



Grace Episcopal Church

3601 Russell Rd. Alexandria, Virginia 22305

www.gracealex.org 703.549.1980

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025 – 11:00 pm Festival Eucharist, Rite I



WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS EVE AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are excited that you have chosen to worship with us today as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We invite you to return in the coming weeks to worship during Christmastide and Epiphany. See the schedule inside the back cover of this bulletin to see our upcoming services.

If you would like to support the ministries of Grace Church, there are a couple of ways to make a Christmas Eve offering:

- Place cash or check in the offering bag as it is passed through the pews during the anthem.
- Make a one-time donation through the website, gracealex.org.

If you are looking for a church home, we welcome you. Please leave a visitor card in the offering plate or send an email to welcome@gracealex.org

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 office hours are Monday to Thursday 9 am – 3 pm, and 9 am – 12 pm on Fridays.

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

Staff

Betsy Bamford

Jane Avery

Nursery Workers (part-time)

The Rev. Emma Brice

Associate Rector & School Chaplain

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Pedro Hernández

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Amanda Hungerford

Head of Grace Episcopal School

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The Rev. Dr. Anne Michele Turner

Rector

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Kris Varga

Communications Contractor

Communications submissions can be emailed to

announcements@gracealex.org

25-26 Seminarians (Virginia Theological Seminary)

Seth Wise Buck

Gabriel (Gabe) Oakes

Miranda Peters

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.

PRELUDE

Once in Royal David's City

Mann/Willcocks

Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

Day by day, like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The people stand.*INTROIT ANTIphon (choir) *Dominus dixit*

Plainsong, Tone VII

*The Lord hath said unto me: Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.**Why do the heathen so furiously rage together: and why do the people imagine a vain thing? (Ps. 2:7, 1, 2, 8)*

HYMN 83

O come, all ye faithful (vs. 1-3, 6)

Adeste fideles

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

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Hymnal S-202

1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men.

2. We praise thee, we bless thee,

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people are seated for the reading of the lessons.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 96

Angels we have heard on high

Gloria

THE SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

Lector A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand for the Gospel Procession.

GRADUAL

In the day of thy power shall the people offer thee freewill offerings with a holy worship: the dew of thy birth is of the womb of the morning. The Lord said unto my Lord: "Sit thou on my right hand; until I make thine enemies thy footstool."

ALLELUIA AND VERSE (choir): *Dominus dixit ad me*

Gregorian Chant, Mode VIII

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord said unto me: Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 2:7)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The people are seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Emma Brice

Silence is kept.

THE 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 I; BCP, p. 383

The Leader and People pray responsively

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Presiding Bishop, Sean, for our Bishops, Mark and Gayle, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, Donald, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the city of Alexandria, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Celebrant

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE CONFESSON OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

BCP, p. 331

Deacon

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

All

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

BCP, p. 332

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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 ANTIphon (choir): *Laetentur caeli*

Plainsong, Tone II

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad: before the Lord, for he is come. (Ps. 96:11)

ANTHEM

Sussex Carol

Mann/Willcocks

On Christmas night all Christians sing.
To hear the news the angels bring
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.
Then why should all on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin he set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and all with joy may sing,
All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
'Glory to God and peace to all,
Now and for evermore proclaim!'

The people stand and sing the hymn.

HYMN 109

The first Nowell the angel did say

The First Nowell

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

BCP, p. 340

Celebrant

People

Celebrant

People

Celebrant

People

People

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymnal S-114

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - -

ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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-against 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

Christmastide Fraction

Cantor, then All:



Al- le - lu - ia! Al- le - lu - ia!

Cantor: The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

He was with God in the beginning and dwelt among us.

All: Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP, p. 337

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.

Those who wish to have the eucharist brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

COMMUNION ANTIphon (choir) *In splendoribus*

Gregorian Chant, Mode VI

In the splendor of holiness, from the womb before the daystar I have begotten you. (Ps. 109:3b)

HYMN 78

O little town of Bethlehem

Forest Green

The people kneel.

HYMN 111

Silent night, holy night

Stille Nacht

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP, p. 339

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And 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.

THE LAST GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

All genuflect.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

All stand.

