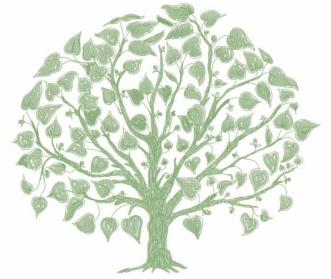
Welcome to Grace Church

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost November 16, 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

Steal Away to Jesus

Traditional Negro Spiritual; arr. Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

WELCOME

The Rev. Libby Wade

The Word of God

OPENING HYMN: H 371



Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt. Music: Moscow, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. $The\ New\ Hymnal$, 1916, based on $Hymns\ Ancient\ and\ Modern$, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Celebrant People Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

SONG OF PRAISE: H 392



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: Vineyard Haven, Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921-2003)

THE COLLECT

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 READING

Malachi 4:1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149

Let us read the Psalm together.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, * for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm * has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
 his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the
 nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, * and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn * shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * the lands and those who dwell therein.

- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
 and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
 when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world * and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

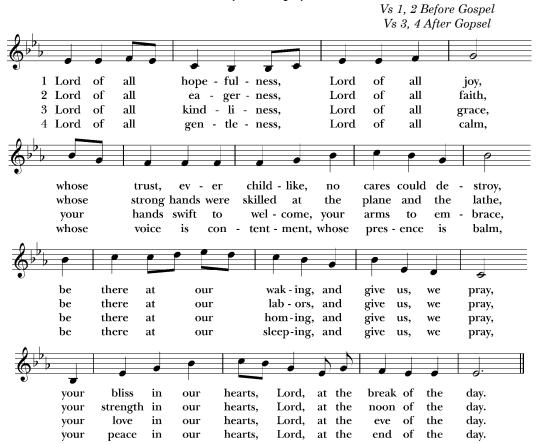
Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN: H 482

Lord of all hopefulness



Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953)

Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927

THE GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, `I am he!' and, `The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

REFLECTIONS ON THE DIOCESAN CONVENTION

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, 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 IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Loving God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.



OFFERTORY HYMN: H 596



Words: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918), alt.

Music: Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens, melody from Neu-vermehrtes und zu Ubung Christi. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningisches Gesangbuch, 1693

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Book of Common Prayer

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

People We lift them to the Lord.

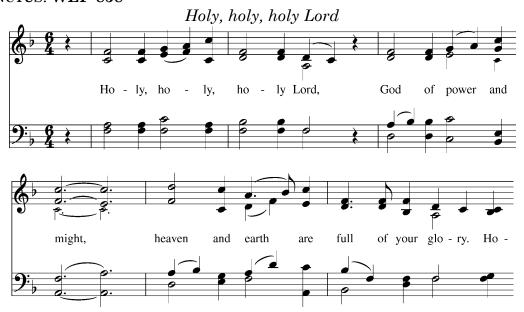
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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: WLP 858





Setting: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner (1936-2013); harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

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:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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 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: WLP 878



Setting: Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from $Fraction\ Anthems$, $Canticles\ and\ Chants$

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People Thanks be to God.

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 13



Words: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (1899-1987)

Music: St. Michael, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1923-1889)

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



Words: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (1899-1987)

Music: St. Michael, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1923-1889)

DISMISSAL

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

of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein feste Burg, melody Martin Luther (1483-1546); arr. 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 Doreen Hutchinson

In thanksgiving for Enara Grace O'Connell and Charlotte Sylvia



GRACE CHURCH INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Please Include in Your Daily Prayers This Week

Members of the Parish Family: Rick and Sue Gore, and the Haywood family; Dale and Louise Peterson; Charlene Peet; The Rev. Marc Britt; Ian and Mary Booton; Anne Andrews; 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: Pennie's sister; The Rev. Gene Perry and Shirley Perry, parents of Pastor Mark; Paul, neighbor of Gina and Phil; 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: Paul Haywood, Sue Gore's brother; Salif Tiri Ouedraogo, father of Aicha Marcos; 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, Caroline 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; The Rev. Susan B. Fortunato, The Very Rev. Dr. Marcus George Bailey, and The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, Bishop Candidates for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts.

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 11/16/2025	Next Week 11/23/25
WELCOME TEAM	Rick Gore Sue Gore	Sarah Sieber Carol Way
ACOLYTE	Peter Kirchoff	Jacob Greer
LECTOR	Carol Way	Dindy Anderson
INTERCESSOR	Jainee McCaroll	Holly Murray
CHALICE BEARERS	Peter Kirchoff Rick Gore	Jacob Greer Mackenzie Kendall
	Kathy Clausen Ted Cobden	Ted Cobden Pennie Curry
ALTAR GUILD	Sarah Sieber Peter Kirchoff	Jacob Greer Mackenzie Kendall
COFFEE HOUR	Murray Cheek	Anderson/Haywood
COUNTERS	Gino Furio Kathy Clausen	Matt Marcos Gino Furio
TRANSPORT	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

Gideon's Garden Directors:

Choir Director:

Jack Kamps

John Cheek

Keyboardist:

Lee Cheek

Parish Administrator: Mackenzie Kendall