Announcements

• Welcome to the Spiritual Communion service! This recorded service will be available to you on the church website by 9:30 AM on Sunday, July 19, but you can participate in it whenever convenient. (graceepiscopalsheffield.dioala.org) You can follow the service with this bulletin.

• Please join your church friends for Coffee Hour Fellowship at 10:30 AM on Sunday, July 19. Your link for that Zoom gathering has been emailed to you. But if you missed it in your emails, call or text Lynn at 256-554-0123. She will send another email with the link to you.

• The Diocese has postponed face-to-face worship until August 1.

• The next Meals on Wheels for Grace Church will be July 20—24.

• Finally…Rev. Danielle wants to get acquainted with everyone as soon as possible. So watch for your emails and newsletters sent from the church. We will keep you informed about upcoming opportunities to get to know our new priest and let her know you as well. Do not hesitate to contact her at thomdl80@gmail.com or 931-636-4898.

• Don’t forget the Grace Church PO Box mailing address: Grace Episcopal Church, PO Box 838, Sheffield AL 35660. Many thanks to all the Grace parishioners who are mailing their tithes to the church in these awkward times.
**Hymn 482  Lord of all hopefulness**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy, be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

**The people standing, the Celebrant says**

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

**Celebrant**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Gloria  The Gloria is said, all standing.**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Collect of the Day

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,  
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:  
I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.  
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,  
let them declare and set it forth before me.  
Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.  
Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!  
Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 86:11-17 Inclina, Domine

11 Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; * knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.

12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, * and glorify your Name for evermore.

13 For great is your love toward me; * you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.

14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my life; * they have not set you before their eyes.

15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, * slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; * give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; * because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.
Second Reading Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ— if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”

He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.”
Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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**The Sermon**

The Reverend Danielle L. Thompson

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**The Nicene Creed**

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.
The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for those on our intercessory prayer list, saying together
Booth family, Sam, John, Ralph, David, Andrea, Robin, Kris, John, Ledlow family, Rose, Lawrence, Zane,
Wilson family, Dane, Tanya, Christopher family, Youngblood family, Poobney, Sheila, Nathan, All Hospital Staff, Nathaniel, Jacob, Elijah, & Sheila.

We pray for those on active duty in the military, saying together

We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries:
Mary Cecelia & Troy Youngblood; Caroline Heaton; Madelyn Fleming; Richard Parker; Brandy Springer; & Sam Brentnall.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest. We pray especially for Tom Christopher.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

God our Father, we live in an unsteady and confusing world: Show us that your ways give life and that following you is better than chasing after fruitless goals. Help us to take failure, not as a measure of our worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give us strength to hold our faith in you, and to keep alive our joy; Amen.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions.
The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.
Confession of Sin

The Minister says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

The Minister says

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. Amen.

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

A moment of silence.

Offertory

The Minister brings to the table together the chalice, paten, and host with purificator draped on top, then brings the cruets of wine and cruets of water. The altar book and stand are placed on the table.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift 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 him thanks and praise.
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, 
heaven and earth are full of your glory. 
Hosanna in the highest. 
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. 
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues.

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.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
  hallowed be thy Name,  
  thy kingdom come,  
  thy will be done,  
  on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
  as we forgive those  
  who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
  but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
  and the power, and the glory,  
  for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:*
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The Prayer of Spiritual Communion is said by all:*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.  
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection.  
I love you above all things and long for you in my soul.

Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,  
come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace,  
Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you.  
May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

**Anthem**  
*Dreamers & Doubters*  
Parish Musicians
The Celebrant and People continue.

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn 302
Father, we thank thee

Father, we thank thee who hast planted thy holy Name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal Jesus thy Son to us imparts.
Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy pleasure, didst give us food for all our days,
giving in Christ the Bread eternal; thine is the power, be thine the praise

Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mercy, save it from evil,
guard it still, perfect it in thy love, unite it, cleansed and conformed unto thy will.
As grain, once scattered on the hillsides, was in this broken bread made one,
so from all lands thy Church be gathered into thy kingdom by thy Son.

The Minister may bless the people.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The people are dismissed.

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Grace Episcopal Church
103 Darby Avenue, PO Box 838
Sheffield AL 35660
256-383-2014/graceoffice1@comcast.net
www.graceepiscopalsheffield.dioala.org

Rector: The Reverend Danielle L. Thompson
Director of Christian Education: Burgess Fox Wyker
Parish Musician: Christa Belue Milligan
Organist: Nancy Hughes Bolte
Parish Administrator: Lynn Paxton-Romine