

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Holy Eucharist, Rite One

Sunday, August 16, 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. 180

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same thy Son 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 45:1–15

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. 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 now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

Read responsively by whole verse.

Book of Common Prayer p. 787

Ecce, quam bonum!

Lay Reader 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is,
when brethren live together in unity!

All 2 **It is like fine oil upon the head**
that runs down upon the beard,
3 Upon the beard of Aaron,
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
4 **It is like the dew of Hermon**
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:
life for evermore.

Second Reading

Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may

now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 15:(10–20), 21–28

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

All Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Madeleine Preston, *Minister for Formation & Connection*

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. *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

Madeleine Preston, *Preacher*

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Celebrant*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

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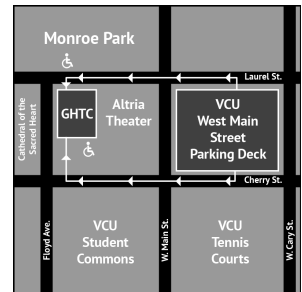
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



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>Intergenerational Choir Director</i>	Intergenerational Choir	

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

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