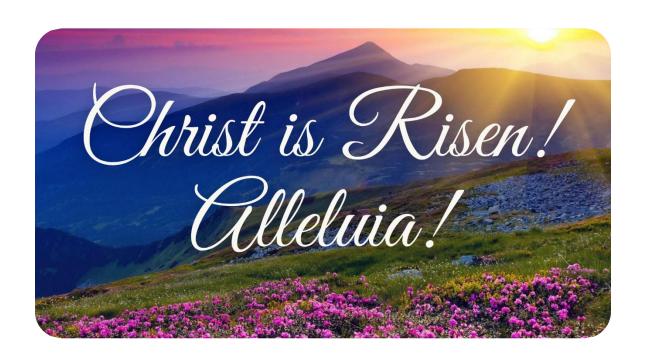
Grace Episcopal Church

107 S. Prospect Street Galena, Illinois 61036

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025 10:30am Eucharist



Welcome to Grace Church

It is, as always, a pleasure to worship together today. Your presence is valued whether this is your first time at Grace or whether you are a regular attendee. Please be aware that we are live streaming this service on YouTube. Restrooms are located up the ramp on the left side of the sanctuary, through the double doors, and to the right.

Ministers of the Service

The Rev. Dr. Paula Harris, *Celebrant*Carol Poston, *Lector*Debbie Pausz, *Acolyte*Cathie Elsbree, *Chalice Bearer*Stephen Wendorf, *Vestry Coordinator*Teresa Burke, *Greeter*Melanie Hoffman, *Sound/Livestream Tech*

Robin French, *Music Director*Nancy Cook/Joy von Wolffersdorff, *Erben Organists*Kim Kreiser & Amy Hardwicke, *Altar Guild*Cathie Elsbree, Lynn Giles, & Terri
Jackman, *LEMs*

The Service of the Word

Prelude

Land of Rest

American Folk Melody/ J.L. Maggs

Please stand as the bell rings.

Opening Hymn

296: We Know That Christ Is Raised and Dies No More

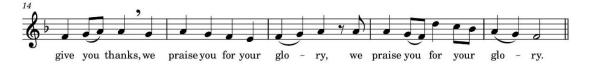
Welcome

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.



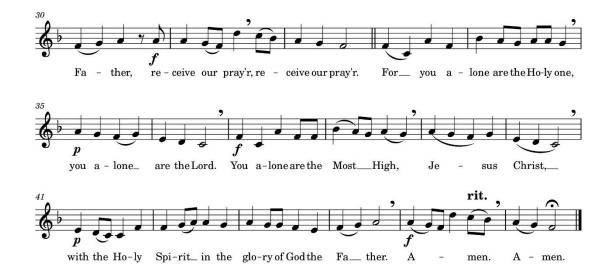








take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us,... You are sea-ted at the right hand of the



The Collect

Celebrant: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading Acts 11:1-18

Lector: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to

me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven. 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights.

²Praise him, all you angels of his;

praise him, all his host.

³Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴Praise him, heaven of heavens,

and you waters above the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the Name of the Lord;

for he commanded, and they were created.

⁶He made them stand fast for ever and ever;

he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

⁷Praise the Lord from the earth.

vou sea-monsters and all deeps;

⁸Fire and hail, snow and fog,

tempestuous wind, doing his will;

⁹Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰Wild beasts and all cattle,

creeping things and wingèd birds;

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²Young men and maidens,

old and young together.

¹³Let them praise the Name of the Lord,

for his Name only is exalted,

his splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants,

the children of Israel, a people who are near him.

Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

Lector: A reading from the Revelation to St. John.

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them:

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

All: Thanks be to God.



The Gospel John 13:31-35

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

³¹[At the last supper, when Judas] had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Celebrant: The Gospel of our Savior.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon Mother Paula Harris

We keep a brief moment of silence after the sermon.

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed EOW 53

Celebrant: 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, 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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: As members of Christ's Risen Body, let us pray to the Lord:

Lector: For the holy Church of God,

All: That it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault

at the day of your coming.

Lector: For The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop, for The Rt. Rev.

