Grace & Holy Trinity Church

an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park



The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

Sunday, November 15, 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 Meditation on *Finlandia* | Brenda Portman

Spencer Koger, *Organist*

Processional Hymn "O Worship the King" | *The Hymnal 1982* #388

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.**

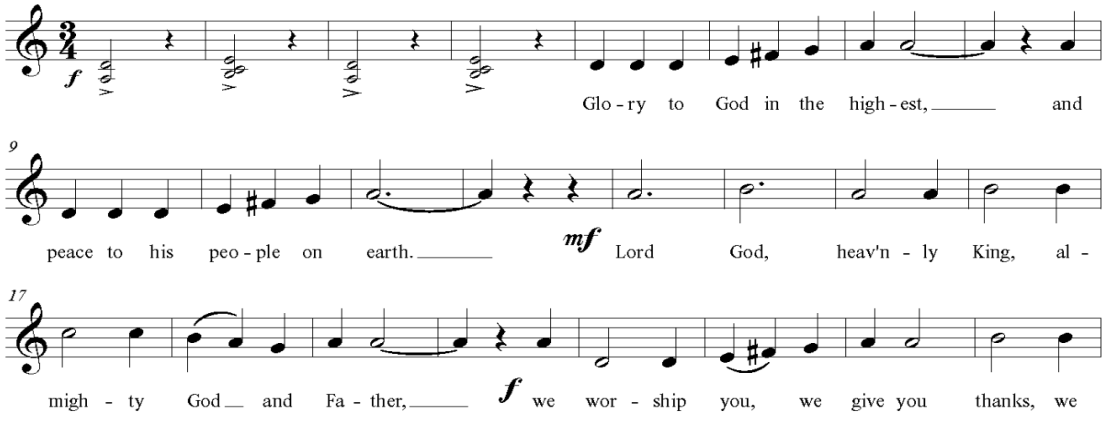
Children's Chapel Dismissal

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.

Gloria "Glory to God" *Wonder, Love, and Praise* #900

All sing.





The Collect of the Day *Book of Common Prayer* p. 236

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 Judges 4:1–7

Lay Reader A reading from the Book of Judges.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 123 *The Hymnal 1982* S 411 | Robert Knox Kennedy

Please stand as you are able and sing.

Cross symbol (†) indicates a repeat of the second half of the chant.



1 To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

† 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,
and of the derision of the proud.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Lay Reader A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lay Reader The Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn "I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light" | *The Hymnal 1982* #490
Please stand as you are able and sing.

The Gospel Matthew 25:14–30

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things;

enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon The Rev. Brent Melton, *Rector*

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 "If Ye Love Me" | Thomas Tallis
Parish Choir

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father,
And He shall give you another Comforter,
That He may abide with you for ever.
Ev'n the Spirit of truth.

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.*

Celebrant 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 128

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.**

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

The Lord's Prayer *Book of Common Prayer* p. 364

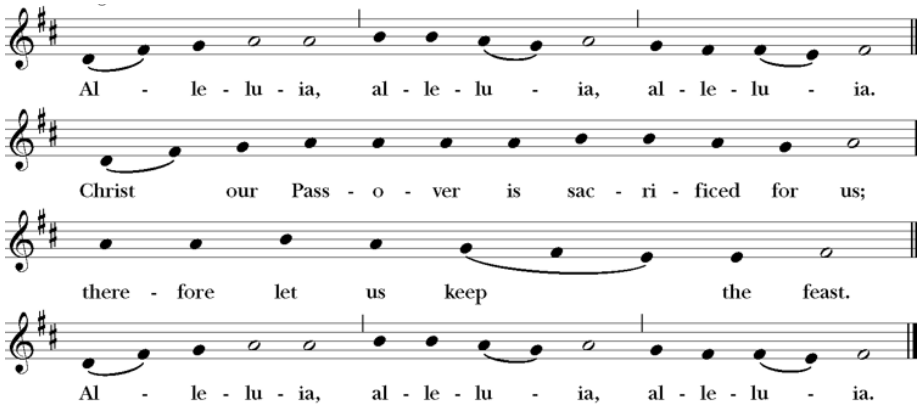
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

Fraction Anthem "Christ our Passover" | *The Hymnal 1982* S 154



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 Music "Lift Thine Eyes" *Elijah* | Felix Mendelssohn

Keely Borland, Caroline Whisnant & Abigail Stinnett, *Soloists*

Communion Hymn "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" | *The Hymnal 1982* #691

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 "God of Grace and God of Glory" | *The Hymnal 1982* #594

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 "God of Grace and God of Glory" | Paul Manz

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *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, *Concelebrant & Preacher*
The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Concelebrant*
Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Choirmaster & Organist*
Spencer Koger, *Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*
Dorie Baker, Lucie Baker, Vake Martin, Seamus Gregory & Jane Gregory, *Acolytes*
Vicky Bleick, Elizabeth Baker, Aanu Adewesi & Olivia Andres, *Altar Guild*
Beth McClelland, Alex Wilkerson & Catherine Perrin, *Chalice Bearers*
Catherine Perrin & 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.

