



Grace Episcopal Church

3601 Russell Rd. Alexandria, Virginia 22305

www.gracealex.org 703.549.1980

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025 – 10:30 am

Festival 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

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

WELCOME TO GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are pleased to welcome you to Grace Church. If you are joining us for the first time, please send us a message at welcome@gracealex.org, 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 Anne & Mother Emma are out of the office on Mondays and Father Santiago is out of the office on Fridays)

Staff

Noah Aukerman

Seminarian

naukerman@vts.edu

Betsy Bamford

Jane Avery

Nursery Workers (part-time)

The Rev. Emma Brice

Associate Rector & School Chaplain

emma.brice@gracealex.org

Addie Budnick

Communications Support

Announcement requests - announcements@gracealex.org

Mary Cyrus

Financial Administrator (part-time)

financial.admin@gracealex.org

Kevin Hamilton

Director of Operations and Communication

director.of.operations@gracealex.org

Amanda Hungerford

Interim Head of Grace Episcopal School

ahungerford@graceschoolalex.org

Pedro Hernández

Amorita Quintanilla

Sextons

Madeline Manaker

Finance Assistant (part-time)

madeline.manaker@gracealex.org

The Rev. Santiago Rodriguez

Associate Rector

santiago.rodriguez@gracealex.org

The Rev. Deacon Ignacio Solano Gómez

Seminarian

isolanogomez@vts.edu

Dr. Alain Truche

Director of Music

alain.truche@gracealex.org

The Rev. Dr. Anne Michele Turner

Rector

anne.turner@gracealex.org

IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE?

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

HOME COMMUNION

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
FESTIVAL EUCHARIST, RITE II

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

PRELUDE

Variations on 'Noël Nouvelet'

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Theme

1. Larghetto

2. Poco animato

4. Vif

5. Vivace

6. Canon at the fourth and fifth

7. Vivace

8. Cannon at the second

9. Animé

3. Canon at the octave

INTROIT ANTIPHON (choir) *Quasi modo geniti infantes*

Plainsong, Tone VII

As newborn babes, alleluia: desire ye the sincere milk of the word, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing we merrily unto God, our helper: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob. (1 Peter 2:2; Psalm 139)

The people stand.

HYMN 192

This joyful Eastertide

Vruechten

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

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.

GLORIA S-278

Mathias

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -

might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
 on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 5:27-32

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 118:14-29

Anglican Chant by George Thalben-Ball

Sung by the choir.

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the Lord.

20 "This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! *

Lord, send us now success.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *

we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; *

form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; *

you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *

his mercy endures for ever.

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 1:4-8

Lector A reading from the Book of Revelation.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand for the Gospel Procession.

ALLELUIA VERSE (choir) *In die resurrectionis*

Plainsong, Tone VI

Alleluia, alleluia. "In the day of my resurrection," saith the Lord: "I will go before you into Galilee," alleluia. After eight days, when the doors were shut: stood Jesus in the midst of the disciples and said, "Peace be unto you," alleluia.

(Matt. 28:7; John 20:26)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

SERMON

Father Santiago Rodriguez

Silence is kept.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Leader and People pray responsively

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

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

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

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

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

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

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Pope Francis and Steve Ellis, Sr., *father-in-law of Linda Cerrato*.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

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

Silence

Celebrant

O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of your kingdom on the last great Day; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **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](https://tithe.ly) by scanning this QR code.*



OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (choir)

Angelus Domini

Plainsong, Tone II

*The angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and said unto the women: "He whom ye seek is risen, as he said," alleluia.
(Matthew 28:2, 5, 6)*

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
 Of triumphant gladness;
 God hath brought his Israel
 Into joy from sadness;
 'Tis the Spring of Souls today,
 Christ hath burst His prison,
 And from three days sleep in death
 As a Sun hath risen.
 Now the Queen of seasons,
 bright with the day of splendor,
 With the royal feast of feasts,
 Comes its joy to render;

Comes to glad Jerusalem,
 Who with true affection
 Welcomes in unwearied strains
 Jesus's Resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death,
 Nor the tomb's dark portal,
 Nor the watchers, nor the seal,
 Hold Thee as a mortal;

But today amidst the twelve
 Thou didst stand, bestowing
 That thy peace which evermore
 Passeth human knowing.

