



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Eucharist

Grace Episcopal Church
Galena, Illinois

November 19, 2023 10:30 am

Welcome to Grace Church

It is, as always, a pleasure and privilege to worship together today. Please know that your presence is valued whether this is your first time at Grace or whether you are a regular, whether we are together in person or online.

We have chosen to keep our online and in-person congregations together. For those at home on YouTube, links to the bulletin may be found in Friday's e-mail, the link to YouTube, and on our website. Printed copies will be available for the in-person congregation.

Please be aware that we are live streaming this service to YouTube and our website. It is possible that you will be shown briefly in the recording. Current COVID levels do not require masking. You are welcome to wear a mask if you wish.

Ministers of the Service

*Members and Guests, *Celebrants*
*Rev. Dr. Paula Harris, *Presider*
*Steve Coates, *Lector*
*Elizabeth Ludescher, *Acolyte*
*Lynn Giles, *Chalice Bearer*

*Robin French, *Music Director*
*Nancy Cook, *Erben Organist*
*Cindy Blakemore, *Vestry Coordinator*
*Maren Coates & Kim Kreiser,
Altar Guild
*Teresa Burke, *Greeter*
*Canceled due to COVID concerns, *LEM's*

We Gather to Worship

*As we prepare ourselves for worship, please sit or kneel in quietness
while the prelude is offered.*

Prelude

O Jesus, I Have Promised

A. Mann

We stand as the bell rings.

Opening Hymn 680

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past
verses 1-4*

Welcome

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

EOW pg. 50

All: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Gloria in excelsis

John Rutter

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his
0
peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-migh-ty God and
9
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
9
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa-ther, Lord God,
9
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
9
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. For
0
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
8
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the
9
glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - - men.

The Word of God

Presider: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

Presider: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lesson

Lector: A reading from **Judges.**

Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm – *Please respond after the asterisk, as directed by the lector.*

Psalm 123:1-5

To you I lift up my eyes, *

to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *

and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *

until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *

for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *

and of the derision of the proud.

The Epistle

Lector: A reading from **1 Thessalonians.**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able.

Sequence

John Bell

Scots Gaelic Traditional



1. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
2. I will al - ways bless the Lord, praise His name and love His word.
3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Hum - ble folk will fill with joy, as in God I glo - ry.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew. Matthew 25:14-30**

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Mother Paula Harris

We keep a brief moment of silence after the sermon.

Please stand as able.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Presider: Let us affirm our faith.

All:

**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.*

Intercessions

All sing the refrain, and a leader sings the verses.

The image shows musical notation for the intercessions. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled "Refrain" and "S 184". The lyrics under the first staff are "Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way." The second staff has the lyrics "Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day." The music features a simple melody with a mix of quarter and eighth notes, and rests.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

Please stand or kneel as able.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen.

Please stand.

We Share the Peace of Christ

Presider: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated.

Stewardship Member Moment

Jeff Hadloc

Announcements

Birthdays & Anniversaries

For the birthday of
Paige Frank

ANNIVERSARY/BIRTHDAY BLESSING

*Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase;
bless and guide them wherever they may be.*

*Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful;
raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding
abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

We Offer Our Lives and Gifts to God

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

Offertory

Sleepers, Wake!

J.S. Bach

Please stand as able.

Presentation

John Bell



1. Take this mo - ment, sign, and space;
2. Take the time to call my name,
3. Take the tired - ness of my days,
4. Take the lit - tle child in me,
5. Take my ta - lents, take my skills,



take my friends a - round; here a - mong us
take the time to mend who I am and
take my past re - gret, let - ting your for -
scared of grow - ing old; help me here to
take what's yet to be; let my life be



make the place where your love is found.
what I've been, all I've failed to tend.
give - ness touch all I can't for - get.
find my worth made in Christ's own mold.
yours, and yet, let it still be me.

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Presider: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name;

Please stand or kneel.

