

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

July 12, 2026 | 10:30 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 Prelude marks the beginning of our worship and is intended as a time of reflection.

Prelude

“Aria” | Flor Peeters

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Organist*

Processional Hymn

“O Zion, Haste” | *The Hymnal 1982* #539

Please stand as you are able and sing.

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

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. 355

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: **Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Children’s Chapel Dismissal

Celebrant Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” — *Matthew 19:14*

The children are invited to gather for Children’s Chapel at the back of the church and will return at the Peace.

Trisagion

Book of Common Prayer p. 356

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

All Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Book of Common Prayer p. 231

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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.**

Gradual Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” | *The Hymnal 1982* #376

Please stand as you are able and sing.

The Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9,18–23

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

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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 to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Assistant Priest*

Silence for reflection.

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

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Form VI | *Book of Common Prayer* p. 392

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lay Reader For all people in their daily life and work;

All For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Lay Reader For this community, the nation, and the world;

All For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Lay Reader For the just and proper use of your creation;

All For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Lay Reader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

All For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Lay Reader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

All For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Lay Reader For *Sean* our Presiding Bishop; *Mark, Gayle, and Mark*, our Bishops; *Brent, Marissa, and Jenny* our Priests; and *Steve*, our Deacon;

All For all who serve God in his Church.

Lay Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence | *The People may add their own petitions.*

The Parish Prayer List

Celebrant Hear us, Lord;

All For your mercy is great.

Celebrant We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence | *The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

Celebrant We will exalt you, O God our King;

All And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Celebrant We pray for all who have died [especially _____], that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence | *The People may add their own petitions.*

Celebrant Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

All Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence for reflection.

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

All Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Book of Common Prayer p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

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.

Offertory Hymn

“O Day of Radiant Gladness” | The Hymnal 1982 #48

Doxology

The Hymnal 1982 #380 (v. 3)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer A

Book of Common Prayer p. 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *A Proper Preface is said here.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus

The Hymnal 1982 S 129

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Book of Common Prayer p. 362

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father... "Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption.... All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 364

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The Breaking of the Bread

Book of Common Prayer p. 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Instructions

Communion from the Common Cup or by intinction (dipping) is available from the altar stations. 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. Communion by Common Cup is also available at the station at the back of the Church by the chapel double doors. 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. The full grace of the sacrament is communicated through the Bread.

If you prefer to receive the sacrament while seated in the congregation, **please raise your bulletin and the Eucharistic Ministers will bring the sacrament to you.** For a **gluten-free wafer**, please bring a blue gluten-free card from the pew rack to the altar rail. If you do not wish to receive Communion, you may come forward for a blessing and indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

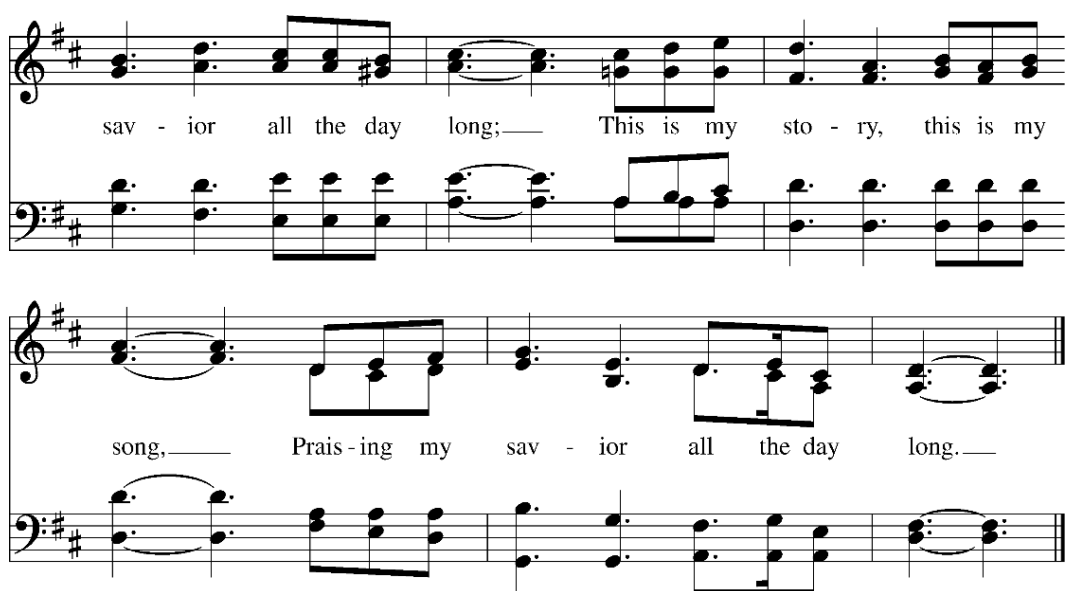
1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!____ O what a
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light,____ Vi - sions of
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest,____ I in my

1. fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!____ Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 2. rap - ture now burst on my sight;____ An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest;____ Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

1. God,____ Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood.____
 2. bove____ Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.____
 3. bove,____ Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.____

This is my sto - ry, this is my song,____ Prais - ing my

(continues on next page)



Communion Hymn 2

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God” | *The Hymnal 1982* #508

Post-Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant The peace of God, which surpasses 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past” | *The Hymnal 1982* #680

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.

Postlude

“St. Anne” | Healey Willan

Luke Brennan, *Organist*

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, *Concelebrant & Preacher*

The Rev. Jenny Montgomery, *Concelebrant*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Choirmaster & Organist*

Luke Brennan, *Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*

Burn Bradshaw & George Bradshaw, *Acolytes*

Barbara Davenport, Kay Gray, Cary Lee Henderson & Jean Jumet, *Altar Guild*

Leslie Winn, Nick Sollog & Thomas Bradshaw, *Chalice Bearers*

Annette Hook & Jack Blackwell, *Lay Readers*

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**. Voice and text messages can be left at this number. A pastoral care team member will respond soon.

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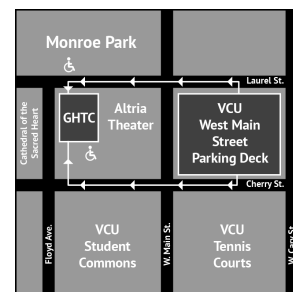
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



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, <i>Title</i>	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.

Grace & Holy Trinity Church
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 (804) 359-5628
ghtc.org