bishop-Elect, Sean, our Bishops, Mark and Gayle; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. 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. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant

Almighty God, look graciously upon the people of Grace Church and mercifully accept the prayers we offer before you. Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Guide the members of our Vestry, as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will. We pray for the life of our parish, that we may continue to be strengthened in our mission to *Love, Proclaim, and Serve God*. Bless us with mutual trust and respect, courage and foresight as you shepherd us in this journey. Grace us with continuous direction and inspire us toward genuine self-reflection. All this we ask as we walk in your ways to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

BCP, p. 823

All

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP, p. 360

The people kneel. Silence may be kept.

Deacon

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All

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

BCP, p. 332

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.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

L.J. White

O holy Jesus,

Most merciful redeemer,

Friend and brother,

May I know thee more clearly,

Love thee more dearly,

And follow thee more nearly.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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 Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

Hymnal S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 sing,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

William H. Plant

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hal-owed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heav-en.
Give us this day our dai-ly bread, And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who tres-pass a-gainst us.
And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glo-ry,
 For ev-er and ev-er, A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-155

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
 sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP, p. 364

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.

HYMN

Will you come and follow me

Kelvingrove

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Will you come and follow me
 if I but call your name?
 Will you go where you don't know
 and never be the same?
 Will you let my love be shown?
 Will you let my Name be known?
 Will you let my life be grown
 in you and you in me?</p> | <p>2 Will you leave your self behind
 if I but call your name?
 Will you care for cruel and kind
 and never be the same?
 Will you risk the hostile stare
 should your life attract or scare?
 Will you let me answer prayer
 in you and you in me?</p> |
|--|---|

3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ner free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen?
And admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

4 Will you love the "You" you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

5 Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show,
thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me?

Will you come and follow me, #757 from *Wonder Love and Praise* — Words: from the Iona Community. Music: Mary Alexandra, John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

THE SENDING FORTH OF LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we share in one bread, one cup.**

The people stand or kneel.

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 among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All stand and sing the hymn.

CLOSING HYMN 522

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Austria

THE DISMISSAL

BCP, p. 366

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY: Fugue, from *Concert Variations on the Austrian Hymn, op. 3*

John Knowles Paine (1839-1906)

At the end of liturgy today, one of the priests will be available at the Lady Altar for prayers for healing.

Please allow quiet and privacy for those seeking prayer.

Music Notes

Commissioned by the American organist Kenrick Mervine, Variations on 'Kelvingrove' was composed in 2014. The theme is harmonized simply, and six variations follow, the first of which is a kind of waltz with the theme appearing in the left hand. The second is a pedal solo and the third a very fast duo. Then follows a long Adagio on the celeste stops (supposed to sound like strings), and a brilliant toccata using repeated chords, after which the work ends with a loud and majestic grand chorus.

Denis Bédard is a renowned Canadian composer, primarily known for his organ works and choral pieces. Born in Quebec City in 1950, he studied music at the Conservatoire de musique de Québec and later pursued advanced studies in Europe. Bédard has composed a vast repertoire of works for organ, including solo pieces, duets, and compositions with other instruments. His music often blends traditional organ techniques with modern elements, creating a unique and captivating sound. In addition to his organ compositions, Bédard has also written for various ensembles and vocal groups, showcasing his versatility as a composer.

St. Richard (1197-1253) is associated with Chichester as he was the bishop there from 1244 until his death but, for us in Worcestershire, it is his birthplace near Droitwich that is more relevant. And, of course, the hospice in Worcester is named after him as St Richard's Hospice was originally founded in Droitwich in 1984. The words of this week's anthem are supposed to have been recited by him on his death bed, surrounded by clergy of the Chichester Diocese.

As I began to write this commentary, I knew that my knowledge of the composer, **L J White**, was non-existent. However, thanks to Google, I have found out that Len was a deputy head. He was also the Choirmaster at St Andrews church in Willesden Green, North London, until his death in the 1970's. He composed other music, but *A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester* is the anthem for which he is remembered. Written in 1947, the anthem was originally composed for two treble parts but is easily adapted to two mixed parts. The beautiful shape of the main melody makes it very singable, yet it retains a simplicity that befits the words. And, when the words are sung for a second time, a descant is added; it sometimes collides with the main melody before finally rising above it.