Sanctus

Wm. Bradley Roberts

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
3
might. Heav-n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
15
in the high - est. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
22
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider:

BCP 368

We give thanks to you, O God for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days, you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and **All:**

**We remember his death;
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you from your creation, this bread, and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ through whom we may be acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All: *Amen.*

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

BCP 364

**All: 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.
And 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,
and the power, and the glory,
are yours now and for ever. *Amen.***

Presider: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem

Gary James

Choir Congregation

Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break-ing of the bread. Be

6

Choir

known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break-ing of the bread. The bread which we break, al-le-

11

Congregation

lu - ia, is the com-mun-ion of the bod - y of Christ. Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the

16

Choir

break-ing of the bread. One bod - y are we, al-le - lu - ia, for though man-y we share one

21

Congregation

bread. Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break-ing of the bread.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Hymn 655

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Communion Hymn

Confitemini Domino / Come and Fill

Ostinato Refrain



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 137, *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good*; Taizé Community, 1982

Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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We Send the Eucharistic Ministers

Presider: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All: We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

Please stand as able.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Presider: Let us pray.

All: 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*

The Blessing

EOW 71

Presider:

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,

in the name of the Holy Trinity.

All: Amen.

Recessional 551

Rise Up, Ye Saints of God!

Presider: Go forth to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

We've Come This Far by Faith

Goodson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers are Requested. *Please include the following concerns during worship today and throughout the week:*

For Our Outreach Partners:

We pray for our Outreach Partners: Opening Doors, Glory Parish in the Diocese of Renk and La Santa Cruz Parish in the Diocese of SE Mexico; the United Thank Offering, the Galena ARC, the United Churches Food Pantry, Episcopal Relief and Development, Shelter Care Ministries, & Dubuque Rescue Mission.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Paula, our Diocesan Bishop; and all members of Grace Church.

We pray for those who are sick or in need:

Emery Beyer, Dan Burke, Teresa Burke, Bob Burton, Mia Carson, Shawn Crossley, Kathy Doig, Jocelyn Douglas, Renee Dowe, Steve Dowe, Matthew Dowe, Abby, Al Elsabee, Ed & Rita Ersfeldt, Carmen Ferguson, Jennie Fjelde, Olivia Gilbert, Ezryn "Ezzy" Gotautis, Elaine Guidry, Dean Hanson, Rev. Dr. Paula Harris, Megan Hearnburger, Justin Kash, Josie Keaton, Alice & Joe Maffit, Liam Malone, Diann & Robert Marsh, Crystal Mason, Katie McIntyre, JoAnn Mikelson, Mina, Mary Nelson, Sarah Newton, Pam Ohms, Paige, Tony Packard, Doug Rector, Warren Schaller, Warren Schaller, Jr., Melody Serwich, Lori Severtson, Pat Terry, Casey Walters, Joe Watts, Jim Webster, Tim Winters, Larry Wycoki, Paulette Zais, & several Grace members who have COVID.

We give thanks for the many blessings we have received: those who serve in the military and all essential workers and their families; for the birthdays of Rev. Diane Luther & Paige Frank; and all who worship in this place and those who have not yet walked through these doors.

We pray for those who have died, Rev. Linda Packard+, and for the anniversary of the deaths of: Martha Rodgers, Harry E. Mattoon, Dorothy Chollar, Caroline Frances Evans, John L. LeBron, Jennie I. Smith, Morris Bench, Kenneth Harwick, & Carol D. Burlow.

*The flowers today are given by
Carl & Cindy Blakemore.*

*Today's Coffee Social hosts
are Outreach Committee Members.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

for the week of November 19th, 2023

Grace Happenings, our weekly e-newsletter, is sent out every Friday.

