Announcements

• Welcome to Grace! This recorded service and the bulletin will be available on the church website by 9:30 AM on Sunday, August 9, but you can participate in it when convenient. (graceepiscopalsheffield.dioala.org) Please check Anchor Lines, the website, and Facebook for descriptions of our worship plans, including outdoor worship at 6:00 PM on Sundays.

• Please join your church friends for Coffee Hour Fellowship at 10:30 AM on Sunday, August 9. Your link for that Zoom gathering has been emailed to you. But if you missed it, call or text Lynn at 256-554-0123. She will send another email with the link to you.

• Rev. Danielle is excited to get to know you. Please do not hesitate to contact her at thomdl80@gmail.com or 931-636-4898.

• Don’t forget our mailing address: Grace Episcopal Church, PO Box 838, Sheffield AL 35660. Many thanks to all the parishioners who are mailing their tithes to the church.

• The Rev. Catherine Schiesz is enrolling new students for EfM (Education for Ministry) this fall. To learn more about EfM or Deacon Catherine’s fall cohort, please contact her at 256-810-9897. The class will meet virtually or safely distanced at Trinity on Monday evenings.

• We will do the Back to School blessing at this Sunday night’s service, at 6:00 PM.
Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave, who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard and hushed their raging at thy word, who walkedst on the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage didst sleep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

Most Holy Spirit, who didst brood upon the chaos dark and rude, and bid its angry tumult cease, and give, for wild confusion, peace: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, thy children shield in danger's hour; from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them whereasoe'er they go; thus evermore shall rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

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

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

First Reading  I Kings 19:9-18

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God

Psalm 85:8-13  Benedixisti, Domine

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, * for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, * and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.
Second Reading Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.
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.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

We pray especially for those on our intercessory prayer list, saying together
Jim, MJ, Joe, Andrea, Robin, Kris, John, Ledlow family, Rose, Lawrence, Zane, Wilson family, Dane, Tanya, Poohney, Sheila, Nathan, All Hospital Staff, Nathaniel, Jacob, Elijah, Sheila, Milesa, Phyllis, & Keith.

We pray also for those on active duty in the military, saying together
Joshua, Nathan, Ben, Michael, Keith, Jacob, Corey, Jeffrey, Tim, Dominic, Nolan, Jeanne, Cassius, Eric, Austen, David, Noah, Rush, Henry, Connor, Gaige, Sam, & JonPhillip.

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries:
Aline Mullen; Jacque & Dick Stutts; Nedra McCaig; Radford Scott; Janet & Chuck Rambley; & Chelsea Underwood.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.
We will exalt you, O God our King;  

_And praise your Name for ever and ever._

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  

_Silence_

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  

_Who put their trust in you._

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.  

_Silence may be kept._

_Leader and People._

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  

_Amen._

_The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect._

_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.

This prayer is provided for all who desire to receive Holy Communion but are not able to do so at this time.

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  
In the Stillness  
Grace Choir
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 637 How firm a foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath
said, to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee
to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent
hand.

“When through the deep waters I call thee to
go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

The Minister may bless the people.

Live without fear:
Your Creator has made you holy, has protected you,
and loves you as a parent.
Go in peace to follow the good road.

The people are dismissed.

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.