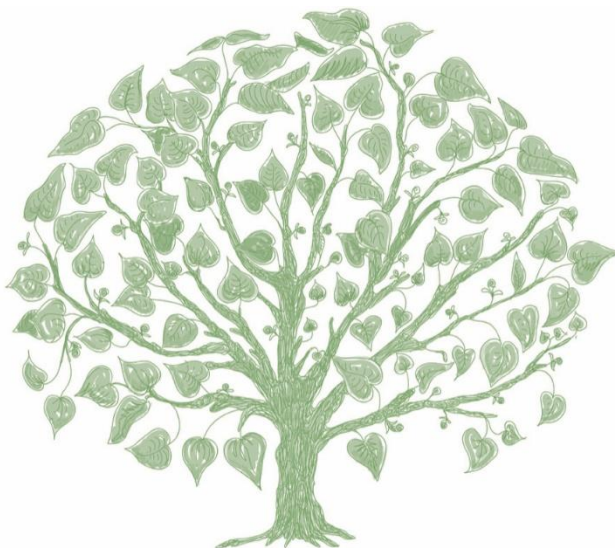


Welcome to Grace Church
The Third Sunday of A Season of Creation
September 21, 2025

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 bells, we invite you into silence
in preparation for worship.*

PRELUDE

Fairest Lord Jesus

*St. Elisabeth, melody from Schleische Volkslieder, 1842; setting by Charles Callahan
(1951-2023)*

WELCOME

Pastor Mark Perry

The Word of God

OPENING HYMN: H 390

Praise to the Lord!

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal* 1949, alt.

Lobe den Herren, melody from *Erneuten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

