

# Grace & Holy Trinity Church

*an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park*



## Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 17, Year C

Holy Eucharist, Rite One

August 31, 2025 | 8:00 a.m.

### Welcome

**Welcome to Grace & Holy Trinity.** 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. 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. **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 time of 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: **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.**

## Trisagion

*Book of Common Prayer p. 324*

*Celebrant* Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

**All** Have mercy upon us.

## 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.**

*You may be seated for the readings.*

## First Reading

Jeremiah 2:4–13

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my

heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 81:1, 10–16**

*Read responsively by whole verse.*

*Book of Common Prayer p. 704*

*Exultate Deo*

*Lector* 1 Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

*All* 10 **I am the LORD your God,**  
**who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, \***  
**"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."**

11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
and Israel would not obey me.

12 **So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \***  
**to follow their own devices.**

13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
that Israel would walk in my ways!

14 **I should soon subdue their enemies \***  
**and turn my hand against their foes.**

15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, \*  
and their punishment would last for ever.

16 **But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \***  
**and satisfy him with honey from the rock.**

**Second Reading**

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

*Lector* A reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage

bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel**

Luke 14:1, 7–14

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

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Sermon**

The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Assistant Priest*

*Silence for reflection.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 326

*Celebrant* Let us stand, and affirm our common faith in these words of the Nicene Creed.

### **The Prayers of the People**

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 328

## Parish Prayer List

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

*Book of Common Prayer* p. 330

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](https://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

Communicants will drink from the Chalice at the Altar in the chapel. 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 say "Amen" when the Chalice is offered: their "Amen" is their verbal acknowledgment of the grace of the sacrament, the full grace of which 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

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

**Deacon** 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 Altar flowers are given to the glory of God. *If you would like to remember or honor a loved one by giving altar flowers, scan the QR Code, call the office, or visit [ghtc.org/flowers](http://ghtc.org/flowers) for information.*



### Today's Worship Leaders

The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Preacher & Co-Celebrant*

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

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Andrew Peacock, *Lector*

## The Season after Pentecost

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. This season falls in an Ordinary Time and green is the preferred color. In this time Christians should reflect on the meaning of Christ's resurrection in our ordinary life. Each month we include a new "Teaching Blurb" for your learning.

## Clergy Vestments and Daily Dress






The white robe we wear is called an Alb coming from "tunica alba" or white tunic. The stole worn over the alb is a reminder of being tacked to Jesus Christ's yoke. Deacons put the stole to the side to get it out of the way while serving. Before the Table Liturgy the celebrating priest puts on a Chasuble, which means "little house." The stole and chasuble colors typically match the liturgical season of the church. Clergy daily dress is usually a white collar and black shirt similar to the attire of the judiciary. This dress is a sign of clergy work, our uniform. However, nothing in the *Book of Common Prayer* tells what we are supposed to wear.

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## Realm Database and Grace & Holy Trinity Church: Reminder to Join!

# Let's be the church together... online.

-  Look up members in our church directory
-  Update your personal information
-  Give online - one time & recurring gifts
-  View giving history & print giving statements
-  Make & keep track of pledges



Scan the QR Code here for the GHTC Realm log in to start. *Please refer to the Parish News for more details.*

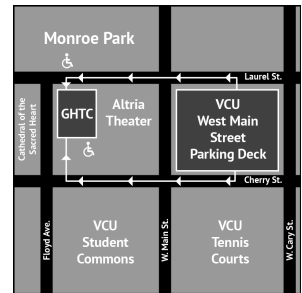
# Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



**Validation Number:** WM-1593

**Expiration date:** 06/30/2026

*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. Marissa Sotos, <i>Assistant Priest</i>	Outreach   Communications   Liturgy	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	
The Rev. Jenny Montgomery, <i>Priest Associate</i>	Worship   Parish Life	
Luke Brennan, <i>Assistant Choirmaster &amp; Organist</i>	Youth Instrumental Ensemble   Choir	Ext. 21
Tyler Brady, <i>Communications Associate</i>	Communications   Media   Printing	Ext. 25
Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, <i>Choirmaster &amp; Organist</i>	Music   Choir   Liturgy	Ext. 18
Lauren Frazier, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	Property Admin.   Pastoral & Clergy Support	Ext. 23
Barbara Hobson-Simpson, <i>Receptionist</i>	Doors   Phones   Welcome	Ext. 10
Madeleine Preston, <i>Director of Formation</i>	Children & Youth   Adult Formation	Ext. 15
Kathy Schultheis, <i>Financial Administrator</i>	Admin.   Expenses   Pledges	Ext. 14
Abigail Stinnett, <i>Children's Choir Director</i>	Children's Choir	

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