

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025 | 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, **and 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** from the Connect Table and place it in the offering plate during the service. Children & Youth Sunday School is located on the second floor. A wonderful **nursery** staff is available from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. should you wish to drop off your young children (up to age 3) during worship. 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 in the choir room. A greeter can direct you. Information about **complimentary Sunday parking** can be found on the back of this bulletin.

The Word of God

The beginning of our worship is intended as a reflection.

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

Celebrant Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:

All 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.

Canticle No. 5: The Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32 | Book of Common Prayer p. 51

Nunc dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Book of Common Prayer p. 215

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

Lector A reading from the Book of Malachi.

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in

whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84

Book of Common Prayer p. 707

Read responsively by whole verse.

Quam dilecta!

- Lector*
- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
 - 2 **The sparrow has found her a house**
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
 - 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
 - 4 **Happy are the people whose strength is in you! ***
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
 - 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
 - 6 **They will climb from height to height, ***
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
 - 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
 - 8 **Behold our defender, O God; ***
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
 - 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
 - 10 **For the Lord God is both sun and shield; ***
he will give grace and glory;
 - 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
 - 12 **O Lord of hosts, ***
happy are they who put their trust in you!

Lector A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

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

All Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Steve Pace

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.

In receiving the offertory plates we say...

All All things come of the O Lord and of thine own have we given thee.

– *1 Chronicles 29:14*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

Book of Common Prayer p. 340

The Lord's Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 336

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.

Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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

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

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

The 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 scan the QR Code, visit ghtc.org/flowers, or call the Parish Office at (804) 359-5628 and a staff member will help you fill out the form. Altar flowers can be given in memory of, for recognition, birthdays, anniversaries, or special occasions. The cost is \$100, and there is an optional fee of \$10 to help us offset processing fees and the cost of flowers. You may mail a check or handle the cost online at ghtc.org/give.

Today's Worship Participants

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Celebrant*
The Rev. Steve Pace, *Preacher & Deacon*
Andrew Peacock, *Lector*

The Season of Epiphany

The Epiphany season is seen as a continuation of the Christmas season, and the length depends on the Easter date. In many Protestant denominations, the Epiphany season begins on January 6, and continues until the day before Ash Wednesday (which begins Lent). The three main events during this season are the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, Jesus's miracle at the marriage at Cana. The gospel readings describe such events in order to manifest the divinity of Jesus and His teachings. The liturgy stops looking back to Christmas and begins looking forward towards the Passion (Easter). Our liturgical color for this season is green. From our Church of England roots the Epiphany season is seen as an Ordinary Time and so green is the preferred color. This is a time to live out our Christian faith with the meaning of Christ's resurrection in our ordinary life.

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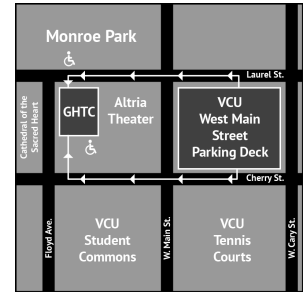
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



Validation Number: WM-1374

Expiration date: 06/30/2025

QR code only valid on Sundays.



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.***

GHTC Staff: Name, Title

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Priest-in-Charge*
 The Rev. Jon Scarffe, *Interim Assistant Priest*
 The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*
 The Rev. Russ Kerr, *Campus Minister*
 Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Choirmaster & Organist*
 Stanley M. Baker, *Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*
 Abigail Stinnett, *Children's Choir Director*
 Roland Boone, *Sexton*
 Tyler Brady, *Communications Associate*
 Lauren Frazier, *Parish Administrator*
 Barbara Hobson-Simpson, *Receptionist*
 Kathy Schultheis, *Financial Administrator*

Ministry Focus

Admin. | Liturgy | Formation
 Pastoral Care
 Outreach | Pastoral Care
 Pace Center Student Engagement Coordinator
 Music | Choir | Liturgy
 Youth Instrumental Ensemble | Choir
 Children's Choir
 Property
 Communications | Social Media | Printing
 Property Admin. | Pastoral & Clergy Support
 Doors | Phones | Welcome
 Admin. | Expenses | Pledges

Phone Ext.

Ext. 17
 Ext. 16
 Ext. 12
 Ext. 18
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 Ext. 23
 Ext. 10
 Ext. 14

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