

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Third Sunday in Lent (Year C)

Holy Eucharist, Rite One

March 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 Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

All His mercy endureth for ever.

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. 165

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lector A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1–8

Read responsively by whole verse.

Book of Common Prayer p. 670

Deus, Deus meus

Lector 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

All 2 **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, ***
that I might behold your power and your glory.

- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
 my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 **So will I bless you as long as I live *
 and lift up my hands in your Name.**
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
 and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 **When I remember you upon my bed, *
 and meditate on you in the night watches.**
- 7 For you have been my helper, *
 and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 **My soul clings to you; *
 your right hand holds me fast.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

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

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Luke 13:1–9

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

All Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these

Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Katie Gooch

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 day 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. 331

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 thee 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, 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. Katie Gooch, *Preacher*

The Rev. Jon Scarffe, *Celebrant*

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Co-celebrant*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Kay Gray, *Lector*

The Season of Lent

The word Lent comes from an Old English word meaning “spring.” The season lasts forty days thus imitating Jesus’ forty days and nights in the wilderness. “Liturgically in Lent, just like the wilderness, we move toward a more bare set up. The brass altar candles will be replaced with only our wooden candle stands. The “Alleluias” disappear again from our responses, as flowers are replaced with greenery.” It begins on Ash Wednesday and extends through the Easter Vigil, the Saturday night before Easter Day. Our Prayer Book (p. 265) invites all Christians “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and reading and meditating on God’s holy word.” During this time we are encouraged to take on a 40-day discipline(s) of “giving up” or “taking on” something to help us draw closer with Christ. We hear a greater confessional tone in this season calling us towards faithful reflection in our life. The color purple is seen in our church hangings and in the clergy’s vestments. Lent prepares us for the most important day in the church year: Easter Sunday.

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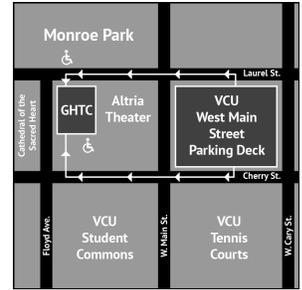
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



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
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