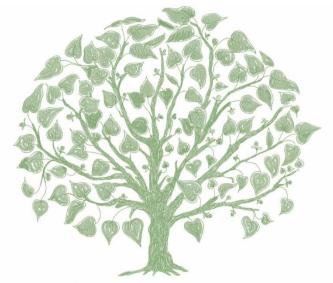
## Welcome to Grace Church

## The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost August 3, 2025

10:00 a.m. at Berkshire South Community Center and on Zoom



# **GRACE CHURCH**

an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires

Step into Grace where strangers become friends.

We are an open and affirming church.

Every one of every age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, or economic status is invited to join us as together we live out the Gospel message of love, forgiveness, service, and justice.

No matter where you are in your spiritual journey—

you are welcome here.

# At the sound of the bell, we invite you into silence in preparation for worship.

## **PRELUDE**

## It Is Well with My Soul

Words: Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) Music: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876); arr. Brenda Crofts Reep (b.1965) Gina Beck, soprano

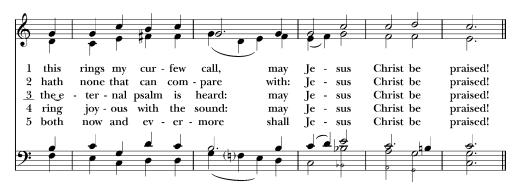
WELCOME

The Rev. Libby Wade

## The Word of God

**OPENING HYMN: H 427** 





Words: German, ca. 1800; tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt.

Music: Laudes Domini, Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

Celebrant People Blessed be the one, holy, and living God. Glory to God for ever and ever.

## SONG OF PRAISE: LEVAS 219



Words: Psalm 118:24

Music: Les Garrett (1943-2017)

#### THE COLLECT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### THE FIRST READING

Eclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me -- and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 49:1-11

Let us read the Psalm together.

- 1 Hear this, all you peoples; hearken, all you who dwell in the world, \* you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- 2 My mouth shall speak of wisdom, \* and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- 3 I will incline my ear to a proverb \* and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- 4 Why should I be afraid in evil days, \* when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- 5 The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, \* and boast of their great riches?
- 6 We can never ransom ourselves, \* or deliver to God the price of our life;
- 7 For the ransom of our life is so great, \* that we should never have enough to pay it,
- 8 In order to live for ever and ever, \* and never see the grave.
- 9 For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish \* and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- 10 Their graves shall be their homes for ever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, \* though they call the lands after their own names.
- 11 Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; \* they are like the beasts that perish.

## THE SECOND READING

## Colossians 3:1-11

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things-- anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People Thanks be to God.

## **SEQUENCE HYMN: LEVAS 62**

## In Christ there is no east or west

Before Gospel vs. 1-2; after Gospel vs. 3-4



Words: Galatians 3:28; adapt. John Oxenham (1852-1941) Music: *McKee*, Negro Spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949) THE GOSPEL Luke 12:13-21

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Libby Wade

#### THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Creator, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Redeemer, Jesus Christ, the only Child of God, eternally begotten of the Creator, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, One in Being with the Creator: Through the Redeemer all things were made. For us and for our salvation Jesus Christ the Redeemer came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit was born of the Virgin Mary, and became human. For our sake Jesus was crucified under Pontius Pilate. suffered, died, and was buried, and, on the third day, rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures, ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God. Jesus Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and the Reign of God will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from God the Creator who with the Creator and the Redeemer, is worshipped and glorified and who 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 III

Gracious God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.** 

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *Silence* 

*Celebrant* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and stengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

#### THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Silence Let us confess our sins to God.

Celebrant and People

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

## THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 Christ be always with you.

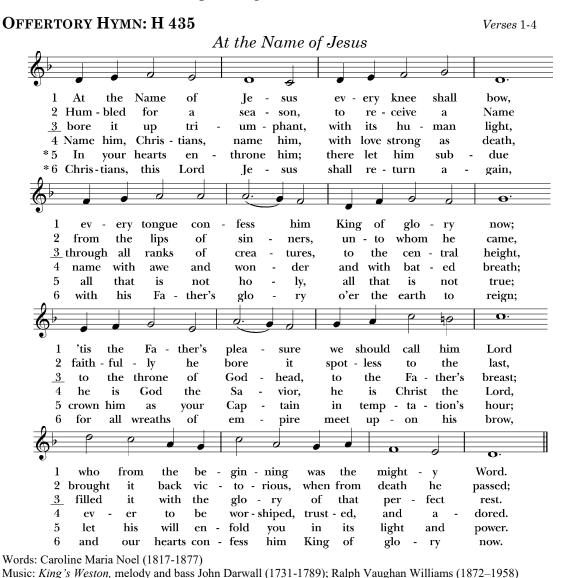
People And also with you.