Paula Clark, our own Bishop, and for all the holy people of God,

All: That in faithful witness we may preach the Gospel to the ends of the

earth.

Lector: For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith,

All: That they may receive the light of the Gospel.

Lector: For the peace of the world,

All: That a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and

peoples.

Lector: For a blessing on all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of

creation,

All: That the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster.

Lector: For those in positions of public trust,

All: That they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of

every person.

Lector: For this congregation,

All: That we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth

your glory in all that we do.

Lector: For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all whom we have

injured or offended,

All: That we may stand reconciled before you.

Lector: For all who have commended themselves to our prayers including those

you would name silently or aloud:

Silence.

for our many blessings including those you would name silently or aloud:

Silence.

and for our families, friends, and neighbors,

All: That we may live in joy, peace, and health.

Lector: For all who have died in the communion of your Church including those

you would name silently or aloud:

Silence.

that, with all the saints,

All: they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but

life eternal.

Lector: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the

saints, we commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to you,

All: For you, O Christ, are the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.

Celebrant: Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that we who celebrated with awe the

Paschal feast may be found worthy to attain to everlasting joys; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Please be seated.

Announcements

Blessing of the Outreach Red Bags

Celebrations

Thanksgiving for the birthday of: Karen Serwich, Karlyn Van Gelder,

and Steve Dowe

Thanksgiving for the anniversary of: Renee & Steve Dowe

All: 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.

Giving

Link to online giving via PayPal:



The Holy Eucharist

In the Episcopal Church, all who claim the name Christian are welcome to share in Holy Communion. Here at Grace, we do not intinct (i.e. dip) the wafer. Receive (eat) the wafer first. If you prefer not to receive from the communal cup, you may simply pass on the wine. If you do not wish to receive either element, you are still welcome to come to the altar rail, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: "On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Offertory Passacaglia of Praise C. Courtney

Phil Jackman, clarinet

Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer 3 EOW 62

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Celebrant: All thanks and praise

are yours at all times and in all places,

our true and loving God;

through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,

the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world

and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;

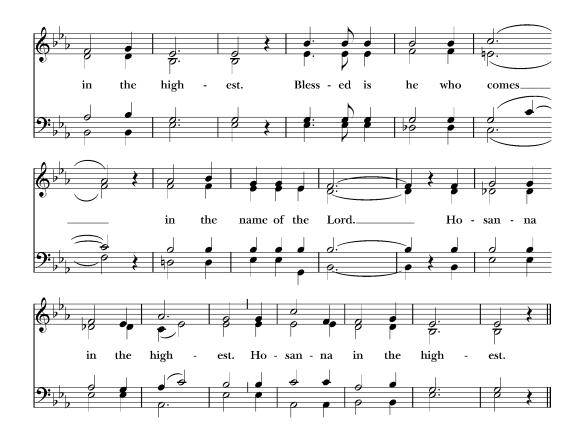
You brought forth all creatures of the earth

and gave breath to humankind.

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

Holy, Holy





Please continue standing or kneel.

Celebrant:

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

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

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and

said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

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

All: Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Celebrant:

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

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

All: Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

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

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.

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 forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Silence



Invitation

Celebrant: So come to this table,

You who have much faith

and you who would like to have more;

you who have been here often

and you who have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow Jesus,

and you who have failed;

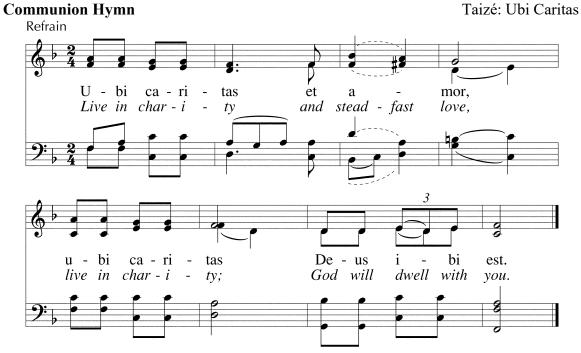
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Please be seated.