And we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

HYMN 100

Joy to the world! The Lord is come

Antioch

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

VOLUNTARY

Grand Fantasia on Joy to the World

Marc Cheban

SERVING @ GRACE TODAY

Celebrant

The Rev. Dr. Anne M. Turner

Deacon & Preacher

The Rev. Emma Brice

Subdeacon

Jay Legere

Acolytes

Brynn Miller, Annie Eason, Lauren Gustafson, Molly Sim

Lector

Colleen McArdelle

Intercessor

Mary Stewart

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Ramee Gentry, John Thompson

Interim Music Director

Josh Harrington

Ushers

Colleen McArdelle, Laura Weidenfeld, Mary Stewart, Elizabeth Legere

Altar Guild Crew Leaders

Lucy-Lee Reed

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR CHRISTMASTIDE SERVICES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY – 12 p.m. Festival Eucharist, Rite I (nave)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN – 12 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Lady Altar)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, FEAST OF ST. JOHN – 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Lady Altar)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 (THREE SERVICES OFFERED) – 8:45 a.m. La Gracia (nave)

9:00 a.m. Little Church (Auditorium)

10:30 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols (nave)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, FEAST OF HOLY INNOCENTS – 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Lady Altar)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME – 12 p.m. Festival Eucharist, Rite I (nave)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – 5 p.m. Bilingual Festival Eucharist (nave)

(January 4- Regular Sunday Morning service schedule, with the exception of no La Gracia service)

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

The flowers decorating the church are given to the Glory of God by the following:

Anonymous	<i>In thanksgiving for our Grace church clergy.</i>
Sunny Adams	<i>In loving memory of Russ Adams.</i>
The Arnold Family	<i>In loving memory of those who have gone before us.</i>
John & Debbie Barker	<i>In thanksgiving for our family and all of our blessings.</i>
Brad Bergmann and June Huber	<i>In thanksgiving for our Grace Church family.</i>
Alison Campbell	<i>In thanksgiving for Grace Church and the family it has given me over the years.</i>
Lisa F. Cassady	<i>In loving memory of my beloved mother Anna Cassady and my brother Bobby.</i>
Ruth Corlett	<i>In loving memory of Cleve and in thanksgiving for our wonderful family.</i>
Chrissie Crosby	<i>In thanksgiving for the common sense, support, and good humor of my sisters, Anne McFadden and Diane Allen. Without that care, I would be at sea!</i>
Wendy & Bill Cummings	<i>In loving memory of Tom, Peg, Tom, Margie, Eddie, Ferris, Ike, Midge, and George.</i>
Chad Eckles	<i>In thanksgiving for the love of Gregg, Augustine, Gwen, and Theo.</i>
Kevin Hamilton	<i>In loving memory of Ward & Barbara Morris. Barbara often honored Ward's memory in Grace's flower dedications. This year it seems fitting they be remembered, together.</i>
Kristine Hesse & Greg Whitlow	<i>In thanksgiving for all our blessings.</i>
Michael S. Jones & Halina Banas-Jones	<i>In thanksgiving for the wonderful ministry of Grace Episcopal Church.</i>
Jane Clare & Barry Joyner	<i>In thanksgiving for family and friends.</i>
Scott Knudsen	<i>In thanksgiving for my lovely wife, Jennifer Pease. I couldn't have made it through this challenging year without you, Sweetheart. I love you.</i>
Ann Korky	<i>In loving memory of Theodore & Agnes Korky.</i>
Anne McFadden	<i>In thanksgiving for the love and support of my daughters and siblings and in thanksgiving for the life of Gary Charles Schroen.</i>
Jeff & Suzy McQuilkin	<i>In loving memory of our Dad, James Francis McQuilkin. And in thanksgiving for all of our families: the Apperson, Dumas, Zentmyer & McQuilkin families that we were lucky enough to be born into, as well as the Hughes, Puskar & Wayne families that we happily "force" our way into each Christmas morning.</i>
Judy Miller	<i>In loving memory of Claude A. Wheeler and Claude A. Wheeler, II (Sonny).</i>
Brynn & Morgan Miller	<i>In thanksgiving for our Grace Church family, who walk with us down every road, and for Grant Miller.</i>
Morgan Miller	<i>In thanksgiving for Jerry, my person.</i>
Liz Myers	<i>In thanksgiving of my daughters Emma & Elizabeth Imphong.</i>
Suzanne and Jay O'Malley	<i>In thanksgiving for the love and joys of family and friends, especially our daughters, Meghan and Kerrigan, sons-in-law, Brett and Briggs, grandsons, Sean, Luke, and Ethan, and granddaughter, Catherine Elliott.</i>
Katy Pattarini	<i>In thanksgiving for our wonderful family.</i>
Jennifer Pease & Scott Knudsen	<i>In thanksgiving for Suzi, our dear departed Charlie, Elizabeth, and Chris. We love you, our parents, and thank you (and forgive you) for everything.</i>

