

# Grace & Holy Trinity Church

*an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park*



## The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany (Year C)

February 23, 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. 164*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**All** And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. charity are nothing worth: Send thy Holy Ghost and pour. Amen.

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty."

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42**

*Read responsively by whole verse.*

*Book of Common Prayer p. 633*

*Noli aemulari*

- Lector*
- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
  - 2 **For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.**
  - 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
  - 4 **Take delight in the LORD, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.**
  - 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, \*  
and he will bring it to pass.
  - 6 **He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*  
and your just dealing as the noonday.**

- 7 Be still before the LORD \*  
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.**
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.**
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.**
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; \*  
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because they seek refuge in him.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

*Lector* A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

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

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

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Brent Melton

**The Nicene Creed**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 326

*Celebrant* In 325, 1,700 years ago, 300 bishops from around the world gathered in Nicaea (modern Turkey). They debated and defined the three parts of the Trinity. Thus a statement of faith was created. Let us stand, and affirm our common faith in these words of the Nicene Creed.

**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).

*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

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 337

### 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

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 339

*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

*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

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](http://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](http://ghtc.org/give).

### Today's Worship Participants

The Rev. Brent Melton, *Preacher*

The Rev. Jon Scarffe, *Celebrant*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Terry Hathaway, *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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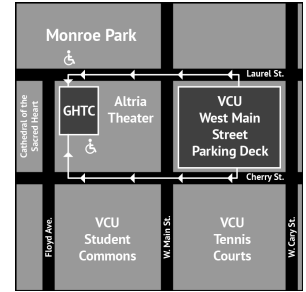
# Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



**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**

## **Ministry Focus**

## **Phone Ext.**

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, <i>Priest-in-Charge</i>	Admin.   Liturgy   Formation	Ext. 17
The Rev. Jon Scarffe, <i>Interim Assistant Priest</i>	Pastoral Care	Ext. 16
The Rev. Steve Pace, <i>Deacon</i>	Outreach   Pastoral Care	Ext. 12
The Rev. Russ Kerr, <i>Campus Minister</i>	Pace Center Student Engagement Coordinator	
Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, <i>Choirmaster &amp; Organist</i>	Music   Choir   Liturgy	Ext. 18
Stanley M. Baker, <i>Assistant Choirmaster &amp; Organist</i>	Youth Instrumental Ensemble   Choir	Ext. 21
Abigail Stinnett, <i>Children's Choir Director</i>	Children's Choir	
Roland Boone, <i>Sexton</i>	Property	Ext. 23
Tyler Brady, <i>Communications Associate</i>	Communications   Social Media   Printing	Ext. 25
Lauren Frazier, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	Property Admin.   Pastoral & Clergy Support	Ext. 23
Barbara Hobson-Simpson, <i>Receptionist</i>	Doors   Phones   Welcome	Ext. 10
Kathy Schultheis, <i>Financial Administrator</i>	Admin.   Expenses   Pledges	Ext. 14

**We ask that you please take this bulletin with you and recycle it when you are finished.**

Grace & Holy Trinity Church  
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