The people stand and sing the hymn.

HYMN 206

O sons and daughters, let us sing

O filii et filiae

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP, p. 367

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 every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

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

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you

and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

THE 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

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-155

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.

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 pews.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (choir) Mitte manum tuam, et cognosce Plainsong, Tone I

Reach hither thy hand, and behold the print of the nails, alleluia: and be not faithless, but believing, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (John 20:27)

HYMN 178 Jesus is Lord of all the earth Alleluia No. 1

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 peace of God, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and 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 492 Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness Finnian

THE DISMISSAL

BCP, p. 366

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

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

VOLUNTARY Variations on 'Noël Nouvelet'
10. Fugato - Toccata Marcel Dupré

*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

Marcel Dupré was one of the foremost French organ virtuoso's of his time, an heir to the great tradition of Romantic French organ playing and composing. Dupré was famed for his ability to improvise; he also composed substantial works and was a widely travelled recitalist and an influential teacher.

One of Dupré's most popular works is this set of variations on an old French Christmas tune. Dupré somberly sets out the simple melody, then proceeds with ten brief variations. These variations were written while Dupré was travelling across the USA in 1922 by train playing a recital series. When Dupré's Op 20 was published in 1923, it was titled 'Variations sur un Noël'. Since then, however, it has been more often referred to as *Variations sur un vieux Noël*, the title under which it appears in the list of works appended to *Marcel Dupré raconte ...*, the autobiographical volume which appeared in 1972. The tune is, of course, *Noël nouvelet*, an old French carol, the unmistakably first mode opening of which hints at an ancient liturgical origin, for it begins just like the plainsong *Ave maris stella*. This old French carol in the U.S.A. is associated with the Easter text "Now the Green Blade Riseth." As Dupré's theme, it consists of six four-bar phrases, moderato 2/4, in which the modal tune in D is simply harmonized in four parts. In the succeeding movements, contrapuntal variations alternate with freer ones. Variation 1, a larghetto in common-time, divides the theme between tenor and treble on a trumpet stop, maintaining quaver counterpoint above or below it. Variation 2 loses sight of the theme in the chromatic twistings of a poco animato in 6/8. Variation 3 presents the theme, cantabile in canon at the octave between treble and bass against a rocking Voix Céleste accompaniment. Variation 4 has the theme staccato in the pedals, beneath piquant manual chords. Variation 5 is a scurrying right-hand study, vivace 6/8, with its triplet semiquavers lightly accompanied by staccato chords for left hand and pedals. Variation 6 is an ingeniously strict trio, presenting the theme in canon at the fourth and fifth. Variation 7 is another vivace, but one that bristles with appoggiaturas. Variation 8 presents the theme, cantabile, in canon at the second, between the pedals and Voix Humaine in the treble. Variation 9, in 3/8, is a brilliant study in thirds. Variation 10 is a fugato which presents the theme in diminution and augmentation before leading into a toccata. Here the theme roars in the pedals, first in the minor, then in the major, beneath a carillon of clashing chords (notes by Felix Arahamian).

Today's anthem is a setting of the hymn text "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" by R.S. Tachtcher. It is a Greek Resurrection hymn written by John of Damascus (c. 675-749) in the 8th century. The translation by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) first appeared in *Christian Remembrance* (April 1859) in an article on "Greek Hymnody" and then in *Hymns of the Eastern Church* (1862) in four stanzas.

The text is the first ode from the Canon for St. Thomas's Sunday, the Sunday after Easter or Low Sunday, and is based on the canticle "The Song of Moses" from Exodus 15. A clear connection can be seen in the hymn from Exodus 14 and 15 through the vivid language used. "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" can be used the Sunday after Easter.

