

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Holy Eucharist, Rite One

July 12, 2026 | 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 12:00 p.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 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. 179

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

You may be seated for the readings.

First Reading

Genesis 25:19–34

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the

younger.” When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:105–112

Read responsively by whole verse.

Book of Common Prayer p. 772

Lucerna pedibus meis

Lay Reader 105 Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

**All 106 I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.**

107 I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.

**108 Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments.**

109 My life is always in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.

**110 The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.**

111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

**112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
for ever and to the end.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:1–11

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Romans.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but

according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9,18–23

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!” “Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Deacon 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 the 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, text “GHTC” to 73256 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

Communicants will drink from the Chalice at the Altar in the chapel or intinct (dip) their wafer in the intinction cup. If you choose to intinct, after you receive the wafer, simply pinch the wafer between your thumb and index finger and hold it up near your face. This will signal for the intinction cup to be brought to you. You will dip the wafer yourself and then receive. Alternatively, communicants who receive the Bread may refrain from drinking from the Chalice entirely. 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

Celebrant 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, and in honor of J. Michael Estes. *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 for information.*

Today's Worship Leaders

The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Celebrant & Preacher*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Kay Gray, *Lay Reader*

Parishioner's Pastoral Care Phone Number

A Pastoral Care Line is active for parishioners experiencing a pastoral emergency when the church office is closed. The on-call number is **(804) 322-3758**. Please save this number to your phone's contact list. Voice and text messages can be left at this number. The pastoral care team is comprised of our clergy and two staff members. We want to make sure we can connect to support our parishioners in any time of need.

The Season after Pentecost (Green)

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 green is the preferred color. This is a time Christians should reflect on the meaning of Christ's resurrection in our ordinary life.

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 in order 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 work 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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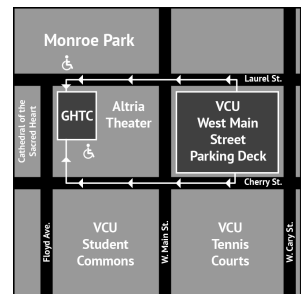
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



Validation Number: WM-1593

Expiration date: 06/30/2027

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 Pastoral Care	Ext. 17
The Rev. Marissa Sotos, <i>Assistant Priest</i>	Outreach Communications Liturgy	Ext. 16
The Rev. Jenny Montgomery, <i>Priest Associate</i>	Worship Parish Life	Ext. 12
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	
Tyler Brady, <i>Communications Associate</i>	Communications Media Printing	Ext. 25
Luke Brennan, <i>Assistant Choirmaster & Organist</i>	Youth Instrumental Ensemble Choir	Ext. 21
Jane Coffey, <i>Financial Administrator</i>	Admin. Pledges Stewardship Realm	Ext. 14
Theo Cole, <i>Sexton</i>	Property	Ext. 27
Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, <i>Choirmaster & Organist</i>	Music Choir Liturgy	Ext. 18
Barbara Hobson-Simpson, <i>Receptionist</i>	Doors Phones Welcome	Ext. 10
Madeleine Preston, <i>Minister of Formation & Connection</i>	Children & Youth Newcomers Volunteers	Ext. 15
Coco Provance, <i>Director of Administration & Facilities</i>	Operations Facilities Pastoral Care Admin.	Ext. 23
Abigail Stinnett, <i>Children's Choir Director</i>	Children's Choir	

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

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