John Knowles Paine (1839-1906) was a pioneer in American classical music, serving as a key figure in establishing a distinctive national voice in the genre. Born in Portland, Maine, in 1839, Paine studied music in Germany under renowned composers such as Carl Friedrich Wilhelm Weitzmann and Johannes Brahms. Upon his return to the United States, he became a professor of music at Harvard University, where he played a pivotal role in nurturing a new generation of American composers. Paine's compositions, which included symphonies, operas, and chamber music, showcased his talent for blending European influences with American folk elements. His work helped to elevate American classical music to international recognition and continues to be celebrated for its artistic value and historical significance.

John Knowles Paine's Concert Variations on an Austrian Hymn is a remarkable piece for organ that showcases his mastery of the instrument and his ability to blend intricate variations with a cohesive musical narrative. Composed in the late 19th century, this work is based on the melody of the Austrian national anthem and is the hymn tune of today's closing hymn. Paine's variations explore a range of moods and technical challenges, from lyrical passages to more complex, virtuosic sections. The piece is celebrated for its rich harmonic language and inventive use of the organ's capabilities, making it a favorite among organists and a staple in the concert repertoire. The Fugue is the last variation from the set and showcases the composer's skill at contrapuntal writing. The fugue subject hints at the well-known hymn tune, but it is not until the end of the variation that the tune proper emerges buttressed by thick loud chords.

SERVING @ GRACE TODAY

<i>Celebrant</i>	Father Santiago Rodriguez
<i>Deacon & Preacher</i>	Canon d'Rue Hazel
<i>Assisting & Children's Chapel</i>	Mother Emma Brice
<i>Lector</i>	Mary Hix
<i>Intercessor</i>	Jane Rosman
<i>Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	John Thompson
<i>Music Director</i>	Dr. Alain Truche
<i>Ushers</i>	John Boris, John Hall, Colleen McArdelle, Mary Stewart
<i>Live Stream Crew</i>	Jay Legere, Sarah Schultz
<i>Altar Guild Crew Leaders</i>	John Barker, Beth Yancey

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Announcement deadline is Monday at 12 pm. Announcements arriving after that time will be held for the following week. Please limit announcements to 75 words.

Email requests to announcements@gracealex.org.

The Altar Flowers for today are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for Lori Dodd Doyle's birthday by the Dodd family.

Interested in dedicating Altar Flowers for a particular Sunday in loving memory of someone or in thanksgiving? Scan the QR Code on the right with your smart phone to access the form.



NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

A MESSAGE FROM MARY HIX, SENIOR WARDEN

Abundant thanks to all who made the 2024 Shrine Mont a weekend of fellowship and fun in the foothills of the mountains. We worshipped, we prayed, we played, we danced, we laughed. It was a weekend of thinking forward and strengthening relationships in our Grace community. We welcomed Mother Abbott as our Bridge Rector for the coming six weeks and she, in conversation with Father Santiago and Mother Emma, provided vision for the future of Grace.

This Sunday September 15, Mother Abbott is honoring a long-term commitment to lead a retreat at another parish in the Diocese of Virginia. She will be at Grace the following Sunday and serve at Grace through the middle of October.

Grace welcomes The Rev Canon d'Rue Hazel this Sunday, September 15. Canon Hazel is the Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of Virginia. In Episcopal parlance, the Canon to the Ordinary works directly with and reports to the Bishop (the Ordinary) in support of the ministries, programs, and life of the Diocese. On Sunday Canon Hazel will preach at the 10:30 a.m. service and have informal conversations with parishioners at the coffee hour following the worship service.

ALPACAPALOOZA & FORMATION OPEN HOUSE TODAY - SUNDAY, SEPT 15TH, 9:30-10:20AM

Did someone say alpacas??? Join us for another festive launch of the family ministries program year, complete with petting zoo animals, bubbles, breakfast burritos, and all sorts of fun for families of all ages and stages! Our amazing Sunday School Teachers and Youth Sponsors will be there so that you can meet your child's teacher before the first regular week of Sunday School on September 22nd. Come meet the families of Grace Church and learn about the exciting year ahead!

