

This morning we are honored to hear from the Reverend P. Roger Bowen, retired Head of St. Stephen's Episcopal School, Austin Texas.

From 1982 to the present Father Bowen has helped to establish partnerships between Episcopal schools in the U.S. and schools in Haiti. Today, the Haiti Partnership Program of the National Association of Episcopal Schools reports over sixty partnerships between Episcopal schools and one of the over 250 schools in the Diocese of Haiti. When Father Bowen and his wife Kennon moved to Staunton in 2007, he began working with local Episcopal churches and Stuart Hall School to form the Virginia Haiti Collaborative which supports St. Marc's School in Cerca La Source, Haiti. <https://virginiahaiticollaborative.weebly.com/>

A graduate of the Citadel 1965 and Virginia Theological Seminary (which also recently awarded him an honorary Doctorate), Fr. Bowen began his career as a parish priest in West Virginia and then worked in the Peace Corps in the small pacific island nation of Tonga. He went on to serve as chaplain at St. Albans School in Washington, D.C., and the Church Farm School in Exton, Penn. He served as first upper school head of the newly merged St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School in Alexandria, Va., and then headmaster of York School in Monterey, Calif. before leading St. Stephen's Episcopal School Austin, Texas as head of school 2002-2007. He lives in Staunton and attends both Emmanuel and Trinity Episcopal Churches.

Parish News

Parish Office Closed Monday in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day

Christianity and Culture offerings this fall include:

Oct 17 - Nov 7 - The Relevance of the Old Testament Prophets

This four-part series will explore the Old Testament prophets and their messages within an historical context and examine their significance for today's world. Abraham Heschel's seminal work *The Prophets* will serve as the primary reference for our discussion. John Thomas, Lexington resident and a former student of Heschel, will introduce the study. Doug Ayres, former instructor of International Studies at VMI will present the historical background. Next, Emily Filler, assistant professor of Religion at Washington and Lee will present the lives and messages of the prophets. In the final session, our Priest Tucker Bowerfind will discuss the influence of the prophets on Jesus's ministry and message.

November 14 & 21 - The Psalms with Joanne Robblee

Coming in December The Magnificat with Martha Burford

Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity Annual Chili Cook Off, Sunday, October 17, 12-3:00 PM Spencer Home Center Inc, \$15 Adults/\$5 Children

The Annual Chili Cookoff is Habitat's signature event. Come sample homemade chili and vote for your favorite! Grace Episcopal Church is entering Merce Brooke's award-winning chili! (Merce won Grace's Chili Cook Off in February 2020!) Live music and an open bar add to the festive atmosphere. Spencer Home Center Inc, 1398 N Lee Hwy, Lexington, VA 24450

Music Notes:

SVU Camerata, October 14 The SVU Camerata will give a concert at Grace, Thursday, October 14, 7:30 pm. Chamber Ensemble Music *INCLUDING* Casavant 3941!

Sunday, October 24, 5pm Choral Evensong Music by Stainer, L'Estrange, and Roberts. Organists: Martha Burford, Jonathan Clawson, and Sumner Jenkins of St. Paul's Lynchburg. Featuring the choir of Grace Episcopal Church.

The organ will first SING at our service, 10:30 am Sunday, October 17.

Nominations for Vestry

The Nominating Committee of the Vestry are seeking names of members interested in serving on the Vestry. According to the Canons of our Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, "Only persons who are confirmed adult communicants of the parish in good standing, as defined in Canon 1.1 of the Canons of the Protestant

Episcopal Church in the United States of America, for at least one year preceding the election shall be eligible for election as Vestry members." Vestry members are elected to serve a 3-year term. A weekend vestry retreat will be held February 11-12, 2022, and most vestry members attend at least 3 meetings per month (2 meetings related to the work of the vestry and 1 committee meeting). Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee (Liz Moss, Cecile West-Settle, Judy Schram, Punky Dod, or contact the church office to submit names for consideration.

Stewardship Update

The *Every Perfect Gift* Stewardship Campaign continues to gain momentum after two weeks. Forty-nine parishioners have pledged \$244,120 towards a goal of \$550,000. This week saw an increase of \$93,340 from the previous week.

We share additional responses to the WOW Card question: If Christ visits Grace Church today, what would wow him most?

- how much we need the message of love and the courage to act upon it
- Grace's friendly community
- the way we are really trying to help and unify our community. AND, Martha Burford getting so many university students to sing with us
- the vibrancy of our church community and the dedication to use the bounty God has provided in enhancing our church facility and organ
- we are all one family in Christ

The variety of responses reflect that Christ would be wowed by much of what Grace Episcopal is doing, all connected by the results of the Stewardship Campaign. God has blessed us. We are inspired to give back. Our gifts impact our parish community, our neighbors, and our world. That is the WHY of the importance of each gift to the campaign.