## A GRATITUDE MOMENT

Take a few moments to think of one thing during the past week for which you thank God. If you wish to share your gratitude moment briefly with the congregation, please come to the microphone.

## The Holy Communion

Celebrant Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.



13

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Enriching Our Worship

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

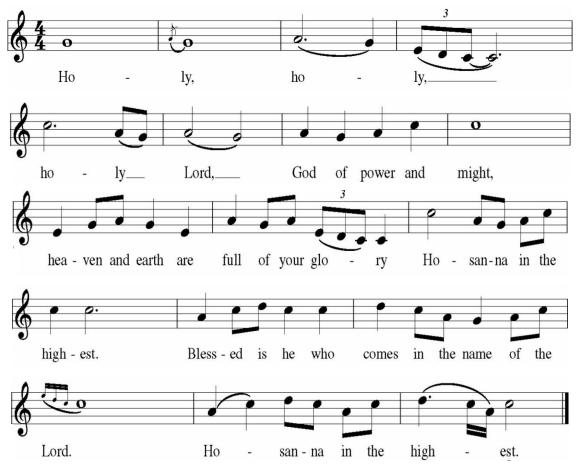
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:



## SANCTUS: LEVAS 252



Setting: Lena McLin (b. 1928), Eucharist of the Soul

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

People Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

People Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## THE FRACTION ANTHEM: LEVAS 269

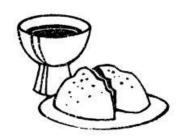
## Lamb of God



Setting: Lena McLin (b. 1928), Eucharist of the Soul

If you cannot physically receive the communion bread because you are participating in this service virtually, you are invited to pray this Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

Lord Jesus, as you promised to be with us in the bread and wine that is your body and blood, grant that we may receive you spiritually today into our hearts, minds, and souls. Stay with us; be our companion in the way; kindle our hearts and awaken hope that we may know you and have confidence in your loving care, now and forever. Amen.



## **COMMUNION HYMN: LEVAS 68**





Words & Music: Harris Johnson (1937-2023)

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, giver of life, 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 Redeemer. Amen.

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Let us pray.

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## A PRAYER FOR OUR CHILDREN

Let us pray.

Most generous and loving God, we thank you for the gift of children. With each child, you refresh your promises to all of us. Through each child, you remind us to take care of all you have created.

We pray your blessing on each child today. Teach them to love courage and to trust you. Help them see you at work in your world.

Help them speak words of love, peace, and friendship. Turn their faces in kindness toward their neighbors, and fill each one with confidence in your steadfast love. This we ask in the name of your child, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

## A COLLECT FOR TRANSITION

Let us pray.

God of abundance and wisdom, you have blessed Grace Church with love and respect for one another and with joy in our community. Help us to discern your will and to be open to your guidance as we seek a new rector for our parish. Grant us the ability to hear your voice as we listen to one another. Give us wisdom and patience, mutual respect, and clarity of vision, that we may choose and receive a priest who serves with warmth and humor, inspiration and faithfulness, and who will lead us where you are calling Grace Church to serve the mission of Jesus in this time and place. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS See insert.

## BLESSING

Celebrant

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in the world, and the blessing of God, our Creator, Liberator, and Sustainer be with you always.

Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN: H 542**



Words: George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959), alt. Music: *St. John*, Percy E.B. Coller (1895-1955)

#### DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power

of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

## **POSTLUDE**

## So nun der Geist BWV 227: Jesu meine Freude Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Congregation is requested to stack the chairs as they are able during the Postlude.

If you wish to listen (or dance!) to the Postlude, draw near the keyboard.

Flowers are given today by

Jainee McCaroll

In Loving Memory of grandparents:

Donald, Lillian, Henry, Ruth, and Ralph
Leslie, Muriel, Francis and Catherine



#### GRACE CHURCH INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Please Include in Your Daily Prayers This Week

Members of the Parish Family: Charlene Peet; The Rev. Marc Britt; Ian and Mary Booton; Anne Andrews; Rick and Sue Gore; George Raymond; Dindy and Mark Anderson; Linda White and her grandchildren, Claire, Mark, and Johnny; David Hamill; Doone Marshall; Meredith Haider; Rosemarie Blakely.

Others we Love: Norm Burt, Phil Burt's father; Zach Pezzano, son of Doreen Hutchinson's colleague; Paul Haywood, Sue Gore's brother; Jeanne Murray, Tom Murray's sister; Genevieve Rainy, Monique Kirchoff's daughter; Susie, Mike, and Emily Silver; Fran Hunt, Anne Andrew's sister; Michal Snyder, Dessida's sister; Sarah Sieber's cousins, Caleb and Rachael Davis who are grieving the loss of their beloved baby Oliver; Elizabeth Brannan; Rick and Sue Gore's nephew, Jordan, the Andre family, and Nick; Anne Kistrup and Pam Reed, Lynn Walker's friends; Susan Bunce, Mary Booton's sister; Doone Marshall's granddaughter Bex; George Laye; Molle Cheek, John and Lee Cheek's sister-in-law; Kevin White, Steve White's brother; Robert Rywkin, Monique Kirchoff's brother; Dick and Fleming Rutledge; George and Tracey Brooks; Richard Cherneff; Cynthia Griesing, Holly Murray's mother; Bishop Michael Curry; Jerry and Karen Ericson, John Ericson's parents; Deborah McCurdy.