Cynthia & Cathy Puskar	<i>In loving memory of our parents and grandparents, Mary & Lewis Fulwiler and Chuck Puskar, our beloved Bill Stokes, and our brother and uncle, Lewis Fulwiler.</i>
Jean & Lucy-Lee Reed	<i>In loving memory of Rodney P. Reed. In thanksgiving for beloved family & friends.</i>
Christina Ritter & Steven Zatta	<i>In loving memory of William P. Ritter and Leo, Dorothy and David Zatta, and in thanksgiving for our many blessings.</i>
Evan & Nancy Robinson	<i>In thanksgiving for God's many blessings, and in prayers, memory, and hope for all those who have died and are suffering throughout the world.</i>
The Rev. Candace & John Sandfort	<i>In thanksgiving for our daughter, Sarah Sandfort Schultz, so proud that having raised you in the Episcopal Church you have gone on to do so many good things for Grace!</i>
Sarah and Robert Schultz	<i>In thanksgiving for our children, Willem and Celia.</i>
Barbara Arthur Slate, Ed Arthur, and Kathy Arthur Roche	<i>In loving memory of Eddie and Kathleen Arthur, Robert L. Slate, and Bill Roche.</i>
Mother Anne Turner	<i>In thanksgiving for the staff and people of Grace Church.</i>
Jennifer Voces	
Elly Vogtmann	<i>In loving memory of my parents, Stella & Bill. In thanksgiving for Elaine & Keith Niemeyer.</i>
Matt and Tacie Williams	<i>In thanksgiving for the Sunday School teachers!</i>
Otto & Jan Wolff	<i>In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.</i>
Lorna Worley	<i>In loving memory of Lynn & Rosemond Worley. Lundy & Vada Gadd, and David Worley.</i>
Beth Yancey	<i>In thanksgiving for all my blessings and especially for my family- Libby, Dennis, Bette, Michael, Robert, Allie, Coker, Amanda, Amy, Chipper -and for the Grace Church Altar Guild.</i>

The Advent wreath and candles are given in loving memory of Audrey T. Adlis and Charles S. Adlis and Marion L. Iovino and Peter A. Iovino, Sr. by Peter, Charlie and Christina Iovino.

Hanging votive candles for the coming year are given by the Legere family in memory of Dick and Vi Legere.

ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

***** Headings for New Announcements Added This Week are Shaded. *****

OVERFLOW PARKING

The property management company that oversees the Food Star lot has asked that when we are using the lot for overflow parking, we will not take up more than half of the lot. If the lot is more than half full when you arrive, please seek street parking.

ELEVATOR UPDATE & FELLOWSHIP (COFFEE) HOUR LOCATION REMINDER

Work is finishing this week to establish a connection between the modernized elevator and the fire panel. Once complete, our vendor can schedule the inspection required for permitting. Our Fellowship Hour (Coffee Hour) returned to the Auditorium last week at the request of many in our parish. You can help make Fellowship Hour a great way for our parish to connect by volunteering to host, provide food donations, and help with cleanup after fellowship hour. If you and/or your family enjoy having refreshments and snacks, please consider signing up. To volunteer, use your phone's camera to scan the QR code or fill out the hard copy signup sheet located on the snack table. Please note, refreshments and snacks will only be available during a fellowship hour when someone has volunteered to host to perform setup and food donations are provided. Have questions? Please reach out to Mother Emma at emma.brice@gracealex.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (*CONTINUED*)

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE

Adult forum is offered Sundays 9:40 -10:15 am 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 am. All are welcome at any forum; no commitment required.

Adult Forum Schedule:

- December 28:** No Adult Forum. *Forum will resume January 4.*
- January 4:** Diocesan Convention Report by Rushad Thomas and other delegates
- January 11:** TBD
- January 18:** Budget Presentation, by Ramee Gentry

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE THROUGH JANUARY 4

The church office will close December 24 and reopen Monday, January 5. If possible, please give the clergy and staff the gift of empty email inboxes upon their return in the new year. For pastoral emergencies, please call the after-hours pastoral emergency number 703.261.9079 and the clergy member on call will assist you.

UPCOMING FEAST DAY EUCHARISTS

We have three upcoming Feast Day Eucharists held outside of a regular service offering. The Feast of Saint Stephen is Friday, December 26 at 12 noon, the Feast of Saint John is Saturday, December 27 at 8:30 a.m., and the Feast of Holy Innocents is Monday, December 29 at 8:00 a.m. All three services will be held at the Lady Altar in the nave.

BABY SHOWER FOR BABY BRICE – JANUARY 11

You're Invited! Please join us for an afternoon tea to shower the mamas-to-be with love on Sunday, January 11 from 2:00-4:00 pm at Merrow Hall. All are welcome, including little ones. Please use the QR code to RSVP by Jan 2 and sign up to bring a treat from the list - or surprise us with something delightful! Let's raise our teacups to Mother Emma and Crichelle's upcoming arrival!