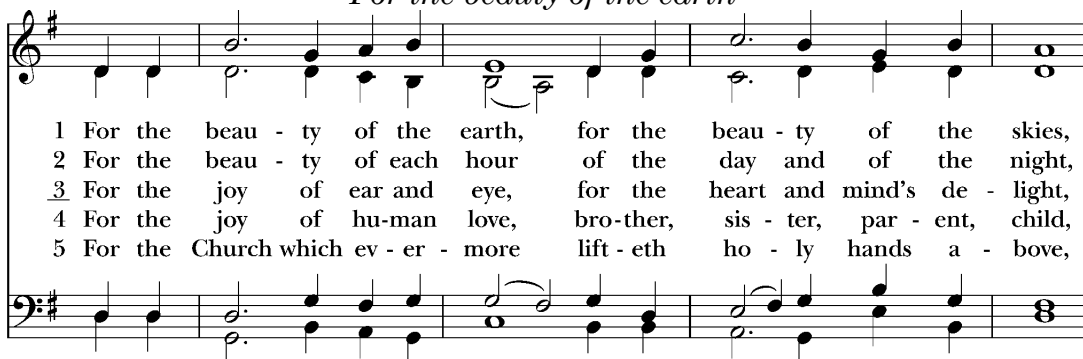
Celebrant
People

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

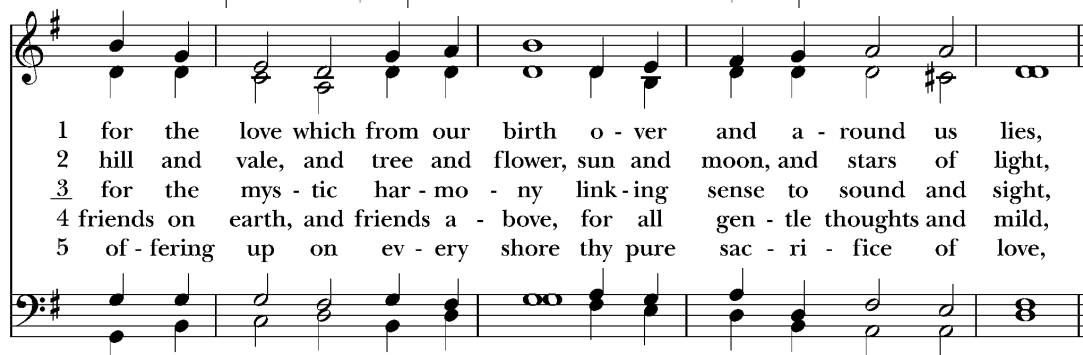
SONG OF PRAISE: H 416

Verse 2

For the beauty of the earth

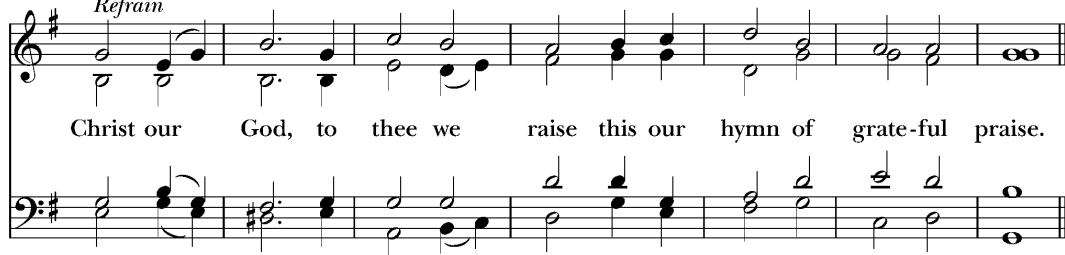


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, bro-ther, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For the Church which ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,



1 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
 2 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 3 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,
 4 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
 5 of - fering up on ev - ery shore thy pure sac - ri - fice of love,

Refrain



Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt.

Music: *Lucerne Laudoniae*, David Evans (1874-1948)

THE COLLECT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, Creator God, to put wealth to use in relieving the suffering of others; so that we might hold fast to the love that endures; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,

buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 113

Let us read the Psalm together.

1 Hallelujah!

**Give praise, you servants of the Lord;
praise the Name of the Lord.**

**2 Let the Name of the Lord be blessed,
from this time forth for evermore.**

**3 From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the Name of the Lord be praised.**

**4 The Lord is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens.**

**5 Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

**6 He takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.**

**7 He sets them with the princes,
with the princes of his people.**

**8 He makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children.**

THE SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

who gave himself a ransom for all

-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: H 383

Fairest Lord Jesus

Before Gospel verses 1,2; after Gospel verse 3

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all na - ture, O thou of
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair - er still the wood - lands, robed in the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt.

Music: *St. Elisabeth*, melody from *Schleische Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

THE GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

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

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Pastor Mark Perry

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

Creator God, we declare with joy and trust that our world belongs to you. For the fierce love with which you hold us and the rest of your creation, we declare

Our world belongs to God.

For creation's awesome beauty and its bountiful provision, we declare

Our world belongs to God.

For the manifold ways that it reveals your glory and draws us closer to you, we declare

Our world belongs to God.

Amidst its present groaning, we declare

Our world, broken and scarred, still belongs to God.

To our leaders, working to seek answers to the climate crisis, we declare

Our world belongs to God.

For the sake of the people across the globe already being affected by climate disruption, may we seek consensus over controversy; action over apathy.

For the sake of our children and grandchildren, we confess our complicity in creation's degradation, recommit ourselves to our earth keeping task, and gratefully declare

Our world belongs to God.

As your people, participating now in your ongoing work of renewal and longing for the day when you will bring that work to completion, we declare

Our world belongs to God.

Our world belongs to you, O God.

Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus. AMEN

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

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.

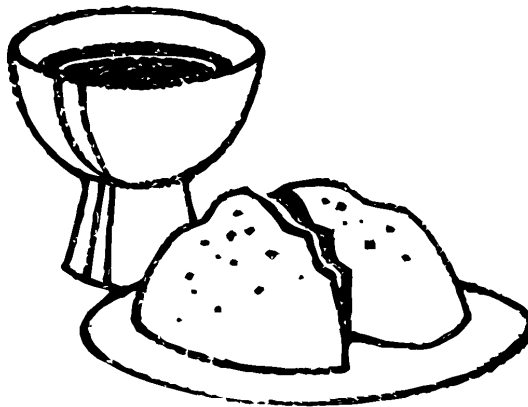
People **And also with you.**

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 Let us with gladness bring before God the first
of the fruit of everything that God has given us.



