

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 2, 2025

Grace: 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite 1, without music (p. 323/340)

(1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays)

All Saints Chapel: 9:00 a.m. (2nd/4th Sundays)

Grace: 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite 2



Remember to silence all cell phones.

Tower Bell

Prelude *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin*

Helmut Walcha

Processional Hymn #259

Hail to the Lord who comes

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer page 355

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Gloria

Hymnal S-280

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Lesson

A Reading from the Prophet Malachi (3:1-4).

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

A Responsive Reading from the Psalms (84).

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *

**by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.**

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *

hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; *

and look upon the face of your Anointed.

9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *

**and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *

he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *

from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, *

happy are they who put their trust in you!

The Epistle

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (2:14-18).

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Pre-Gospel Hymn #489 (v. 1-3)

The great Creator of the worlds

The Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:22-40).

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel,

and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Post-Gospel Hymn #489 (v. 4-6)

The great Creator of the worlds

The Homily

The Very Rev. Miles Smith

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

Prayers of the People Form III

BCP page 387

The Confession & Absolution

BCP page 360

The Peace

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem *Nunc dimittis*

Charles Wood

Presentation Hymn #380 (v. 3)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP page 361

Sanctus (*standing*)

Hymnal S-130

The Lord's Prayer

BCP page 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-164

On receiving Communion: *All are welcome to the Lord's table, kneeling or standing. Those not baptized but desiring to participate may cross their arms upon their chest and receive a blessing from the priest. Any baptized Christian may receive Communion in one of three ways: (1) In "one-kind", i.e. receiving the bread or the wine alone, declining either by crossing your arms upon your chest. (2) In "both kinds", i.e. eating the bread and then drinking from the chalice, or (3) holding your bread and then intincting (carefully dipping) the bread into the wine before eating. To receive wheat bread, extend both hands together. To receive gluten-free bread please extend one hand only. If you have severe celiac disease it is best to consult with the priest before the service. If you need the Sacrament brought to your pew, then please notify an usher.*

Communion Hymn #258
#324

Virgin-born, we bow before thee
Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Post Communion Prayer
The Blessing

BCP page 365

Recessional Hymn #657

Love divine, all loves excelling

Announcements

Dismissal

Postlude *Lucis Creator*

Jehan Alain

Please carry your bulletin home or place it in the recycling basket as you exit. Thank you!

Welcome to our guests!

We are happy you are visiting Grace Church. Please sign a guest card and leave it in the offering plate. Introduce yourself to our Clergy, after the service and join us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the 11 am worship service. Thank you.

Serving this Morning

Officiant – The Very Reverend Miles Smith

Music Director/Organist – Dr. Jonathan Schakel

Reader – Jeb Baker (9 a.m.); Alison Walden (11 a.m.)

Chalicer – Mark Zanin (9 a.m.); Dan Dick (11 a.m.)

Ushers – Fred Shackelford & Ralph Dammann

Sunday School Volunteer – Pat Lyons

Nursery Staff – Michelle Mentor

Vestry on Duty – Keith Perry & Betsy Baten

Altar Guild – Rachel Harrison, Elizabeth Page, & Kathy Trossi

Coffee Hour – Team #4

Birthdays this Week

2/2 – Lois Post

Altar Flowers

Please sign up for Sunday service flowers given in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one or event. It's easy to sign up:

- The 2025 sheets through April are currently posted in the narthex; OR
- Email Kathy Trossi at ParishAdministrator@gracekeswick.org

Make checks payable to Grace Church, noting *Altar Flowers* in the memo line: \$75.00 per Sunday. Please feel free to share the dedication and cost of flowers that are for the same Sunday. Thank you!

