

Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

Sunday, September 6, 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

“Prière à Notre-Dame” *Suite Gothique* | Léon Boëllmann

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Organist*

Processional Hymn

“All Creatures of Our God and King” | *The Hymnal 1982* #400 (vv. 1, 4, 5, 7)

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. 233

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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

Exodus 12:1–14

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149

Read responsively by whole verse.

Book of Common Prayer p. 807

Cantate Domino

Lay Reader 1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

All 2 **Let Israel rejoice in his Maker;**
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance;
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 **For the Lord takes pleasure in his people**
and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;
let them be joyful on their beds.

6 **Let the praises of God be in their throat**
and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples;

8 **To bind their kings in chains**
and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed;
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Romans 13:8–14

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

“Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies” | *The Hymnal 1982* #7

Please stand as you are able and sing.

The Gospel

Matthew 18:15–20

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

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

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Brent Melton, *Priest-in-Charge*

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

“We Will Extol You” | *The Hymnal 1982* #404

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

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee” | *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* #72

1. I am weak but thou art strong;
 2. Through this world of toil and snares,
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er,

Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with thee,

1. Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be sat - is - fied as
 2. If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my bur - den
 3. Time for me will be no more; Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly

Refrain: Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea, Dai - ly walk - ing close to

D.C. for Refrain

1. long As I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 2. shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 3. o'er To Thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Refrain: thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Communion Hymn 2

“Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor” | *The Hymnal 1982* #307

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

“Come, Labor On” | *The Hymnal 1982* #541

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

“Allegro Maestoso” *Organ Sonata No. 5* | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Luke Brennan, *Organist*

Thank You Luke Brennan!

Thank you to Luke Brennan who has served as our wonderful Assistant Choirmaster & Organist for the past year. Today is his last Sunday at Grace & Holy Trinity. Luke has enriched our worship services with his musical gifts. We are very grateful for Luke's excellent musical leadership and dedicated service to the glory of God. We wish him many blessings in his new position!

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 Melton, *Concelebrant & Preacher*

The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Concelebrant*

The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Choirmaster & Organist*

Luke Brennan, *Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*

Burn Bradshaw & George Bradshaw, *Acolytes*

Dougie Erikson, Mary Sabra Monroe & Lisa Dawson, *Altar Guild*

Catherine Perrin, Alex Wilkerson & Chase Peak, *Chalice Bearers*

Lucie Baker & Phil Dawson, *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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Upcoming Events

Monday 09/07		Church & Parish Office closed in observance of Labor Day
Friday 09/11	6:30 p.m.	Pride Eucharist hosted by St. Stephen's with Greater Richmond Episcopal Churches (<i>6000 Grove Avenue</i>)
Sunday 09/13	9:00 a.m.	Parish Life Parish Ministry Fair* (<i>Parish Hall</i>) *Also available after worship.
Sunday 09/13	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School Kick-Off (<i>Sunday School Classrooms</i>)
Sunday 09/13	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist with Blessing of the Backpacks* (Livestream Available <i>Church</i>) *8:00 a.m. Worship is regularly scheduled.
Sunday 09/13	11:45 a.m.	Parish-wide Group Photo & Program Year Kick-Off Picnic (<i>Monroe Park</i>)
Wednesday 09/16	12:00 p.m.	Stories & Lunch at The Pace Center hosted by GHTC (Volunteering begins at 10:30 a.m. <i>700 W. Franklin Street</i>)
Friday 09/18	5:00 p.m.	Parents' Night Out (Pick Up at 9:30 p.m. <i>Little Mexico, 1328 W. Cary Street</i>)
Saturday 09/19	9:00 a.m.	Holy Strollers walk to Potterfield Memorial Bridge (<i>Meet at GHTC Parking Lot</i>)
Sunday 09/20	9:00 a.m.	Parish Breakfast Returns* (<i>Parish Hall</i>)

*The Sunday Breakfast Crew prepares a full breakfast twice a month, while we offer continental breakfast on the remaining Sundays. Refer to the schedule at ghtc.org/calendar.

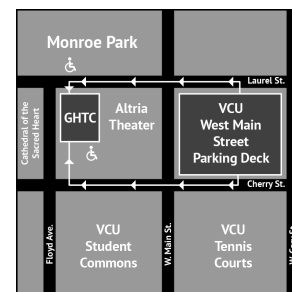
Complimentary Sunday Parking Instructions at VCU W. Main Street Parking Deck



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.

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