

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

Sunday, August 23, 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

“Darwall’s 148th” *Six Hymn Preludes* | Percy Whitlock

Luke Brennan, *Organist*

Processional Hymn

“Ye Holy Angels Bright” | *The Hymnal 1982* #625

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. 232

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

You may be seated for the readings.

First Reading

Exodus 1:8–2:10

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.” Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman

took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124

Book of Common Prayer p. 781

Read responsively by whole verse.

Nisi quia Dominus

Lay Reader 1 If the Lord had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;

All 2 **If the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;**

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;

4 **Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;**

5 Then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.

6 **Blessed be the Lord!**

he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 **Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

Second Reading

Romans 12:1–8

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace

given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord” | *The Hymnal* 1982 #524

Please stand as you are able and sing.

The Gospel

Matthew 16:13–20

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Brent Melton, Priest-in-Charge

Silence for reflection.

The Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

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

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” | The Hymnal 1982 #690

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.

Communion Hymn 1

“Rock of Ages” | *The Hymnal 1982* #685

Communion Hymn 2

“I Come with Joy” | *The Hymnal 1982* #304

Post-Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

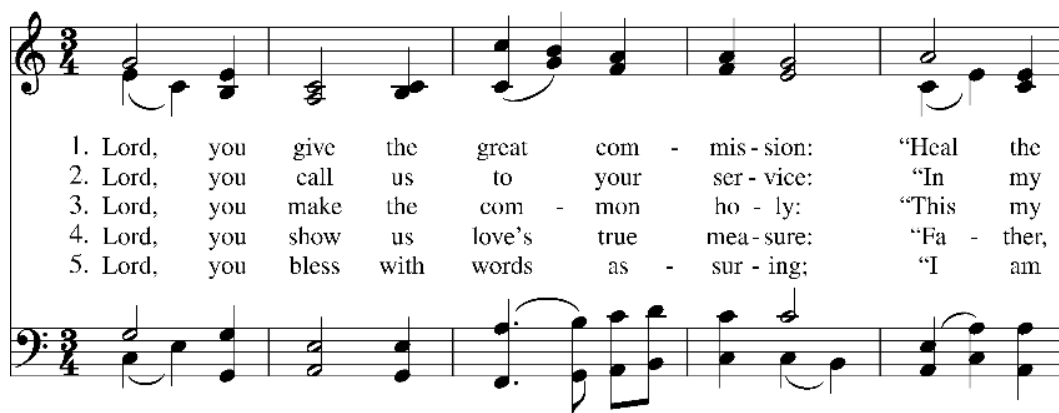
All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness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

The Blessing

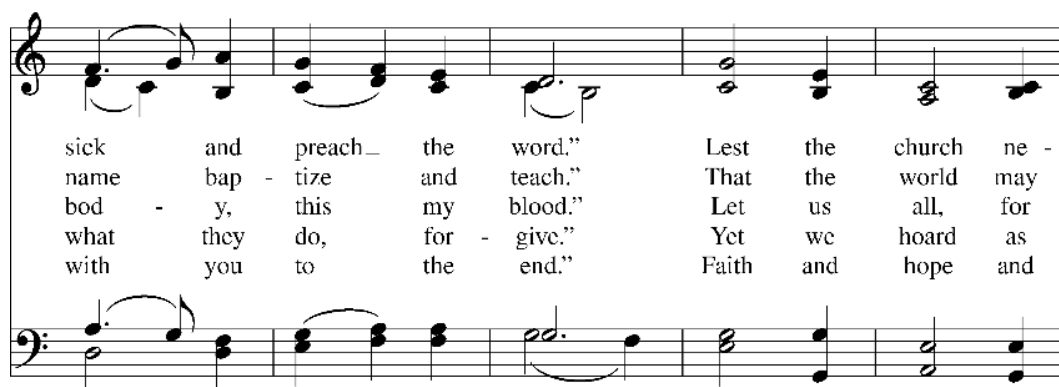
Celebrant The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission" | *Wonder, Love, and Praise* #780



1. Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the
 2. Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my
 3. Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my
 4. Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther,
 5. Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am



sick and preach - the word." Lest the church ne -
 name bap - tize and teach." That the world may
 bod - y, this my blood." Let us all, for
 what they do, for - give." Yet we hoard as
 with you to the end." Faith and hope and



glect its mis - sion, and the gos - pel go un -
 trust your prom - ise, life a - bun - dant meant for
 earth's true glo - ry, dai - ly lift life heav - en -
 pri - vate trea - sure all that you so free - ly
 love re - stor - ing, may we serve as you in -



heard, help us wit - ness to your pur - pose
 each, give us all new fer - vor, draw us
 ward, ask - ing that the world a - round us
 give. May your care and the mer - cy that lead us
 tend and, a - mid the cares that claim us,

Refrain

with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty.
 clos - er in com - mun - i - ty.
 share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty.
 to a just so - ci - e - ty.
 hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty.

With the Spir - it's

gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.

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

“Fugue” *Organ Sonata No. 2* | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Luke Brennan, *Organist*

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

The Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Celebrant & Preacher*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Luke Brennan, *Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*

Gil Martin & Mac Martin, *Acolytes*

Karin Walker, Liz Bisset, Sandie Hale & Cathy Saunders, *Altar Guild*

Catherine Perrin & Chuck Bleick, *Chalice Bearers*

Catherine Perrin & Joe Glaze, *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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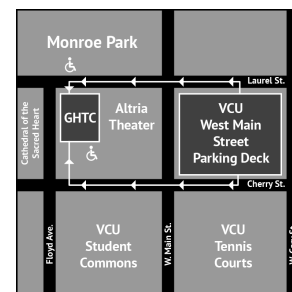
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



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>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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ghtc.org