Welcome to Grace! This recorded service and the bulletin will be available on the church website by 9:30 AM on Sunday, August 30, but you can participate in it when convenient. (graceepiscopalsheffield.dioala.org) Check Anchor Lines, the website, and Facebook for our plans: outdoor worship at 6:00 PM on Sundays and indoor worship, resuming September 13.

Please join your church friends for Coffee Hour Fellowship at 10:30 AM on Sunday, August 30. 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.

Our Director of Christian Education, Burgess Wyker, and our great young people are doing so many good things that there is no room to list them here! Please read the Grace Youth newsletter to learn about their impressive activities. You’ll be proud of them.

The Rev. Dr. Allison St. Louis and Dr. Josh Davis are offering a FREE course: Social Justice and the Body of Christ, beginning late September. For more information, contact Dr. Josh Davis, Dean of AIMS, at jdavis@dioala.org.
God is Love, let heaven adore him; God is Love, let earth rejoice; let creation sing before him and exalt him with one voice. God who laid the earth’s foundation, God who spread the heavens above, God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love.

God is Love; and love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace: with unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race.

And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow’s iron rod, then we find that self-same aching deep within the heart of God.

God is Love; and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life, God’s eternal loving kindness guides us through our earthly strife. Sin and death and hell shall never o’er us final triumph gain; God is Love, so Love for ever o’er the universe must reign.

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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading Jeremiah 15:15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 26:1-8 Judica me, Domine

1 Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; * I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

2 Test me, O Lord, and try me; * examine my heart and my mind.

3 For your love is before my eyes; * I have walked faithfully with you.

4 I have not sat with the worthless, * nor do I consort with the deceitful.

5 I have hated the company of evildoers; * I will not sit down with the wicked.

6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, * that I may go in procession round your altar,

7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving * and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

8 Lord, I love the house in which you dwell * and the place where your glory abides.
Second Reading Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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           Form VI

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
Penney, Max, Booth Family, Andrea, Robin, Kris, John, Ledlow family, Rose, Lawrence, Zane, Wilson family, Dane, Tanya, All Hospital Staff, Nathaniel, Jacob, Milessa, Phyllis, Keith, All Students and School Staff, Krista, Tim, & Robert.

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, Cassins, 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:
Susan & Ray Balch; Nancy Byrd; Taylor Richardson; Bobbie Kelley; Martha Farr; Sydney Byrd; Susan & Ron Kirkland; Lynn Paxton-Romine; & Jan Seefield.

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 cruet 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**  
*Deep Within*  
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 707

Take my life, and let it be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord,
to thee; take my moments and my days, let
them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my
hands, and let them move at the impulse of
thy love; take my heart, it is thine own; it
shall be thy royal throne.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for
my King; take my intellect, and use every power
as thou shalt choose. Take my will, and make it
thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my self,
and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

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.
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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