



Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 2024 – 10:30 am
Choral Eucharist, Rite II



— Connecting @ Grace —

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/GraceEpiscopalChurchAlexandriaVa ♦ Instagram: @graceepisalexva

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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

The Rev. S. Abbott Bailey

Bridge Rector

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The Rev. Santiago Rodriguez

Associate Rector

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Dr. Alain Truche

Director of Music

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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.

EIGHTEENTH 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

Prelude (In Form of a Minuet) op. 88, no. 1 C.V. Stanford (1852-1924)

The people stand.


HYMN 408

Sing praise to God who reigns above

Mit Freuden zart


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 31:10-31

Lector A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away. She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls. She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson. She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 1

Anglican Chant by Gerre Hancock

Sung by the Choir

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Lector A reading from the Letter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

HYMN 670

Lord, for ever at thy side

Song 13

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

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

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

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people are seated.

SERMON

Mother Abbott Bailey

Silence is kept.

NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 326

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.**

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

The people kneel. Silence may be kept.

Celebrant 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

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

O for a closer walk

C.V. Stanford

*O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!*

*Return, O holy dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee
mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.*

*So shall my walk be close with
God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.*

The people stand and sing the hymn

HYMN 379

God is Love, let heaven adore him

Abbot's Leigh

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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; For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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-lowed 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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 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

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 VF 26

Women of Faith

Rahab

1 Wo - men of faith, lov - ing and kind,
 2 Wea - pon of truth, Ra - hab o - beyed.
 3 Ma - ry per - ceived, Ma - ry be - lieved.
 4 Sa - vior of all, now we re - call,
 gift from the Fa - ther, bold and free. Sent to the need - y,
 Led by the Spi - rit, o - pened wide. Put out the red - cord,
 Je - sus a - live, in love re - vealed. Sent to the hearts of
 "Fear not!" with fa - vor, come to us. Lord, we be - lieve you,
 wor - ship the ma - jes - ty,
 sign to de - li - ver, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men. *Optional Ending*
 Lord, we re - ceive you. *(After final verse)*

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 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

THE DISMISSAL

BCP, p. 366

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Lobe den Herren

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

*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

Prelude in the form of a Minuet, Op. 88, No. 1 by **Sir Charles Villiers Stanford** is the first piece in his collection of six organ preludes, Op. 88, composed between 1903 and 19051. This prelude is characterized by its elegant and lyrical style, reflecting the traditional minuet dance form, which was popular in the Baroque and Classical periods. Written in E-flat major, the piece showcases Stanford's ability to blend classical forms with Romantic expressiveness, making it a charming and accessible work for organists¹. The collection was published by Breitkopf & Härtel and remains a notable example of Stanford's contribution to organ music.

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924) was an influential Anglo-Irish composer, conductor, and music teacher of the late Romantic era. Born in Dublin, he was educated at the University of Cambridge and furthered his studies in Leipzig and Berlin. Stanford was a founding professor at the Royal College of Music and served as Professor of Music at Cambridge. He composed a wide range of works, including seven symphonies and numerous choral pieces, particularly for the Anglican Church. Despite his significant contributions to music, his fame was later overshadowed by his contemporaries and students, such as Edward Elgar, Gustav Holst, and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Although well known as a free-standing anthem, *O for a closer walk with God* was originally designed to accompany (as an optional concluding statement) the last of Stanford's Six Bible Songs, Op 113, 'A Song of Wisdom'. Indeed, the anthem formed the last of Six Hymns each of which was based on a familiar hymn tune. The source of *O for a closer walk with God* was the Scottish Psalter (1635) with words by W Cowper allied with the old Psalm tune Caithness. Using three verses (1, 3 and 5) from the original five, Stanford shaped a chorale fantasia around the melody in which the intricacies of harmony, counterpoint, phrase-length, register and organ accompaniment are manipulated with increasing dexterity, particularly in the highly expressive final verse ("So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and serene my frame") with its combination of fervor and spiritual confidence.

Craig Phillips (b. 1961) is a distinguished American composer and organist, known for his significant contributions to choral and organ music. He serves as the Director of Music at All Saints' Church in Beverly Hills. Phillips' compositions are regularly performed in churches and cathedrals across the United States and internationally. His works have been featured in concerts throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. He has received numerous accolades, including being named the American Guild of Organists Distinguished Composer in 2012.

His arrangement of the tune "Lobe Den Herren" for organ features irregular meter throughout the piece. After a brief introduction, the tune is played on the Great division. Material from the introduction segways into the tune played in the pedals (feet) punctuated by repeated thick chords. The piece ends with a rousing pedal point and a harmonic twist before the resolution.

SERVING @ GRACE TODAY

<i>Celebrant</i>	Mother Emma Brice
<i>Preacher</i>	Mother Abbott Bailey
<i>Assisting & Children's Chapel</i>	Father Santiago Rodriguez
<i>Lector</i>	Teresa Preston
<i>Intercessor</i>	Khacki Berry
<i>Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	Alex Willson
<i>Music Director</i>	Dr. Alain Truche
<i>Ushers</i>	Chuck Dodd, Bill Eckel, Mary Hix, Evan Robinson
<i>Live Stream Crew</i>	Alison Campbell, Stephen Lovell
<i>Altar Guild Crew Leaders</i>	Alison Campbell, Nancy Robinson

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF SEPTEMBER 22, 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 loving memory of Jane Lee Ewell Metz, beloved Wife, Mother, Mother-in-law, Grandmother, Great Grandmother. Remembering you on the anniversary of your passing, a world full of love by John & CJ Metz.