The main theological theme of this hymn is deliverance. Stanza one discusses the joy the Israelites had after being delivered from Pharaoh across the Red Sea. This stanza provides an easy link to Moses and his song. (Notes by Michael Dawn)

Sir Reginald Sparshatt Thatcher (1888–1957) was an English musician, composer, teacher and musical administrator. He was assistant music-master at Clifton College, 1911; director of music, Royal Naval College, Osborne, 1914; director of music at Charterhouse School, 1919 and Harrow School, 1928–36. He was appointed as Sir Adrian Boult's deputy in the BBC music department in 1937, and was principal of the Royal Academy of Music (RAM), London, from 1949 to 1955.

SERVING @ GRACE TODAY

Celebrant

Mother Emma Brice

Deacon & Preacher

Father Santiago Rodriguez

Subdeacon

Stephanie Reed

Assisting & Children's Chapel

Mother Anne Turner

Lector

Teresa Preston

Intercessor

Bill Eckel

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Mindy Van Wart

Music Director

Dr. Alain Truche

Ushers

John Boris, Bill Eckel, Colleen McArdelle, Sarah Schultz

Live Stream Crew

Mary Shaver

Altar Guild Crew Leaders

Sarah Schultz, Kemp Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF APRIL 27, 2025

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 Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God and by Jenny Cline in Celebration of Jan & Otto Wolff's 50th wedding anniversary and the love they have for their family.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

FEAST OF SAINT MARK THE EVANGELIST – APRIL 28TH AT 7:30 AM

Grace Episcopal Church invites you to join us for a special celebration of the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist on Monday, April 28th at 7:30 a.m. We will gather at the Lady Altar in the nave for an early morning Eucharist to honor the life and witness of St. Mark. Following the service, all are warmly welcome to continue the celebration with breakfast at IHOP for a time of fellowship and connection.

NO MORNING PRAYER APRIL 28 - 30

There will be no morning prayer on Monday, April 28, Tuesday, April 29, or Wednesday, April 30, as the clergy will be at a conference. Morning prayer will resume Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

IN THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to God for those who made our Holy Week and Easter liturgies sacred and beautiful: Altar Guild, Choirs, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, our Saint Isidore Livestream Guild, and many more.

CELEBRATING FATHER IGNACIO SOLANO GÓMEZ

Join us on Sunday, May 4th, as we celebrate Father Ignacio Solano Gómez as he completes his time as a seminarian at Grace. We will send him off with prayer during our morning services. We give thanks for the many gifts Father Ignacio has shared during his time as our seminarian and wish him every blessing as he begins his ordained ministry in the Worcester Corridor of Diocese of Western Massachusetts and celebrates his marriage at the beginning of the summer.

VISION SUNDAYS IN MAY

If you saw a newspaper about Grace in 10 years, what would you want the headlines to say? What ideas do you have about the future of Grace? Read the recent Grace Notes to see the voice of the parish from 2023 and 2024 and join in conversation and activities at coffee hours on May 4 and 18 to begin to look to the future! Visit <https://bit.ly/visionfeedback25> or scan to see the Grace Notes info and respond if you like!



THANK YOU FROM THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM TO THE GRACE COMMUNITY

Thanks to the participation of so many Grace members who contributed food donations and helped with Merrow Hall reception set up, serving, and clean up. Grace Church fully celebrated Easter with a joyous and delicious AGAPE reception, as well as a festive Easter Egg Hunt and coffee hour. Each fellowship opportunity brings us together to enrich our connections, and having so many people help with the event allowed everyone to enjoy the celebrations. We look forward to many more opportunities for everyone to feel a part of the fellowship team.