Communion Hymn

328: Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord, vs. 1-5



Text: 1 Corinthians 13:2-8; Where charity and love are found, God is there; Taizé Community, 1978 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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Please stand.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of

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 Savior. Amen.

Sending the Eucharistic Ministers

Celebrant: 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 in one bread,

one cup.

Blessing EOW 71

Celebrant: The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen

you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy

Trinity,

All: Amen.

Recessional Hymn

304: I Come with Joy, vs. 1, 3-5

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude I Sing the Mighty Power of God Forest Green Folk

Melody / J.Carter

Announcements

Find additional information in Grace Happenings, our weekly email newsletter sent every Friday. To subscribe, send a request to gracesec@gracegalena.org.

The deadline for announcements is noon on Wednesdays. Thank You!

The Altar Flowers Were Given by – Karlyn & Tom Van Gelder

Social Hour Host -

Belonging to Grace – TODAY – Anyone who would like to explore a deeper sense of belonging to our community at Grace Episcopal Church, Galena, is invited to join Mother Paula in the upstairs conference room today after worship. Whether or not you are interested in a more formal connection with the broader Episcopal Church - if you would like to make Grace the faith community where you continue your journey following Christ, you are welcome to this conversation.

New Acolyte Training – If you are interested in becoming an acolyte (those who wear robes and assist the clergy at the altar), Mother Paula will train new acolytes Tuesday, May 20 at 10:45 am. Meet in the sacristy (the room in the church, located near the altar, where vestments and sacred vessels are kept). We currently have five acolytes, so they serve approximately every five weeks. We particularly need acolytes who are not previously committed to the choir, because those two ministries are not compatible. If anyone is interested in learning to be a thurifer (the acolyte who offers incense on high holy days) please make an appointment for individual training.

Commemorative Coasters Order – To help celebrate Grace Church's 190th anniversary, we will be ordering custom coaster sets featuring various photos of Grace church. Each set costs \$30 (write "190th Coasters" in the memo line), and you can view a sample in Parish Hall. If you would like to purchase one, please sign up in Parish Hall or email gracesec@gracegalena.org by Wednesday, May 21st.

Yarn Ministry Summer Break – May 22nd will be the final gathering for the Yarn Ministry before pausing for the summer. Meetings will resume in the fall.

Altar Flowers – There are several open Sundays in the summer months on the flower sign up sheet. Consider honoring a special date through this offering. The cost for flowers is \$30, or you may donate your own flowers (note this by placing an asterisk [*] next to your name on the sign up).

Pride Picnic – The Galena Pride Picnic is scheduled for June 14, 12-5pm, in Grant Park (the same weekend as our 190th Anniversary celebration). Grace is an event sponsor again, and will also have a booth at the park. If you would like to help with the booth, please see Susan or Steve Barg.



In the Greater Galena Community

Current Pantry Need – The United Churches of Galena Food Pantry is currently in need of pasta noodles (any shape or kind). Small packages are preferred. Donations can be brought to Grace and placed in the basket in Parish Hall. Thank you! – Alma Mariano, Director.

Jo Daviess County Senior Expo – Wednesday, June 4, from 9 AM to Noon at Galena Elementary & Middle School. An opportunity to explore and purchase various services related to seniors. Perfect for older adults, caregivers, and families. Free admission. Sponsored by the Senior Resource Center, serving Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties.

UCG Vacation Bible School – The 2025 United Churches of Galena Vacation Bible School will take place at the Galena Food Pantry from 1:00-3:00pm on June 16-20, 2025. It is based on an escape room theme, so participating children (aged 4 years through those who have completed 5th grade) will learn about how to escape from an ordinary life and embrace an extraordinary one. Any older youth or adult interested in volunteering to help, please contact Rev. Jim McCrea at jrmfpc@gmail.com or (309) 235-6215.

5th Annual Galena Food Pantry Golf Outing & Silent Auction – Tuesday, July 22 at 10am at Eagle Ridge South Course (10 Clubhouse Dr, Galena). Support the Galena Food Pantry by participating as a golfer, sponsor, or silent auction donor. View details and registration at www.galenafoodpantry.com.

