

We Gather

Processional Hymn: #182 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing Please stand & sing.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Collect For Purity

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.

Gloria in Excelsis: #S-278

Please remain standing.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly

to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one

God, for ever and ever. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

Please be seated.

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Read responsively by half-verse.

Reader: In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

People: deliver me in your righteousness.

Reader: Incline your ear to me;
People: make haste to deliver me.

Reader: Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;

People: for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Reader: Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,

People: for you are my tower of strength.

Reader: Into your hands I commend my spirit,

People: for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

Reader: My times are in your hand;

People: rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Reader: Make your face to shine upon your servant, People: and in your loving-kindness save me.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Reader: A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner", and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: #518 Christ is made the sure foundation (v. 1-2 before, v. 3-4 after Gospel)

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Reading: John 14:1-14

Please remain standing.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: The Rev. Chris Cole

We Pray

Nicene Creed Please stand as you are able.

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

Please kneel, sit, or stand.

Reader: Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with one heart and mind to God our Father.

Reader: For peace from things that separate us from one another and for our salvation.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God,

especially...

People: St. Luke's, Chickasha; St. Timothy's, Paul's Valley; Diocese of Tennessee;

Diocese of Upper South Carolina; The Church of the Province of Myanmar.

Reader: For this holy gathering and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and fear of God.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: We pray for...

People: Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Poulson, our Bishop; Chris & Tom, our clergy;

Alex & Audrey, our wardens; vestry, delegates, all who minister in Christ, and

for all the holy people of God. Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people. We pray for our leaders,

especially...

People: Joe, our President; Kamala, our Vice-president; Josh, our Congressman; James

& Markwayne, our Senators; Kevin, our Governor; and Marlon, our Mayor. Lord,

have mercy.

Reader: For prisoners, the oppressed, all those in need or suffering, especially...

People: Johnson family, Ronnie, Julio, Niko, Mike, Steve, John, Nancy, Betty, Crystal,

Melanie, Geneva, Fred, Glenn, Brittany, Rose, Karen, Nyla, Jeanne, Paul, Tracey, Jane, Adriana, Fred, those impacted by war—especially in Ukraine, all emergency responders, United States Military, and those whose suffering is

known only to God.

Reader: We pray for those who have died, (especially...)

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For ourselves, our families, and those we love. We pray for those in our parish,

especially ...

People: Debra, Kristine, Ron, Stuart, London, and Gabriel.

Reader: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son:

Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our

Lord. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Greet one another in the name of Christ.

Announcements, Birthdays & Anniversary Blessings

Please be seated.

Welcome to our guests today. If you are new to Grace for the first time or even if you have been here once or twice before, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the plate. We promise not to harass you, but we would like to include you on our weekly email broadcasts and other event notifications. Thank you for the blessing of your presence today.

Offertory

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

During this time we make an offering to the church to help maintain its mission in creation. It is also a time in which we fully offer ourselves to be Christ in the world around us.

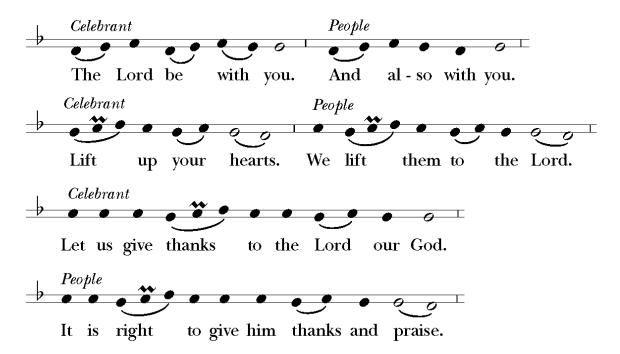
Offertory Hymn: #343 Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless Please remain seated & sing.

Doxology: #380 v. 3Please stand & sing as you are able.

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Sursum Corda: #S-120 Please remain standing.



Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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.

> But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

> 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: #S-130 Please sit or kneel after the Sanctus.

Celebrant: † Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

> On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant & People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

> 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 forever AMEN.

Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant & People: 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.

Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem: #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.

At Grace Episcopal Church, all baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the usher if you need communion brought to you at your seat. IF you wish to receive the bread only, hold your palms upward, consume the bread, and cross your arms over your chest when the chalice bearer approaches. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come to the altar rail to receive a Blessing, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest when the priest approaches.

Communion Hymn: #525 The Church's one foundation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray. Celebrant & People:

> 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.

Easter Blessing

Celebrant: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. Amen.

> May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

> May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

> And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn: #485 Praise the Lord through every nation Please stand & sing.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! People:



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Sr. Warden: Alex Wilson

Jr. Warden: Alex Wilson

Jr. Warden: Alex Wilson

Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

Youth & Children's Director: Nancy Scott