With gratitude, Lynn Rohrs, Colleen McArdelle, and the fellowship committee.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (CONTINUED)

LA GRACIA INVITES ALL TO BINGO EVENT - SATURDAY, MAY 17TH AT 3:00 PM

Join us for an afternoon of fun playing bingo on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 3:00 pm. We invite you to the Merrow Hall Auditorium for a family-friendly experience. All proceeds will go directly to the 'La Gracia Fund'. Each bingo card is priced at \$10. Enjoy delicious food available for purchase, ensuring you an afternoon full of flavor and fun for the whole family. Don't miss this chance to join La Gracia at an event that will make a difference! We look forward to seeing you on May 17th.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE REV. JOHN RICK

We pray in gratitude to God for the life of the Rev. John William Rick, who was an associate at Grace in the nineties. The Rev. Rick died on April 4th in St. Louis, MO. A service in celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. at the Church of St. Michael and St. George in Clayton, MO 63105. The service will also be livestreamed on the church's website. A link to the livestream will be shared here as the date approaches. Please keep John's family and all who mourn in your prayers.

CELEBRATE SHRINE MONT AT THE PARISH PICNIC ON JUNE 1ST

Join us on Sunday, June 1st, as we celebrate the spirit of Shrine Mont at our Parish Picnic. After the 10:30 am bilingual service, we'll gather to enjoy home-style cooking in the Southern tradition - the kind that brings back memories of time spent on the mountain. Parishioners are invited to bring a dish to share: those with last names A-F are asked to bring main dishes, G-M side dishes, N-T desserts, and U-Z drinks. We will have 'butt' buns and apple butter. A table will be available in the lobby before the service where you can drop off your food donations. Come and be part of this joyful time of fellowship, food, and celebration!

EASTER MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP SEAN ROWE

Dear Friends in Christ:

Luke's Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Joanna went to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. When they got there, the stone had been rolled away, and they heard the message that transformed their world—and ours: "He is not here. He is risen."

On that Easter morning, the women who had been the last protectors and pastors at the cross on Good Friday became the first to witness and proclaim the resurrection. Scripture tells us, however, that their good news was not met with joy. The news that Jesus had risen from the dead was received as an idle tale, as nonsense—in one dynamic translation, as nothing more than women's trinkets. In the fraught and divided world in which these first evangelists lived, they were on the margins, and their word counted for nothing.

How quickly the apostles forgot what Jesus had modeled days before on Palm Sunday and at the Last Supper. The long-awaited Messiah fashioned himself not as a political conqueror but as a peacemaker. Our Savior upended notions of worldly power by taking on the role of a servant and washing the feet of his followers. For Jesus, the vulnerable and the marginalized are in focus, and his ears are attuned to their voices.

As we proclaim the resurrection in our own time and place, let us always remember that the kingdom of God is revealed to us most clearly by those who are dispossessed by the powers and principalities of this world. Let us celebrate the joy of Easter by seeking and serving the resurrected Christ in the lives and the witness of those who have been silenced, persecuted, and marginalized.

May God bless you and all those you love this Easter.



The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe
Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

TODAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 27 – AFTERNOON BABYSITTING, 12–3 PM

Need an afternoon to yourself? The J2A youth group is hosting a Parents' Afternoon Out Babysitting Fundraiser on Sunday, April 27 from 12–3 pm at Merrow Hall! Drop off your kids (ages 10 and under) for crafts, games, and fun while you go out, run errands, or recharge. Stay for the whole time or just part of it—whatever works for you! Lunch for the little ones can be provided if there's interest, so let us know. So go ahead and start planning your lunch dates and naps now! Questions? Contact breen.byrnes@gmail.com.

COFFEE HOUR SIGN UPS

You are invited to help with coffee hour! We need your help as a weekly host, or to donate snacks. All are welcome to participate in our new simplified process. Sign up via the QR code!



ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE

Adult Forum meets on 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. All are welcome at any forum; no commitment required.