To start receiving it, please use your preferred email to send your request to our Parish Administrator at gracesec@gracegalena.org

Outreach November Support Project: In November, your Outreach ministry team will donate \$1,000.00 to Opening Doors. It is a nonprofit organization in Dubuque that helps homeless women and children. Opening Doors has three "doorways": Teresa Shelter offers emergency and extended stay, Maria House offers transitional housing for up to two years, and Francis Apartments offers income-based affordable housing. The women living there also receive life training skills. They are provided with opportunities for education, jobs, child care and the ability to become independent. It is an important local organization that extends help with the attitude, "We offer a hand up in the world, not a handout."

Poinsettia Sign Up: The Poinsettia donation sign-up sheet is located on the Parish House bulletin board. The cost this year is \$12.00. Please help decorate the church for the upcoming Christmas season.

“Holiday Help: Tips for Coping with Grief and the Holidays” Workshop:

From 10:30 am to noon, Thursday, November 30th, Galena’s Midwest Medical Center invites all to attend this winter-related discussion topic. The workshop will be in the Education Room off from the Vista Café.

Thom Dennis, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) will reflect on experiences of loss and share strategies used to navigate our way through the upcoming holiday season.

The presentation will offer additional resources to guide participants through the season and offer suggestions on avoiding holiday “blues.” Program insights will provide confidence to face other important future family events such as birthdays and anniversaries. Light refreshments and conversation will follow.

For more information or to reserve your space, please contact **815-776-7381**.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming December Events:

Saturday, December 2, 11:00 am

Funeral for The Rev. Linda Packard+.

Sunday, December 3

At 10:30 am, we will have the usual Sunday worship service, with a simple coffee social between services.

At 1:00 pm, we will celebrate the **Renewal Of Ministry at Grace Church and the Welcoming of a New Rector**. Watch for your invitation in the mail. Cooks are invited to bring desserts (let Terri Jackman know if you are able to contribute.)

Wednesday, December 6th

Starting the **first Wednesday of Advent (December 6)**, and going forward, the Wednesday service will change times to 8:00 am. The Eucharist will continue with a focus on Saints lives and weekday feasts and fasts, with the exception of the third Wednesday, which will be lay-led Morning Prayer. Breakfast follows the service.

Saturday, December 9

Advent is a season of expectation, but in our culture it's a busy season as we prepare in many ways for Christmas. If you are hoping to meet God but find yourself busy "with many distractions" (like Martha), perhaps you would like to choose "the better part" (like Mary, her sister) and spend some time waiting, watching, and listening for Christ.

From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Saturday, December 9, we'll gather for a **Quiet Day**, where you can practice some easy chair yoga, ponder poetry, practice silence, walk a labyrinth, have journaling prompts and eat (either with quiet conversation or eat in companionable quiet) variety of ways to quiet the body, still the mind, and hear the soul's voice. We'll do how much time and at what pace you prefer to do an activity. And we'll sing. You can quiet the soul with song. Most of the day you decide how much time and at what pace you prefer to do an activity.

Our leaders: Chaplain Guta Cvetkovic, Carol Posten, Joy Von Wolffersdorff, Robin French, and Mother Paula Harris.

Please plan to bring a bag lunch and a healthy beverage. Bring a journal if you use one. Retreat is free. Please sign up in the narthex.

On-Going at Grace:

Service Opportunity: A coordinator for Grace's fleece blanket ministry is needed. Funded by the Outreach Committee, the ministry makes tied fleece blankets each fall/winter for distribution at the United Churches of Galena Food Pantry and Shelter Care Ministries in Rockford. For information, contact Karlyn Van Gelder at 563-542-3304 or Meg Gibbs at 708-421-1512.

Social Hour: There are many openings during **December** for the weekly Coffee Hour. The sign-up sheet is posted near the coffee pots. **Reminder for Hosts:** coffee supplies, napkins & plates are available in our pantry. Keep it simple as the focus is on fellowship.

Ministry of Care: Because of the willingness of the Grace community, the Ministry of Care is able to offer our congregation support during a time of need. If you need rides, meals, errands, or a helping hand in some other way, please **contact Bonnielynn Kreiser at 815-777-1468 or 815-291-9005** so we can help out. Also know that our clergy are available to meet your spiritual needs as well.