Those who have died: The Rev. Donna Larson, former Rector of St. George's, Lee; Laura Fallon, Jainee McCarroll's friend; Hannah Peabody, Caroline Murray's friend; The Rev. Donald Peet; Joan Mulhern, Rob Clausen's sister; Pamela Drumm; Antonia Poulos, friend of Jainee McCarroll; The Rev. Francie Hills; Barbara Turner; Michael Silver; Barbara Gore; Caren Bunce, Mary Booton's cousin; Oliver Davis, Sarah Sieber's cousin; Cyndi Isaacs, June's niece; Vonnie Frye; Tommy Laroque; Jainee McCarroll's friends, Bruce Baum and Doug MacKenzie; Mimi Alford's brother, Jimmy; Jayden (JJ) Andre; Lois Young.

**Our world:** For the people of Iran, Lebanon, Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, the Sudan, and all other places of violence and war, that peace and justice may prevail, and human fear and suffering diminish. For all victims of hatred in this country; for all victims of gun violence and also for those who inflict gun violence on others. For all who are alone, afraid, or despairing. For prisoners, unhoused

people, newly arrived immigrants, and all our neighbors, near and far.

The many ministries of our local community, especially for our partners at St. Paul's and the Rev. Samuel Vaught, the Rev. Jane Tillman, and the Rev. Libby Wade; Christ Trinity and the Rev. Erik Karas; our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher; and the Mampong Babies' Home.

In the sixth century, **the "filioque" clause** referring to the Holy Spirit crept into the Nicene Creed in the Church in the West (Roman) without consultation or agreement from the Church in the East (Orthodox): "...Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father **and the Son**." The Episcopal Church meeting in general Convention in 1994 agreed to remove the clause in the next revision of the Book of Common Prayer. In the meantime, since Grace Church prints the creed text in our bulletins, we have removed the clause and adjusted musical settings to put the Episcopal Church's intention into practice.

# CALENDAR ALL IN-PERSON + ON ZOOM

Wednesdays, 10:00 am: Contemplative Eucharist at Grace Church Chapel Thursdays, 5:00 pm: Centering Prayer at Grace Church Chapel Sundays, 10:00 am: Worship Service at Berkshire South Community Center

#### GRACE CHURCH

Chapel: 67 State Road | Mailing: PO Box 114 Great Barrington, MA 01230 Phone: (413) 644-0022 | E-mail: office@graceberkshires.org Please visit our website: www.graceberkshires.org

Grace Church worships and gardens
On the traditional land of the Mohican people.

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#### WORSHIP LEADERS

ROTA	Today 8/3/2025	Next Week 8/10/2025
WELCOME TEAM	Rick Gore Sue Gore	Mary Booton Carol Way
ACOLYTE	Cathy Haywood	Joel Jorgensen
LECTOR	Dindy Anderson	Holly Murray
INTERCESSOR	Sarah Sieber	Doreen Hutchinson
CHALICE BEARERS	Mackenzie Kendall Cathy Haywood	Joel Jorgensen Caroline Murray Holly Murray
HEALING TEAM	Ted Cobden Sue Gore	Ted Cobden Kathy Clausen
ALTAR GUILD	Mackenzie Kendall Cathy Haywood	Joel Jorgensen Sarah Sieber
COFFEE HOUR	Doelman/Holmes	Kirchoff/Jordahl
COUNTERS	Kathy Clausen Carol Way	Kathy Clausen Matt Marcos
TRANSPORT	Dindy Anderson	Mackenzie Kendall
SUNDAY SCHOOL	No Sunday School	No Sunday School

#### GRACE CHURCH VESTRY

Senior Warden: Pennie Curry Junior Warden: Matt Marcos Treasurer: Sue Gore

Clerk: Doreen Hutchinson
Class of 2026 Mary Booton, Gino Furio,

Meredith Haider, Laura Jordahl

Class of 2027 Jainee McCarroll, Kevin Rosero Class of 2028 Mackenzie Kendall, Evie Starr

## GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Bishop of Western Massachusetts: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Fisher Gideon's Garden Directors: Joel Jorgensen and Jack Kamps

Choir Director: John Cheek Keyboardist: Lee Cheek

Parish Administrator: Mackenzie Kendall