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

ADULT FORUM RESUMES THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22!

Adult forum is offered Sundays 9:40-10:15 in the St. Mark room (2nd floor) or virtually via Zoom link sent in the Sunday morning email. Tea and coffee are available just outside the St. Mark Room from 9:30. All are welcome at any forum; no commitment required.

Fall Schedule

September 22: *Grace Church Architecture*, by Fr. Santi Rodriguez

September 29: *How I Came To Grace*, by Ben Kong, Ted Prosser, Caroline Shaver, and other parishioners

October 6: *Grace at Work: Food and Faith*, by Cindy MacIntyre and Sarah Schultz

October 13: *Grace at Work: Show Me You're a Christian Without Telling Me You're a Christian*, by Julia McClung

October 20: *Grace at Work: Service is My Business*, by Donna Hall and Elizabeth Legere

October 27: *Grace at Work: Healing*, by Henry and Priscilla Ziegler

November 3: *Grace at Work: Welcoming the Stranger*, by Jennifer Ibanez Whitlock and Fr. Santi Rodriguez

FEAST OF SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS - MONDAY 9/30 AT 7:30 AM

Join us on Monday, September 30th to mark the Feast of Saint Michael and all Angels (Michaelmas) at 7:30 am for Holy Eucharist. We will go out for breakfast after the service for anyone who is interested!

FUNERAL FOR CARL FISHER POSTPONED

In order to allow for family and friends to gather more fully, the funeral for Carl Fisher, originally scheduled for this Saturday, has been postponed. A new date will be shared with the parish as plans are made.

SECOND SUNDAY SUPPERS

Grace Church families invite you and your family to come together for dinner on the 2nd Sunday of every month. The kids can run around and play, the parents can connect, and best of all - you don't have to plan and cook dinner! The next supper will be October 13th from 5:00 - 7:00pm on the Grace Playground. Save the date for future Second Sunday Suppers on November 10th, December 8th, January 12th, February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, May 11th, and June 8th.

FINAL CHAPTER OF THE SUMMER OF STORIES: JOIN US TOMORROW!

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

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 info.



SAVE THE DATE: POTLUCK DINNER & LISTENING SESSION - OCTOBER 13, 6 – 8 PM

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!

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!

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.



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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (CONTINUED)

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.

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

Godly Play, Rite-13, J2A, and EYC all return today, 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 22 *Donna Hall, Jennifer Long*

Thursday, September 26 *Mallini Gumti*

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, Anne, Charles, Cleveland, Colin, Jennifer, Barbara, Duke, Lisa, June, Claudine, Igor.
- **Parishioners and others in assisted living:** Margaret, Nancy, Sally, Clare, Elesa, Mary Ann, Cynthia, Reg, Don, Susan, James, Peck, Vylma.
- **Family & friends:** Barbara, Maggie, Joel, Anthony, Mark, Klaus, Charles, Roger, Nancy, Madison, Jack, Michael, Dave & Mimi, Sharon, Peter, Cindy, Anne, Scott, Jean, Eileen & Dylan, Virginia, Christine, Elena, Al, Connie, Don, Leslie, Elizabeth, Ada, Cooper, Marge, Elizabeth, Bert, Clare, Betsy, Chuck, Mike, Jim, Renee, Patrick, Ashby, Troy, Ada, Gen, Dick, Danny, Lew, Cathie, Cameron, Ellen, Michael, Frank, Patti & Joe, Claudia, Amy.
- **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; 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; Kingston Parish, Mathew; Little Fork, Rixeyville; St. Garbiel's-San Gabriel, Leesburg; St. Martin de Porres, Alexandria.
- **Anglican Prayer Cycle:** The Church of North India (United); The Diocese of Isikwuato / Umunneochi, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Western Izon, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Jabalpur, The Church of North India (United); The Diocese of Jaffna, The Church of South India (United); The Diocese of Jalingo, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, The Church in the Province of the West Indies.

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, 9/22	7:30 am Holy Eucharist in English, Rite I	Nave	
	8:45 am Santa Eucaristía en español	Nave	
	9:00 am Little Church, Rite II	Amphitheater	
	Sunday School - 9:40 am	Various Locations	
	Adult Forum - 9:40 am	St. Mark	
	10:30 am Choral Eucharist, Rite II	Nave / Livestream	
	5:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Nave	
Monday 9/23	Food Pantry Bagging - 3:30 - 5:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Summer of Stories - 7:00 pm	St. Mark	
Tuesday, 9/24	Food Pantry Distribution - 6:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Wednesday, 9/25	Food Pantry (Unloading of Delivery) - 2 - 4 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Chorister Rehearsal - 4:30 pm		
	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, 9/26	12 noon Mid-week Healing Eucharist	Nave (Lady Altar)	
	Food Pantry Bagging - 3:30 - 5:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Bell Ensemble Rehearsal - 6 pm	Malm Narthex	
	Choir Rehearsal - 7 pm	St. Cecilia Room	
Friday, 9/27	Food Pantry Bagging - 3 - 5 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Food Pantry Distribution - 6:30 pm		
Saturday, 9/28	Altar Guild Set Up - 9 am	Narthex, Sacristy	
	Bible Study - 10 am		cmfaddencrosby@gmail.com
	Food Pantry Bagging - 1 - 3 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org