Wednesday Morning Study Group (10:00 a.m.): The Wednesday Morning Study Group uses the online Episcopal Lectionary Calendar (more specifically, the scriptures and Bible Study guide) to read and reflect upon the lessons and gospel for the ensuing Sunday Eucharist. After doing so, we find our hearts and minds are more fertile for the seeds sown from the lectionary and the pulpit. All are welcome to join on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., either in the Parish House

Conference Room or on Zoom (link in the E-news). If needed, **contact Greg Serwich (312-933-6228) for assistance.**

Yarn Ministry: meets on Thursdays from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm at the Parish House. For more information, **contact Meg Gibbs (708-421-1512).**

Zoom Poetry Meeting: A Zoom Poetry group is meeting on Mondays at 2:00pm. If you are interested, write to **Carol Poston at poston@sxu.edu or call her at 815-777-0220** to receive information about the meeting.

Service of Compline: is 8:30 pm, Tuesday evenings via Zoom.

Meditative Prayer: meets online at 9:00 am on Fridays. You are welcome to join, and gentle guidance will be provided for those unfamiliar with this practice.

Upcoming Galena Area Community Events:

United Churches of Galena Thanksgiving Prayer Service: 2:00 pm, today at St. Mary Catholic Church, 400 Franklin Street, Galena.



Rooted in Abundance
Deep Roots

Roots run deep in Appalachia. A college graduate was asked why she returned to Harlan, far from opportunities to use her degree. Smiling she said, "I came home because I want to pick blackberries off of the same bush my grandparents picked from." Another graduate returned home and explained, "If I don't come home, who will take care of grandma?"

This rootedness reminds the Venerable Bryant Kibler, Priest-in-Partnership with St. Timothy's Outreach Center in Estill County, KY, of the Syrian commander and leper Naaman, who took loads of dirt back to Syria with him because God's healing presence was rooted in that soil (2 Kings 5). As Bryant ministers alongside communities in Appalachia, he witnesses how deeply rooted God's people are to the land where they have known God's healing through community and family. A place where abundance is known in caring for loved ones and tasting berries from ancestral bushes.



Questions for Reflection:

Where do you plant your roots? How does your location and history of being in or from a place impact your ministry?

The mountains and valleys of Appalachia have abundantly provided resources to the rest of the world, especially coal that is used to create electricity elsewhere. Companies have taken from the abundance and cleared out as soon as resources grew scarce, leaving whole communities unemployed. Some families migrate elsewhere. Others stay on the land they love, in mountains and valleys abundant in natural beauty and family connection.

St. Timothy's partners with many congregations to explore Appalachian culture and to repair homes during summer work weeks. When a team came to assist a homeowner rebuild after the devastating recent flooding along the Kentucky River, the homeowner graciously pointed the team to a neighbor's house, whose home was more destroyed. "They need you more than we do," the homeowner announced.

In this place, abundance is rooted in a community that trusts God's grace to heal what is broken. 



The Venerable Bryant Kibler serves as the Archdeacon for the Mountain Region and as Director of Mountain Ministry for the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington.



grace episcopal church
galena, illinois

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of Chicago

The Rev. Dr. Paula Harris, Rector
Church: 815-777-2590/Cell: 608-345-6479
Email: gracerector@gracegalena.org

Kris Egan, Parish Administrator
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vestry

Lynn Giles	Sr. Warden	Vacant	Jr. Warden
Jim Berry	Treasurer	Crystal Mason	Clerk
Crystal Mason (2024)	Carl Davis (2025)	Cindy Blakemore (2026)	
Phil Jackman (2024)	Amy Hardwicke (2025)	Sue Anderson (2026)	

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Scripture Readings for November 26th, 2023
Feast of Christ the King

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100: 1-4

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25: 31-46

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