We look to the Book of Acts (9:32, 26:10) where the term is given to all faithful Christians as well as in Paul's letters who addresses the members of the community who receive his letters as saints. We believe that through sharing our life with Christ makes it possible for us to be saints too. This does not make us elite, but faithful people striving to do God's work and building up God's church. All Saints Day is a major feast day typically celebrated the first Sunday in November in the Episcopal Churches. This Sunday is especially important to us who identify ourselves with All Saints. As the hymn says, "…for the saints of God are just folk like me and I mean to be one too (*The Hymnal 1982* #293)."

– *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church- Armentrout & Slocum 2000* p. 454

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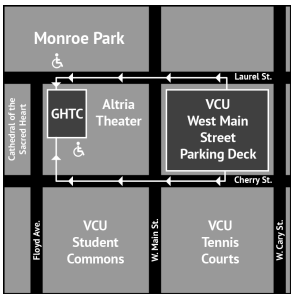
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Upcoming Events

Sunday 11/15	**4:00 p.m.**	Parish Oyster Roast* *(Sauer Family Home, 5999 River Rd, Richmond, VA)* *To RSVP, please contact Thomas Bradshaw at (703) 980-6298 or by visiting **ghtc.org/contact** and selecting his name from the menu.
Monday 11/16	**4:00 p.m.**	Spirited Readers Book Club *(Contact Ministry Leader for Location)*
Saturday 11/21	**5:00 p.m.**	Front Porch Forum Dinner (Dinner Begins at 5:30 p.m. | *Parish Hall*)
Saturday 11/21	**5:00 p.m.**	Youth Bowling Event *(Bowlero Richmond, 8037 Shrader Road, Richmond, VA 23294)*
Sunday 11/22	**9:30 a.m.**	Adult Forum: Outreach Grant Spotlight *(First Floor Classroom)*
Tuesday 11/24	**5:00 p.m.**	**Thanksgiving Worship Service** *(Chapel)*
Wednesday 11/25		Church & Parish Office Closure in Observance of Thanksgiving from Wednesday, November 25th through Friday, November 27th.
Friday 11/27	**10:00 a.m.**	Shood Begins at Red Door Thanksgiving* *(Parish House)* *Shood ends at 12:00 p.m.
Friday 11/27	**11:30 a.m.**	River City Wood Fire Pizza Begins at Red Door Thanksgiving* *(Outside on Laurel Street)* *No Red Door Prayer Service. Lunch ends at 1:00 p.m.
Saturday 11/28	**10:00 a.m.**	Men's Group *(Ellwood Thompson's Cafe, 4 N. Thompson Street, Richmond, VA 23221)*
Sunday 11/29	**9:30 a.m.**	Advent Wreath Making* *(Parish Hall)* *Also available after worship.
Saturday 12/05	**3:00 p.m.**	Caroling in Monroe Park & Holiday Market (Music Begins at 4:15 p.m. | *Outside on Laurel Street*)
Sunday 12/06	**9:00 a.m.**	Worship Parish Ministry Fair Begins* *(Parish Hall)* *Also available after worship.
Sunday 12/13	**9:30 a.m.**	Adult Forum: Worship Spotlight - Shining Examples & Lay Readers *(First Floor Classroom)*
Monday 12/14	**5:30 p.m.**	Spirited Sisters *(Toast at The Village, 7007 Three Chopt Road)*

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, *Rector*	Admin. | Liturgy | Pastoral Care	Ext. 17
The Rev. Marissa Sotos, *Assistant Priest*	Outreach | Communications | Liturgy	Ext. 16
The Rev. Jenny Montgomery, *Priest Associate*	Worship | Parish Life	Ext. 12
The Rev. Steve Pace, *Deacon*	Outreach | Pastoral Care	Ext. 12
The Rev. Russ Kerr, *Campus Minister*	Pace Center Student Engagement Coordinator	
Tyler Brady, *Communications Associate*	Communications | Media | Printing	Ext. 25
Jane Coffey, *Financial Administrator*	Admin. | Pledges | Stewardship | Realm	Ext. 14
Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis, *Choirmaster & Organist*	Music | Choir | Liturgy	Ext. 18
Barbara Hobson-Simpson, *Receptionist*	Doors | Phones | Welcome	Ext. 10
Spencer Koger, *Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*	Youth Instrumental Ensemble | Choir	Ext. 21
Mack McElwain, *Sexton*	Property	
Rufus Pittman, *Sexton*	Property	
Madeleine Preston, *Minister of Formation & Connection*	Children & Youth | Newcomers | Volunteers	Ext. 15
Coco Provance, *Director of Administration & Facilities*	Operations | Facilities | Pastoral Care Admin.	Ext. 23
Abigail Stinnett, *Intergenerational Choir Director*	Intergenerational Choir	
Otis Swain, *Sexton*	Property	

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

Grace & Holy Trinity Church
8 N. Laurel Street, Monroe Park • Richmond, VA 23220
(804) 359-5628
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