HELP BEAUTIFY THE GROUNDS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 9 AM - 12 PM... GREEN THUMB NOT REQUIRED!

Join our Junior Warden in beautifying our grounds by removing invasive Ivy and Honeysuckle on Saturday, September 21, 9 am - 12 pm. No gardening skills are required. Simply sign up and show up to help with this project. To sign up or if you have questions, email our Junior Warden, Eric Waskowicz, at ericwaskowicz@gmail.com. Thank you!

STAND WITH OUR YOUTH & FAMILIES - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH AT 3:15 PM.

Emma Brice and our VOICE core team invite you to participate in this impactful event as we unite the community to address youth and family behavioral health during National Suicide Prevention Month. Join us for a powerful and informative assembly focused on youth and family behavioral health in Fairfax County and Northern Virginia. This event will bring together those directly impacted and over 1,000 individuals, including youth, families, workers, faith leaders, foundations, healthcare, law enforcement, and educators, to take aim at addressing pressing issues in the community. The event will be held at Fairfax High School on September 29th at 3:15 pm. Bring a friend or neighbor who cares! RSVP at the QR code or via the VOICE website (voice-va.org). Contact John Hall for more information.



NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (CONTINUED)

SAVE THE DATE: POTLUCK DINNER & LISTENING SESSION - OCT. 13, 6 - 8PM

Did you know that VOICE (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community & Engagement) is involved in region-wide listening sessions? The Grace/la Gracia team of VOICE leaders wants to hear from you as they listen for new concerns. Come and share your concerns for our community and the surrounding areas. Please join us for a potluck dinner and listening session on October 13, from 6-8pm. We will eat, play a game, hear some stories, and listen to you. More details to come but mark your calendars for this event. For more information, contact Mother Emma Brice, John Hall or Jennifer Eckel.

REMINDER – SIGNING IN DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Now that school is in full swing and the office has returned to our regular schedule, it's a good time to remind ourselves that parishioners and visitors are asked to sign in when in the building during regular office hours unless attending a service (Thursday Healing Eucharist, funeral, etc.). There is a sign-in roster outside of the office on the credenza. Signing in is for the safety of all, allowing us to locate anyone in the building in the event of an emergency. Also, for those who are a part of a ministry that provides you with the access code into the building, please do not allow visitors to "tailgate" (to enter behind you when entering the code). Please ask visitors to buzz the church or school office if they do not have a code. Thank you!

SUNDAY SUPPER FOR FAMILIES - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 5 - 7:30 PM

The children's ministry team at Grace Church invites you and your family to a "host free dinner" on Sunday, September 15th from 5:00-7:30pm at Los Tios in Del Ray (2615 Mt Vernon Ave). Come enjoy yummy food, welcoming friends, and a chance to build community while not having to cook dinner one night this week! All ages are welcome! Please note that all in attendance will be responsible for their own bill. Please contact Meg Whelpley with any questions.

YOUTH NIGHT IS BACK! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15; JR HIGH 5:30 - 7:30PM, SR HIGH 7 - 9 PM

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us on the third Sunday of every month for Youth Night. Sunday, September 15th will be our first youth night of the year, and it will look a little different than past years. Our junior high youth (grades 6-8) will gather from 5:30-7:30pm, and our senior high youth (grades 9-12) will gather from 7-9pm. Dinner will be served during the overlap from 7-7:30pm. We will play games, meet new friends, and all around have a great time! Note: Families participating in the J2A Pilgrimage for 9th and 10th graders in Summer 2025 have a mandatory meeting with the J2A sponsors from 7:30-9pm. Parents and sponsors are invited to join for dinner as well. Please reach out to Mother Emma with any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

INTRODUCING MOTHER ABBOTT

Grace Church welcomed the Rev. Stephanie Abbott Bailey as our Bridge Rector on September 3. Mother Abbott will serve until October 15. Mother Abbott is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and holds a Masters of Public Administration from The George Washington University. For 10 years she was the rector of St. Andrew's Church in Richmond. More recently she has served as the Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of California and the Diocese of Virginia and as Interim COO of the Partnership Diocese of Western New York & Northwestern Pennsylvania. She will come to Grace after serving as Supply Vicar at Christ Church, Alexandria during the rector's sabbatical. Mother Abbott will live in Alexandria and serve full-time during the 6-week period as Grace's Bridge Rector.

ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (CONTINUED)

FINAL CHAPTER OF THE SUMMER OF STORIES: JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER!

Our Summer of Stories with Father Santiago wraps up this September with an exciting discussion of James McBride's captivating novel, *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*. We invite you to join us on Monday, September 23rd, at 7:00 pm in the St. Mark's Room for a conversation of this poignant and powerful exploration of the human spirit's resilience. Bring your own dinner, and we'll provide complimentary drinks and dessert. Whether you're a longtime reader or new to the book, this is a perfect opportunity to dive deep into the story and share your insights with fellow book lovers. Friends and family are warmly welcome - don't miss out on this final summer gathering! We look forward to seeing you there.

SEEKING CHURCH PHOTOS!

We are gathering old photos of Grace Church and its events from the past seven decades. If you have pictures of our church community in fellowship, service, or worship, we would love to include them in our collection and to share them on social media. Please send digital copies to Father Santiago. Thank you for helping us preserve and share our church's history!

FALL INQUIRERS' CLASS: DIVE DEEPER INTO THE EUCHARIST

New to Grace? Curious about the Episcopal Church or exploring the Christian faith? Begin your spiritual journey with our Inquirers' Class, a 6-week series designed for anyone eager to learn more about our liturgical worship. Whether you're a newcomer or a lifelong Episcopalian, this class offers a unique opportunity to explore the historical roots, spirituality and theological significance of the Eucharist. In a safe, small group setting, we'll journey together through dynamic discussions, where every question is welcomed and valued. The class meets on Mondays –October 14, 21, 28, and November 4, 11, 18 – from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Feel free to join us for any or all sessions! For more information, please reach out to Father Santiago Rodriguez. We look forward to walking this path with you!

WOMEN AND GIRLS BIBLE STUDY

Women and girls of all ages are invited for an intergenerational bible study that focuses on women in the Bible! This will be a 6-week series occurring in tandem in the Fall Inquirer's Class. We will gather in-person on Mondays –October 14, 21, 28, and November 4, 11, 18 – from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Together we will pray, study scripture, and build a community of support that spans across ages. If you want to know more about women in the Bible and to know women at Grace Church more deeply, this series is for you! For more information or to sign up, please email Mother Emma Brice.

FOYER GROUP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Would you like to get to know fellow Grace members in a smaller setting? Sign up for Foyers! Foyers are groups of +/-8 church members who come together for a meal once a month over the next year, for a total of four to five meals. Members take turns hosting in their home or at Grace or organizing at a local restaurant. Couples and singles are welcomed. More information can be found using the QR code. Signups will be open through September 29th.



THE PROGRAM YEAR IS COMING - REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TODAY!

Godly Play, Rite-13, J2A, and EYC all return September 22nd! If you have kids of any age, please fill out a form for each child so that we can learn how to best support them in the year ahead! This form is necessary for participation in Sunday School, Youth Night, and other parish-sponsored events for children and youth. Even if you completed a form last year, we need an updated one from 2024-25. Scan the QR code to access the form or contact Mother Emma.



BIRTHDAYS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 15	Jay O'Malley
Monday, September 16	Lori Doyle, Nancy Graves, Cole Ruff
Thursday, September 19	Bobby White
Friday, September 20	Hermann Gerber
Sunday, September 22	Donna Hall, Jennifer Long



Parishioner birthdays are listed weekly based on records from Breeze, our church database. For birthdays missing or listed on an incorrect date, please contact the church office to update your record. **Thank you!**

PRAYER @ GRACE THIS WEEK

We continue praying for all those in need of healing of mind, body, or spirit. We also pray for wisdom and strength for our communities, our elected officials, and our leaders as they make difficult and important decisions. As we join in common prayer this weekend, let us remember those who are in any need or trouble.