In the Wider Church

Episcopal Migration Ministries – This week the Episcopal Church stepped away from the formerly bipartisan U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, due to the fact that the federal government informed Episcopal Migration Ministries that we are expected to resettle white Afrikaners. Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe writes "In light of our church's steadfast commitment to racial justice and reconciliation and our historic ties with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, we are not able to take this step....

It has been painful to watch one group of refugees, selected in a highly unusual manner, receive preferential treatment over many others who have been waiting in refugee camps or dangerous conditions for years. I am saddened and ashamed that many of the refugees who are being denied entrance to the United States are brave people who worked alongside our military in Iraq and Afghanistan and now face danger at home because of their service to our country. I also grieve that victims of religious persecution, including Christians, have not been granted refuge in recent months.

As Christians, we must be guided not by political vagaries, but by the sure and certain knowledge that the kingdom of God is revealed to us in the struggles of those on the margins. Jesus tells us to care for the poor and vulnerable as we would care for him, and we must follow that command. Right now, what that means is ending our participation in the federal government's refugee resettlement program and investing our resources in serving migrants in other ways."

You may read his complete letter, regarding what we have lost, and what ways we will continue to serve refugees, in your e-news.

NRSV Bible Sale – The religious supply store Augsburg Fortress is running a clearance sale on their NRSV bibles through May 31st. Copies are available for \$9.99 each at www.augsburgfortress.org/info/promotions.

Prayers of the People

Please include the following concerns during worship today and throughout the week:

For Our Outreach Partners: Opening Doors; Glory Parish in the Diocese of Renk, South Sudan; La Santa Cruz Parish in the Diocese of Southeast Mexico; the United Thank Offering; the Galena ARC; the United Churches Food Pantry; Episcopal Relief and Development; Shelter Care Ministries; and Dubuque Rescue Mission.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: for + Sean, our Presiding Bishop; + Paula, our Diocesan Bishop; Paula +, our Rector; and all members of Grace Church.

We pray for those who are sick or in need: Connie Bennett, Emery Beyer, Denise Biagini, Bob Burton, Margaret Carlisle, Shawn Crossley, Matthew Dowe, Cathie Elsbree, Kathie Farlow, Carmen Ferguson, Jennie Fjelde, Krista Ginger, Gary Grimm, Adeline Hanson, Carole Jacques, Mark Klausner, Diane & Richard Luther, Alice & Joe Maffit, Liam Malone, Hal Martin, JoAnn Mikelson, Carolyn Norton, Alan Oyen, Tony Packard, Karen Persen, the Purdy Family, Warren Schaller, Melody Serwich, Ann Shepard, Mike Simosky, Pat Terry, Casey Walters, Joe Watts, Jim & Kathleen Webster, Doris Whitesell, Vicki Whitesell, Abby, Andrea, Erin, and Mina.

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

We pray for those who have died.

Events This Week

Sunday, 5/18

Eucharist: 10:30am Belonging to Grace: 11:45am

Monday, 5/19

Poetry Group: 2pm (offsite)

Tuesday, 5/20

Vestry: 9am

Acolyte Training: 10:45am Church Office Open: 12:30 - 4:30pm Compline: 8:30pm via Zoom

Wednesday, 5/21

Midweek Prayer: 8am

Church Office Open: 9am - 4:30pm

Bible Study: 10am

Thursday, 5/22

Church Office Open: 9am - 4:30pm

Yarn Ministry: 1:30pm

Friday, 5/23

Centering Prayer: 9:00am via Zoom

Saturday, 5/24

Choir Rehearsal: 10am

Sunday, 5/25

Eucharist: 10:30am



Grace Episcopal Church

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Contact Us

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Amanda Zasada, Parish Administrator gracesec@gracegalena.org
Office Hours:
Tues./Thurs. 12:30pm – 4:30pm
Wed. 9:00am – 4:30pm

Vestry

Mother Paula Harris, Chair Eric Kallback, Sr. Warden Stephen Wendorf, Jr. Warden Tom Van Gelder, Treasurer Michele Sullivan, Clerk Cindy Blakemore Maren Coates Georgia Hansen Charlotte Stryker