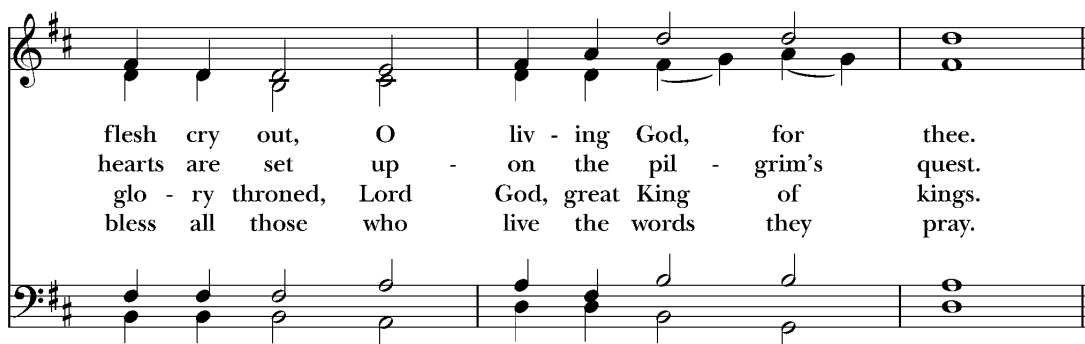
OFFERTORY HYMN: H 517

How lovely is thy dwelling place

1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
 2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
 3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
 4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
 nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
 springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
 way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
 praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
 Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
 from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly



Words: Para. of Psalm 84; sts. 1-2, *The Psalms of David in Meter*, 1650; sts. 3-4, Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)
 Music: *Brother James' Air*, J.L. Macbeth Bain (1840?-1925)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C

The Book of Common Prayer

(*Expansive Language Version*)

Priest God be with you

People **And also with you**

Priest Lift up your hearts

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

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,
 you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be:

shining light and enfolding dark;

the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns

and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,

and blessed us with capacity for memory, reason, and skill.

You made us stewards of your creation.

But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust;

and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return.

Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law.

And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word,

born of your servant Mary,

to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you,

joining with the heavenly chorus,

with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,

and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope,

to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: S 128

Holy, holy, holy Lord

The musical score is written on five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The text is: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing,
broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said,
"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do
this for the remembrance of me."

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

Remembering now his work of redemption,
and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
**We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, as we await the day of
his coming.**

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ,
and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these
gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus
Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body,
one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel;
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:
Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.
Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and
not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God,
through Jesus Christ our great High Priest,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
your Church gives honor, glory, and worship,
from generation to generation. **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: S 165

Jesus, Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)

Priest

Behold what you are.

People

May we become what we receive

All Are Welcome at God's Table

Gluten-free bread is available. Please let the priest know if you would prefer this. If you would rather receive a blessing instead of communion, please come forward and cross your hands over your chest. And lastly, if you need communion brought to you, just let the usher know. All are welcome at God's feast.

The Grace Healing Team is in the back of the room during Communion to offer the laying on of hands and a prayer for healing to anyone who desires it for themselves or another.

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 191

His eye is on the sparrow



1. Why should I feel dis - cour - aged, — Why should the shad - ows come, —
2. "Let not your heart be trou - bled," — His ten - der word I hear, —
3. When ev - er I am tempt - ed, — When ev - er clouds a - rise, —



1. Why should my heart be lone - ly, — And long for heav'n and home; — When
2. And rest - ing on His good - ness, — I lose my doubts and fears; — Though
3. When songs give place to sigh - ing, — When hope with - in me dies, — I



1. Je - sus is — my por - tion? — My con - stant friend — is He: — His
2. by the path — He lead - eth, — But one step I — may see; — His
3. draw the clos - er to Him, — From care He sets — me free; — His



eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me; His

eye is on the spar-row, and I know He watch-es me. I

sing be-cause I'm hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free; For His

eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me.

Words: Civilla D. Martin (1860-1948)

Music: Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932); arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (1935-2009)

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.

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.

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 601

O day of God, draw nigh

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of music. The first system covers the first five lines of the lyrics, and the second system covers the next five lines. The music is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef, and the vocal parts are written in the treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and
4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - ereign word of peace, that
5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let

1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

Words: Robert Baggie Young Scott (1899-1987)

Music: *St. Michael*, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

DISMISSAL

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

All hail the power of Jesus' Name

Coronation, Oliver Holden (1765-1844); setting by Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

*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
Peter and Monique Kirchoff
In memory of Peter's father and sister**