- **Parishioners:** Virginia, Michael, Lisa, Lina, Mario, Tina, Hector, Wendy, Conway, Amorita, Caz & family, Debbie, Amber, Kelly, Elle, John, Carl, Jeannie, Sigrid, Ed, Larry, Susie, Otto, Susan, Charles, Cleveland, Colin, Jennifer, Barbara, Duke, Lisa, Vylma, June, Claudine.
- **Parishioners and others in assisted living:** Margaret, Nancy, Sally, Clare, Elesa, Mary Ann, Cynthia, Reg, Don, Susan, James.
- **Family & friends:** Barbara, Becky, Maggie, Joel, Anthony, Mark, Klaus, Charles, Roger, Nancy, Madison, Jack, Michael, Dave & Mimi, Sharon, Peter, Cindy, Anne, Scott, Jean, Eileen & Dylan, Virginia, Christine, Lisa, Elena, Al, Connie, Don, Leslie, Elizabeth, Ada, Cooper, Marge, Elizabeth, Bert, Clare, Betsy, Chuck, Mike, Jim, Patrick, Ashby, Troy, Jean, Ada, Gen, Santos, Dick, Danny, Lew, Cathie, Cameron, Ellen, Todd, Michael, Frank, Patti & Joe, Claudia.
- **Members of our staff:** Mother Abbott, Father Santiago, Mother Emma, Alain, Mary, Kevin, Madeline, Addie, Pedro, Amorita, Betsy, Jane.
- **Grace School:** Students & their families; for the staff, especially Amanda, interim head of school.
- **Outreach & Justice Partners:** ALIVE; Carpenter's Shelter; Casa Chirilagua; Christ Church Refugee and Lazarus Ministries; Community Lodgings; Cristosal, El Salvador; Haiti Micah Project; Meade Memorial Lunch Program; Tanzania Mission; Tenants and Workers; V.O.I.C.E.; Kathleen and Eddie Arthur Hearts of Love Fund.
- **Those who have died:** those who have died from illnesses and natural disasters; and all those killed in acts of terror, violence, and war around the world.
- **Those serving our country in the Armed Forces and State Department overseas:** LCDR Claire S. Eudy, USN; SSgt Chip Fowler, USAF; for healing for US troops wounded as casualties of war; and for physical and mental well-being of all veterans.
- **Others who are overseas serving the Church or our nation or studying:** Julie Mills Cizek; Chris & Melissa Reed.
- **Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle:** Bishop E. Mark Stevenson; Bishop Gayle E. Harris; Diocesan staff; Calvary, Hanover; St. Paul's, Richmond.
- **Anglican Prayer Cycle:** The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Iowa, The Episcopal Church; The Diocese of Iran, The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East; The Diocese of Irele Ese-Odo, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Isi Mbano, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Isiala Ngwa, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Isiala-Ngwa South, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).

You can fill out a [Prayer Request Form](#) on our Website or email your request to prayers@gracealex.org

EVENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT / INFO*
Sunday, 9/15	7:30 am Holy Eucharist in English, Rite I	Nave	
	8:45 am Santa Eucaristía <i>en español</i>	Nave	
	9:00 am Little Church, Rite II	Amphitheater	
	Alpacalooza! 9:30-10:20 am		
	9:30 Summer Choir Rehearsal	St. Cecilia Room	Alain.Truche@gracealex.org
	10:30 am Choral Eucharist, Rite II	Nave / Livestream	
	5:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Nave	
Monday 9/16	Food Pantry Bagging - 3:30 - 5:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Tuesday, 9/17	Food Pantry Distribution - 6:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Wednesday, 9/18	Food Pantry (Unloading of Delivery) - 2 - 4 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Evening Prayer - 5:30 pm	Zoom	Lucy-Lee Reed - 703.842.3121
	Bible Study - 7:30 pm	Zoom	Stephen.Lovell@gracealex.org
	Alcoholics Anonymous - 8 pm	MH Auditorium	
	Alanon - 8 pm	St. Luke Room	
Thursday, 9/19	Food Pantry Bagging - 3:30 - 5:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Friday, 9/20	Food Pantry Bagging - 3 - 5 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Food Pantry Distribution - 6:30 pm		
Saturday, 9/21	Altar Guild Set Up - 9 am	Narthex, Sacristy	
	Grounds Beautification - 9 am - 12 pm	Parish Grounds	ericwaskowicz@gmail.com
	Food Pantry Bagging - 1 - 3 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org