

Grace Episcopal Church

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 28
November 15, 2020



Welcome

In the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome you to worship in the Episcopal tradition. **All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.** We receive the full Sacrament in the form of Bread in the palm of the hand. During the liturgy there are times when the congregation is directed to kneel or stand for significant periods. If you are unable to do so, please know that you are welcome to be seated.

Music is considered an element of prayer and is therefore an important part of worship. At this time, singing during worship is reserved only for the cantor.

Masks are to be worn by everyone when approaching the church and inside the church, covering both the nose and mouth (except for those under 2 years old).

Offerings may be placed in the basket at the font as you enter or leave the Nave, or on-line at www.gracekirkwood.org/give-to-grace.

Our **nursery** is closed until further notice.

Hearing assistance is available; please ask an usher.

Prayer requests to be published for the community should be given to the parish office.

*We enter into silence in preparation for worship
and request that you silence cell phones and similar devices.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Voluntary

Pavan

Paul Drayton
(b. 1944)

Hymn

Kingsfold

O Jesus, crowned with all renown, since thou the earth hast trod,
thou reignest and by thee come down henceforth the gifts of God.
Thine is the health and thine the wealth that in our halls abound,
and thine the beauty and the joy with which the years are crowned.

Lord, in their change, let frost and heat, and winds and dews be given;
all fostering power, all influence sweet, breathe from the bounteous heaven.
Attemper fair and gentle air the sunshine and the rain,
That kindly earth with timely birth may yield her fruits again.

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant

Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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.**

Benedictus es, Domine

Mode VIII

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **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.

The First Lesson

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

The prophet Zephaniah announces God's coming judgment against the self-indulgent and complacent.

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90 *Domine, refugium*

Phillip Brunswick

Refrain: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn man back to dust, and say, "Return, O children of men."
To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away like a dream, like grass which is fresh in the morning.
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh; by evening it withers and fades.

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Apostle Paul urges the Thessalonians to live fully as children of light.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Acclamation

Phillip Brunswick

Alleluia. Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me bears much fruit. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus teaches his disciples that they are expected to make use of the faith with which they have been entrusted.

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

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

Jesus said, "For 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.'"

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Virginia L. Bennett

The Nicene Creed

**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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant As we wait in pregnant expectation for the day of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God for all in every danger and need.

Intervessor For Deon our Bishop, Todd and Virginia our Priests, and for the Staff and Vestry of this parish; for the Moru refugees from the Diocese of Lui; for The Anglican Church of Central Africa and Albert their Archbishop; for all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor For health care workers, for those serving in the military and for first responders, may God grant them fortitude and deliver them safely at the end of each day, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor For civic and health care leaders, for teachers and students, may God give them wisdom, strength and compassion, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor For those infected with or recovering from the coronavirus, may Jesus, the Divine Physician, offer them hope and provide healing, and for all those who have died, may they know the peace and joy of God's love through all eternity, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor For all members of this parish, that through their stewardship of time, talent and treasure, may bring them to a deeper faith in God.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor We pray for Shelly, David, Mary Etta, Alice, Emily, Marilyn and Joel, Dick, Kelly, Ben and the Voller Family, Jane, Keith, Carol and Ted, Levi, Karen and for those we name aloud; and all those in need, the suffering and the oppressed, travelers and prisoners, the dying and the dead, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor Lifting our voices with all creation, Saint Matthew and all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People **To you, O Lord.**

Celebrant Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who gave us salvation through Jesus Christ and made us children of light, hear the prayers we offer this day and bring us to the time and season of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem at the Offertory

Peter Hurford
(1930-2019)

In the hour of my distress,
When temptations me oppress,
And when I my sins confess,
 Sweet Spirit, comfort me!
When I lie within my bed,
Sick in heart and sick in head,
And with doubts discomforted,
 Sweet Spirit, comfort me!
When the house doth sigh and weep,
And the world is drown'd in sleep,
Yet mine eyes the watch do keep,
 Sweet Spirit, comfort me!

Robert Herrick 1591-1674

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our 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...

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

David Thorne

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the

prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus come in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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:

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

David Thorne

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

The Communion of the People

For those who are not able to receive the Sacrament, we invite you to make a Spiritual Communion.

In union, O Lord, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since all the faithful cannot receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into all our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Handbell Music at the Communion

Kevin McChesney

Come Christians, Join to Sing

b.1963

The Post-communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

Hymn

Truro

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits!

The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;

thy Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

The Dismissal

People respond **Thanks be to God!**

The Voluntary

Praeludium & Fuga in B-flat

Johann Casper Simon
(1701-1776)

Acknowledgements

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*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Shirley Browne
in memory of her parents Mary & Russell Schneppe.*

TODAY'S MINISTERS

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Preacher	The Reverend Virginia L. Bennett
Organist	Phillip Brunswick
Cantors	Lindsay Amen, Lisa Kohler, Susan Vernon
Lector	Pat O'Brien
Crucifer	Mary Merriweather
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The Mission of the Church Is the Mission of Christ

- ~ *To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom*
- ~ *To teach, baptize and nurture new believers*
- ~ *To respond to human need by loving service*
- ~ *To seek to transform unjust structures of society*
- ~ *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation
and sustain and renew the life of the earth*

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