

# Grace & Holy Trinity Church

*an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park*



## The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Year B)

Proper 17

September 1, 2024 | 8:00 a.m.

# Welcome

**Welcome to Grace & Holy Trinity.** Ever aspiring to be more like Christ, we strive to be a warm and welcoming Episcopal parish, ever mindful of the needs of others. **We seek to be inclusive to all, including the LGBTQIA+ community.** We hope you will find a community here with us, whether you are a college student, Richmond newcomer, out-of-towner, or a long-time resident looking for a new church home. **If you are visiting,** please fill out the **Connect Card** in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate during the service. Sign up for the **Weekly News** with the Connect Card or at [ghtc.org/news](http://ghtc.org/news). **Children and Youth** activities are located in the second floor classrooms in the Parish House. A wonderful **nursery** staff is available from 8:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. should you wish to drop off your infant during worship. We also provide **children's bulletins** for children wishing to stay with their parents. If young children get restless, it is OK to stay in church and you are welcome to use our library, too. **Changing tables** are located in the family restroom near the choir room. A greeter can direct you. Information about **Complimentary Sunday Parking** can be found in the back of this bulletin or on the Connect Table in the hallway across from the library.

## The Word of God

*The beginning of our worship is intended as a reflection for all.*

### Opening Acclamation

*Book of Common Prayer p. 323*

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

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

### The Collect for Purity

*Book of Common Prayer p. 323*

**All** 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 Kyrie

*Book of Common Prayer p. 324*

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy.

**All** Christ, have mercy.

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy.

## The Collect of the Day

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 181

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**All** And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

*Lector* A reading from the Song of Solomon.

The voice of my beloved!  
Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My beloved is like a gazelle  
or a young stag.  
Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,  
gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice.  
My beloved speaks and says to me:  
“Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away;  
for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away.”

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10**

*Read responsively by whole verse.*

*Book of Common Prayer p. 647*

*Eructavit cor meum*

- Lector*
- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;  
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; \*  
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
  - 2 **You are the fairest of men; \***  
**grace flows from your lips,**  
**because God has blessed you for ever.**
  - 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, \*  
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;  
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
  - 8 **Therefore God, your God, has anointed you \***  
**with the oil of gladness above your fellows.**
  - 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, \*  
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
  - 10 **Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; \***  
**on your right hand is the queen,**  
**adorned with the gold of Ophir.**

**Second Reading**

James 1:17-27

*Lector* A reading from the Letter of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

**Venite**

*All stand and say,*

*Book of Common Prayer p. 82*

*Psalm 95:1-7*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

**The Gospel**

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;

in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Brent A. Melton

**The Nicene Creed**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 326

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Prayers of the People**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 328

**Parish Prayer List**

*Please remain standing as you are able.*

**Confession of Sin**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 330

**The Absolution**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 332

**The Peace**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 332

**Welcome & Announcements**

## The Holy Communion

**Offertory Sentence**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 376

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
– *Ephesians 5:2*



To donate or pay your pledge, scan the QR code or visit [ghtc.org/give](http://ghtc.org/give).

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 340

**The Lord's Prayer**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 336

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 337

**Post-Communion Prayer**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 339

**The Blessing**

**All**        **The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.**

**The Dismissal**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 339 & Henri-Frédéric Amiel

*Celebrant*   Friends, life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us so be swift to love, make haste to be kind and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All**        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Flowers at the Altar**

This Sunday's flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God. *If you would like to remember or honor a loved one by giving the altar flowers, please call Cathy Saunders at (804) 359-5628 x13 with dates and specific requests.* Altar flowers can also be given for recognition, birthdays, anniversaries, or special occasions. The cost is \$100. You may mail a check or handle the cost online at [ghtc.org/give](http://ghtc.org/give).

### **Today's Worship Participants**

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Celebrant & Preacher*

Andrew Peacock, *Lector*

### **Release Information**

Photographs and video of our services help keep our community connected and give visitors an idea of what to expect attending our church. If you do not want to be photographed or appear in our live and recorded services, please let an usher know so that you can be seated in an area that is not visible on camera.

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## Complimentary Sunday Parking



**Validation Number:** WM-1374

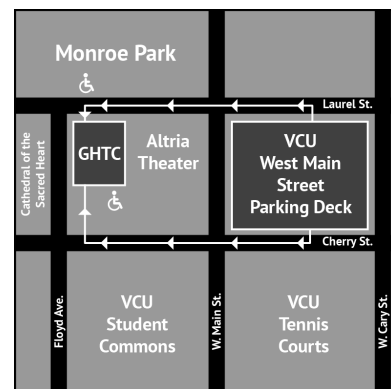
**Expiration date:** 06/30/2025

*QR code only valid on Sundays.*

### VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck Instructions

1. Enter the parking deck from N. Laurel Street or N. Cherry Street.
2. At the parking gate arm, press the button to receive a ticket.
3. Park in any available space in the deck.
4. After visiting Grace & Holy Trinity, exit the parking deck in your vehicle and scan your parking ticket into the machine at the parking gate arm.
5. When the machine asks for payment, hold the QR code to the scanner.
6. The machine will scan the code, accept it as payment, and the parking gate arm will raise in order for you to exit.

*\*If you need assistance, press the “i” button at the gate and someone will assist remotely.*



### Teaching Blurb | The Season after Pentecost (Green) - Music in September

The season that follows Pentecost Sunday continues through the summer and fall months. This is the longest church season, as many as 28 Sundays depending on the date of Easter Day. This season falls in an Ordinary Time and is green is the preferred color. In this is a time Christians should reflect on the meaning of Christ's resurrection in our ordinary life. Each month we will include a new “Teaching Blurb” for your learning.

Music has been a part of the liturgy (worship service) from the very beginning. Liturgy by definition was “sung.” Chanting/singing was considered the highest form of worship and was the norm through the Middle Ages. We began to lose chanting in the local parish churches in the Reformation. It was revived by the 19th Century and now is common, especially during the Psalm. We remember what Ephesians 5:19-20 says, “... as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

### Communion Instructions for 8:00 a.m. Services

Communicants will drink from the Chalice at the Altar in the church. Alternatively, communicants who receive the Bread may refrain from drinking from the Chalice; those who refrain from drinking from the Chalice are encouraged to cross their arms and to say “Amen” when the Chalice is offered by the Chalice Bearer: their “Amen” is their verbal acknowledgment of the grace of the sacrament. The full grace of the sacrament is communicated through the Bread.

Grace & Holy Trinity Church  
8 N. Laurel Street, Monroe Park • Richmond, VA 23220  
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