April 27: Grace at Work: Ethical Journalism, by Chris Rugaber

May 4: Images of Resurrection, by Anne Clift Boris

May 11: Grace at Work: Keeping Health Care Providers Out of Trouble, by Laura Weidenfeld

May 18: Grace at Work: Advancing Science, Serving Society, by Ted Prosser and Elias Voces

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP IS MAY 4

Rising 9th graders through 12th graders graduating this spring are invited to spend a week this summer doing hands-on work to support our neighbors in Appalachia. We will join together with a group of youth from the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia at Grace House on the Mountain for the second year in a row. We already have enough youth registered to guarantee this trip is happening, and the deadline to join in on the fun is May 4. If you have questions, please reach out to Mother Emma (emma.brice@gracealex.org). The registration form can be found here by scanning the QR Code.



FOUR-PART SERIES ON AGING WITH FR. SANTIAGO RODRIGUEZ – WEDNESDAYS @ 11:30 AM

Join us for Aging with Grace, a four-part series led by Father Santiago Rodriguez that invites us to reflect on the spiritual and emotional journey of growing older. Meeting on Wednesdays, May 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., we will gather over a brown bag lunch and explore *The Gift of Years: Growing Old Gracefully* by Joan Chittister - a wise and honest book that celebrates the blessings of aging. With clarity and compassion, this series looks at the realities of the aging process while revealing the later years of life as a time of purpose, richness, and grace. All are welcome - invite a friend.

ALEXANDRIA REGION YOUTH GAMES NIGHT - MAY 11, 6–8 PM

Come together with youth from the many Episcopal churches in Alexandria for a night of dinner, games, and compline! In this big regional youth night, we will have both run-around games and chill games being played. The Alexandria Region Youth Games Night is May 11, 6 - 8 pm, right here at Grace Church. Depending on weather, we will either meet up in the amphitheater or the auditorium, details to follow. Please RSVP by completing this super-short form available via the QR code.



ANNOUNCEMENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK (CONTINUED)

SAVE THE DATE: DIOCESAN FELLOWSHIP DAY FOR 3RD, 4TH, AND 5TH GRADERS - MAY 17

For the first time, the diocese will host two events for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders to come together for formation, fellowship, and fun - one in Richmond and one in Alexandria! This year's theme is "Love One Another," and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade day will focus on learning about and deepening our engagement with Communion. The Alexandria day will be on May 17 from 10 am - 2 pm at the St. Stephen's and St. Agnes Lower School Campus. Registration information will be coming soon.

REFLECTION & RENEWAL: PARENT DISCUSSION ON YOUTH MINISTRY - MAY 18, 4 PM

Parents of youth are invited to join Mother Emma for a group discussion on the status of youth ministry at Grace. We will reflect on the past year and brainstorm ideas for the future. The discussion is scheduled for Sunday, May 18 from 4 - 5 pm in the Merrow Hall Auditorium (on the 3rd floor). Please help spread the word and encourage all parents of youth to attend. You're also invited to stay for the Choral Evensong at 5 pm in the nave.

WHEN THE VESTRY CALLS, WE HOPE YOU'LL ANSWER

Across the next several months, the Grace Vestry will be calling members of the parish, with the goal of reaching every member of Grace by mid-summer. We hope you will answer! The purpose of these calls is simply to connect: you to your Vestry, and your Vestry to you. We want to check-in, offer information about upcoming church events, offer access to resources like Breeze and weekly emails, and address any questions, ideas, or concerns you may have. Mostly, we are just grateful for your commitment to Grace, and want to thank you for your presence! If you have questions, we miss your in our calls, or anything else, please reach out to any Vestry member, including Sarah Schultz, Senior Warden (sarahschultz9@gmail.com or call 703-399-0646).