END OF YEAR DONATIONS

As 2025 draws to a close, it is important to be aware that all pledge contributions and other donations to Grace must be processed within required deadlines. Cash/check contributions must be physically received in the church office or postmarked by December 31, 2025. Stock contributions must be in Grace's Schwab Account by December 31, and therefore should be initiated at least two weeks before the month's end to ensure timely processing. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Giving@gracealex.org.

FOYER GROUP- SIGNUPS OPEN FOR SHORTER SPRING SEASON OF SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP

Want to get to know fellow parishioners in a smaller, offsite setting? Do you crave home cooking or trying new restaurants and want some good company? If so, Foyer Groups are for you! Please register using the QR code so we can randomly assign you to a group of 6 people who will meet for three relaxed, fun meals that will be scheduled at a mutually agreeable time in the January through June timeframe. Each group will have a convener who reaches out to the group to find a time for the first meal, and then each couple (singles will have a partner to collaborate with) will take turns hosting the meal. New this year is a "foodies foyer" which is for people who want to meet at a restaurant for a "dutch treat" meal instead of cooking at home - this is designed as a "lighter lift" for those who don't have time or space to host at home. If you have any questions, or would like to help explore ideas for a kid-friendly option, please email Cricket at cb9@verizon.net. Register by Sunday January 4, 2026 so we can kick off the next round of Foyers that second week of the new year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (CONTINUED)

YOUTH NIGHT ICE SKATING - JANUARY 11, 6-8 P.M.

Come keep the winter festivities going with a night of ice skating! Weather-permitting we will be outside at Pentagon Row. If it is too cold or rainy, then we will shift to an indoor rink. Stay in the loop and help Mother Emma make reservations by completing the RSVP form (scan the QR code on the right). The estimated cost is \$20 per person, and financial aid is available as needed. This event is for 6th-12th graders. Dinner will not be provided, so eat before coming!



INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENTS

On weekends and holidays, closure announcements are made by 7 a.m. via our Website, Facebook Page, and in an all-church email notification. If you do not receive the weekly emails and would like to sign up, visit our website at gracealex.org and click on the Newsletter sign up banner near the bottom of our home page. During the week, the Church Office follows the same closure decisions as Grace Episcopal School.

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:** Hector, Amorita, Debbie, Kelly, Ed, Colin, Jennifer, Joanie, Jean, Linda, John & Anne, Ismael, Wendy, Stephen, Lisa, Priscilla & Paul; Liz; Anne; Claire; Don; Doug, Lesley, Charles.
- **Parishioners and others in assisted living:** Margaret, Nancy, Sally, Clare, Elesa, Marilyn, Don, Susan, James, Peck, Vylma, Bette, Cynthia.
- **Family & friends:** Klaus, Nancy, Michael, Sharon, Ashby, Troy, Cathie, Cameron, Patti & Joe, Amy, Bill, Theresa, Rob, Sherry, Pearl, Heather, Jack, Eileen, Charlotte, Deanna, Allen, Leslie, Fielding, Lit & Mary Carol; Jeannine; Sam; Lisa; Margianne; Courtney; Gina; Joanne; Victoria; Erin; Marc; Annelie; Charlotte, Jim, Theresa; Ron, Gwendolyn; Claudia; Janice.
- **Members of our staff:** Amorita, Mother Anne, Betsy, Mother Emma, Gabriel, Ginny, Jane, Josh, Kevin, Kris, Mary, Miranda, Pedro, Seth.
- **Grace School:** Students & their families; for the staff, especially Amanda, head of school.
- **Outreach & Justice Partners:** ALIVE; Casa Chirilagua; Christ Church Refugee and Lazarus Ministries; Community Lodgings; Haiti Micah Project; Health Tanzania; Meade Memorial Lunch Program; 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; 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:** Karen & Eric Coulson; Erika Olander; 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 teaching or studying abroad:** Chris & Melissa Reed, Virginia Robinson, Julie Mills Cizek & Theo Halliwell; Ace Crane.
- **Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle:** Grace (Cismont), Keswick.
- **Anglican Prayer Cycle:** Anglican Church of Burundi; Diocese of Santiago, Chile, Iglesia Anglicana de Chile; Diocese of Santiago, Philippines, Episcopal Church in the Philippines; Diocese of São Paulo - Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil; Diocese of Sapele, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); Diocese of Saskatchewan, Anglican Church of Canada; Diocese of Saskatoon, Anglican Church of Canada.

You can fill out a Prayer Request Form on our website or email your request to prayers@gracealex.org