Prayer List

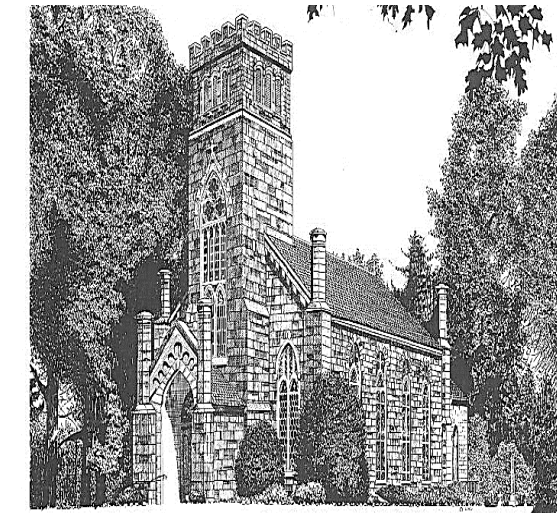
Edward Wachenfeld, Doug Wachenfeld, Lauren Wachenfeld, (Margaret Wachenfeld), Neil Horner (Chris Horner's father), Caryn Stefanchik (Beth Davis), Phil Ianna, Dottie Pratt, George Gaige, my brother-in-law, John Hart, Willie Harlow (Julie Russell), Jane Remington, Reverend Carol Sims, Wanda Martin, Kelly Martin (Wanda Martin's daughter in law), Anne Slator Coyner, Lynda Marsh Kugele, (Jill Kavanagh), Juanita Taylor, Thomas Kenneth (Kenny) Taylor III (Betsy Baten), Bill McCowen, John Fischer (Margaret Wachenfeld's brother), Alison Walden, Hugh Gildea, Rohn Laudenschlager, Shirley Gibson (Dot Proffitt's sister), Bryan Manning, Judy Forney (LeAnne Brubaker's mother), Wade Mitchell (Wess Mitchell's brother), Lowry Mann (Reg Woods), Lynn Liptak (Kathie Woods), Jackie Dwyer and Susie Bierne (Kathy Trossi's sister and cousin), the Rev. Tige Newell, the Rev. Kyle Bomar (Miles Smith), Diana Jerkins (Jeremy Harvey), Elizabeth Mitchell (Wess Mitchell), Dottie Nickerson (Jennifer Smith), Courtney Martin, and James Bianco (Barbara Crawford's stepson).

After the listed names, you will see the parishioner's name in parenthesis that placed the person on our prayer list. You can address the parishioner as to the wellbeing of their family member or friend. The list is revised monthly. Send changes to Kathy Trossi at ParishAdministrator@gracekeswick.org

Announcements

Discretionary Fund Sunday - The Vestry has designated the *First Sundays of each month* for any gifts you wish to make to the Clergy Discretionary Fund. This is a fund that exists in every Episcopal parish and is utilized under the discretion and supervision of the Rector to confidentially help people in need and assist in the ministry and mission of the parish beyond the regular budget. This fund is accountable and audited along with all the other church funds. **If you wish to make a contribution to this fund, please make checks out to Grace Church and write: Clergy Discretionary Fund in the note.** Thank you.

Grace Church Annual Parish Meeting & Luncheon- The Diocese of Virginia requires parishes to have an annual meeting at which time new Vestry members are elected, the church budget for the year is presented, and verbal reports are made on key subjects related to the State of the Parish. Please mark your 2025 calendar with this year's Annual Parish Meeting & Luncheon, to be held immediately following the 11 AM MORNING PRAYER service **Sunday, March 9th**. The Grace Fellowship Committee will be serving a variety of soups at the Annual Meeting Luncheon – if you are willing to donate a pot of soup, please contact Margaret Wachenfeld: wach1967@earthlink.net OR text 434-242-0036. Thank you!



We open wide the doors of this church to all who desire sincerely to worship the Eternal God whom Jesus revealed as our Heavenly Father. Through our worship we endeavor to know Jesus Christ and make Him known through our lives. We offer our church for the cure of souls who doubt and for the persuasion of those who have found faith difficult; for the encouragement of the discouraged; for the consecration of the strong, for the inspiration of all who face life daringly, and for the ever-deepening assurance of the life Eternal.

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February 2, 2025
11:00 A.M.

Grace Episcopal Church
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