MONTHLY QUIET MORNING IN MAY – SATURDAY 5/17, 10:00 AM - NOON

In a time of crisis and a culture of busyness, it may sound wasteful or even inappropriate to prioritize rest. And yet, God invites us into an expression of trust—to step aside from our work, to imitate God's own pause on the seventh day of creation, and to remember that rest is holy. On May 17th we'll gather at 10 am in the Saint John Room and then enjoy silent, unstructured time together. Tea, simple art materials, and an indoor labyrinth will be provided. Feel free to bring your own journal, books, or anything else you need. Contact Mindy Van Wart with questions. mindaruski@gmail.com

BIRTHDAYS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

Tuesday, April 29	Susan Pease
Thursday, May 1	Richard Wilmer
Saturday, May 3	Dave Arnold



*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!***

EVENTS @ GRACE THIS WEEK

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT / INFO*
Sunday, 4/27	7:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Nave	
	8:45 am La Santa Eucaristía	La Nave	
	9:00 am Little Church, Rite II	Amphitheater	
	9:40 - 10:15 Sunday School and Adult Forum	Various Locations	
	10:30 am Choral Eucharist, Rite II	Nave / Livestream	
	5:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Nave	
Monday 4/28	Food Pantry Bagging - 3:30 - 5:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Tuesday 4/29	Food Pantry Distribution - 6:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Wednesday, 4/30	Food Pantry (Unloading of Delivery) - 2 - 4 pm	Malm Narthex	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	
Thursday, 5/1	Alanon - 8 pm	St. Luke Room	
	Morning Prayer - 9:00 am	Malm Narthex	
	Food Pantry Bagging - 3:30 - 5:30 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
	Handbell Choir Rehearsal - 6 pm	Malm Narthex	Alain.truche@gracealex.org
Friday, 5/2	Adult Choir Rehearsal - 7 pm	St. Cecilia Room	Alain.truche@gracealex.org
	Food Pantry Bagging - 3 - 5 pm	1 st floor Lobby	Jennifer.Pease@gracealex.org
Saturday, 5/3	Food Pantry Distribution - 6:30 pm		
	Altar Guild Set Up - 9 am	Narthex, Sacristy	
	Bible Study - 10 am	Zoom	cmfaddencrosby@gmail.com

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, Lisa, Tina, Hector, Wendy, Amorita, Caz & family, Debbie, Amber, Kelly, Sigrid, Ed, Charles, Colin, Jennifer, Lisa, Igor, David & Joanie, Jan, Elly, Sara, Jean, Jean, Lorna, Alison, Linda, John & Anne, Wendy, Don.
- **Parishioners and others in assisted living:** Margaret, Nancy, Sally, Clare, Elesa, Cynthia, Reg, Don, Susan, James, Peck, Vylma, Bette.
- **Family & friends:** Barbara, Mark, Klaus, Nancy, Michael, Cyndy, Sharon, Scott, Carl, Christine, Ada, Santos, Don, Ashby, Troy, Dick, Danny, Cathie, Cameron, Patti & Joe, Amy, Bill, Theresa, Rob, Sherry, Pearl, Heather, John & parents, Terrie, Jack, Marcy, Eileen, Frank, Jim, Bridget, Charlotte, Lucy, Sarah, Katherine, Deanna, Allen, Leslie, Scott.
- **Members of our staff:** Addie, Alain, Amorita, Mother Anne, Betsy, Mother Emma, Jane, Kevin, Madeline, Mary, Pedro, Father Santiago.
- **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; 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:** Steve Ellis, Sr., father in law of Linda Cerrato; Pope Francis; 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; 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 studying:** Chris & Melissa Reed, Lit & Mary Carol Tazewell, Virginia Robinson.
- **Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle:** Bishop E. Mark Stevenson; Bishop Gayle E. Harris; Diocesan staff; Buck Mountain, Earlysville; Good Shepherd, Bluemont; St. Paul's, Alexandria; St. Paul's Memorial, Charlottesville.
- **Anglican Prayer Cycle:** Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean; Diocese of Meridional, Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil; Diocese of Meru, Anglican Church of Kenya; Diocese of Mexico, La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico; Diocese of Del Norte de Mexico, La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico; Diocese of Michigan, Episcopal Church; Diocese of Eastern Michigan, Episcopal Church.

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