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: Rev. Gene Perry, father of Pastor Mark; Paul, neighbor of Gina and Phil; Paul Haywood, Sue Gore's brother; Genevieve Rainy, Monique Kirchoff's daughter; Susie, Mike, and Emily Silver; Fran Hunt, Anne Andrew's sister; Michal Snyder, Dessida's sister; Caleb and Racheal David and their baby Oliver, Sarah Sieber's family; Elizabeth Brannan; 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; Robert Rywkin, Monique Kirchoff's brother; Fleming and Dick Rutledge; Tania Guerrero and her baby daughter Eugenia Marie Ayala Guerrero; David Rodriguez Ovalle, Sergio Rodriguez's father; Richard Cherneff; Cynthia Griesing, Holly Murray's mother; Bishop Michael Curry; Sara Miles and her wife Martha; Jerry and Karen Ericson; Kristen Mary, beloved cousin of Jainee McCarroll; James Driscoll; Livia Driscoll; Deborah McCurdy.

Those who have died: Jane Brooks; The Rev. Donna Larson former Rector of St. George's; Hannah Peabody, Caroline Murray's friend, Pam Minshew, sister of Lee Cheek; Laura Fallon, Jainee McCarroll's friend; Hannah Peabody, Caroliine Murray's friend; The Rev. Donald Peet; Joan Mulhern, Rob Clausen's sister; Pamela Drumm; Antonia Poulos, Jainee McCarroll's friend; The Rev. Francie Hills; Barbara Turner; Michael Silver; Barbara Gore; Caren Bunce, Mary Booton's cousin; Cindy Isaacs, June's niece; Vonnie Frye; Jainee McCarroll's friends, Bruce Baum and Doug MacKenzie; Mimi Alford's brother Jimmy; Lois Young, beloved friend of Andrea and Steve White; Stacey Thomas; Father Joseph Sestito, Alex Moore's uncle.

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

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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 9/21/2025	Next Week 9/28/2025
WELCOME TEAM	Phil Burt Richard Starr	Sally Brooke Sue Gore
ACOLYTE	Cathy Haywood	Jacob Greer
LECTOR	Phil Burt	Doreen Hurtchinson
INTERCESSOR	Doreen Hutchinson	Holly Murray
CHALICE BEARERS	Rick Gore Cathy Haywood	Jacob Greer Mackenzie Kendall
HEALING TEAM	Pennie Curry Ted Cobden	Kathy Clausen Ted Cobden
ALTAR GUILD	Cathy Haywood Mackenzie Kendall	Jacob Greer Mackenzie Kendall
COFFEE HOUR	Way/Fishell-Siep	Booton/Holmes
COUNTERS	Rick Gore Gino Furio	Kathy Clausen Carol Way
TRANSPORT	Andrea White	Matt Marcos
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Andrea White Mackenzie Kendall	Dindy Anderson Matt Marcos

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
Interim Rector	Pastor Mark Perry
Gideon's Garden Director:	Jack Kamps
Choir Director:	John Cheek
Keyboardist:	Lee Cheek
Parish Administrator:	Mackenzie Kendall

CREATION SEASON 2025

A REFLECTION *from* JACK KAMPS, GIDEON'S GARDEN DIRECTOR

Robin Wall Kimmerer writes in the chapter “In the Footsteps of Nanabozho: Becoming Indigenous to Place” of her book *Braiding Sweetgrass*: “Our immigrant plant teachers offer a lot of different models for how *not* to make themselves welcome on a new continent. Garlic mustard poisons the soil so that native species will die. Tamarisk uses up all the water. Foreign invaders like loosetrife, kudzu, and cheat grass have the colonizing habit of taking over others’ homes and growing without regard to limits. But Plantain is not like that. Its strategy was to be useful, to fit into small places, to coexist with others around the dooryard, and to heal wounds. Plantain is so prevalent, so well integrated, that we think of it as native. It has earned the name bestowed by botanists for plants that have become our own. Plantain is not indigenous but ‘naturalized.’”

With this in mind, reflect on the following questions:

- What do your more-than-human neighbours have to teach you about become native or naturalised to the place(s) where you reside?
- How do they live and grow?
- How do they relate to their neighbours?
- How do they relate to you?
- How do you relate to them, and how might you grow into relating with them?

Also: The inaugural **Homelands PowWow** is a new gathering held on the ancestral homelands of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, October 4–5 on the grounds of Darrow School in New Lebanon, NY.

Even if you are unable to attend the PowWow, there is a call for art made by community members that demonstrates our connection to the river and watershed, to be submitted by September 30 at Big Elm Brewery in Great Barrington.