With gratitude, Members of the Stewardship Committee – Dennis Cross, Susan Cross, Carol Dent, Carole Elmore, Dave Hansen, Rob Minor, John Milford

Altar Guild

MJ Mayerchak, Peggy Riethmiller, Mary Webster, Erika Brooke, Emma Brooke

Flower Guild

Elizabeth Boetsch, Claudia Ellis, Gail Dick, Rene Glidden, Carol Gosse, Catherine Harcus, Elizabeth Harralson, Peggy Riethmiller, Joy Harris, Kathy Kozak

Readers & Chalice Ministers

Harrison Williams, Alexandra Brown, Elizabeth Harralson, Judy Schram

Ushers

Keith Gibson, Anna Crockett, Roger Crockett

Coffee Hour Host

Admin & Personnel, Gadsden, Trustees

Clergy, Staff and Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church

The Rev. Tuck Bowerfind, Rector (frtuck@graceepiscopalexington.org)
Wendy Moses Bearden, Financial Secretary (bookkeeper@graceepiscopalexington.org)
Connie Bryant, Sexton

Martha Jones Burford, Minister of Music (martha@graceepiscopalexington.org)
Lisa McGuire, Parish Administrator (lisa@graceepiscopalexington.org)
Sharon White, Program Director (sharon@graceepiscopalexington.org)

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

October 10, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II THE WORD OF GOD

Following ringing of bell - Please observe respectful silence during the Prelude.

All stand

Hymn 557 (v. 1-3) Rejoice, ye pure in heart *Vineyard Haven*

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Gloria s-280

The Collect of the Day (Proper 23)

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons (*All sit*)

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Psalm 90:12-17 (offered by choir)

BCP 718

Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our

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weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

All stand

Hymn 632 O Christ, the Word Incarnate *Munich*

Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

All sit

The Sermon The Rev. Roger Bowen

All stand

The Nicene Creed BCP 358

The Prayers of the People (*All stand*)

Please pray for the wider Church and intercessions requested by our Congregants: Pray for The Anglican Communion; The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Standing Committee of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop; the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines; the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and their Archbishop, The Most Rev. Justin Badi Arama; the Episcopal Church in the United States of America and our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael B Curry; the Diocese of

Southwestern Virginia, and our Bishop Mark Bourlakas.

Pray today for the ministry of Grace House on the Mountain and it’s director Anita Boyd.

Pray for Bob DeMaria, Peter Fyfe, Lucy Moise, Bob Crewdson, David Burford, Mary Jane Hubbard, Marsden, Sadie, Glen Jones, Don Ellis, Robyn Fleming (uncle of Pat McGuire), and those we name aloud or in our hearts.

Pray for those serving in the military, and all first responders.

Pray for those who have died, especially Judy Eaton (cousin of Lynn Dent), Tillie Clark (mother of Angie Clark).

Pray for those affected by unsafe living conditions, poverty, disease, violence and oppression.

Pray for the people of Haiti who are suffering from the effects of COVID 19 and are in need for vaccines. Pray for the people of Afghanistan.

Pray for Boys Home as they continue their search for a new Executive Director.

In honor of National Indigenous Day, we give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon.

We give thanks for the life of Robert Edward Lee who died October 12, 1870.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week Jerry Nay (10/9), Susan Denson (10/9), Libby Cumming (10/11), Heather McBrayer (10/11), Al Gordon (10/12), Scott Rodi (10/14), Charlies Smith (10/15).

Reader: That we may continually seek you and find you. That we may know, deep in our hearts, that we are yours. We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

That your grace may always precede and follow. That our lives may be signs of your kingdom, and witnesses to your goodness. We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

That there be peace in our hearts, in our churches, between neighbors and nations. May the peace we seek begin with you and overflow beyond measure. We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

We give thanks for your extravagant care of us; for your seeking after us, finding us, and keeping us close. We pray that we may follow your model of loving- kindness to those with whom we live and work and Worship. That your love for us may overflow into extravagant love for all your children. We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

We pray on behalf of those who are suffering with pain, who are paralyzed by fear, who are listless and restless and tired. We pray for those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts [silence may be kept for a time]. Relieve their misery, be with them in their distress. Bring them to a new sense of hope and wholeness. We lift our hearts and voices to you.

Hear us, good Lord.

We rejoice with those who have entered the larger life, who now reside

among the saints in light. We pray for those who mourn and who experience a deep loss.

Hear us, good Lord.

Celebrant: Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to the Monacan tribe, the first people of this land. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of the land. Creator let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. *Amen*

Confession of Sin BCP 360

The Peace (*All stand*)

Stewardship Moment (*All sit*) Patrick McGuire

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Anthem If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments Thomas Tallis
conducted by Michael McLaughlin, W&L 2023

All Stand

Offertory Hymn 380 (v.3) From all that dwell below the skies *Old 100th*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord* S-129

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion.
Those not receiving communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing;
simply signify by crossing your arms over your chest.*

Communion Hymns

Hymn 482 Lord of all hopefulness *Slane*

Hymn 593 Lord, make us servants of your peace *Dickinson College*

Hymn 585 Morning glory, starlit sky *Bingham*

Postcommunion Prayer (*Stand or kneel*) BCP 365

Blessing & Dismissal (*All stand*)

Hymn 688 A mighty fortress is our God *Ein feste Burg*

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Tonight, 5 pm Taizé Eucharist Music in the meditative Taizé tradition with prayers, readings from Scripture and Holy Eucharist.