

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2026
Grace Episcopal Church
Holland, MI

*Page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer found in the pews.
Welcome to worship at Grace. Your presence is a blessing.
If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of The Episcopal Church,
simply relax into worship and let the congregation carry you through the liturgy.
Please know that all are welcome at Christ's table.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

8:30AM

The Word of God

Salutation	BCP 323
Collect of the Day	
Gloria	BCP 324
First Lesson <i>(seated)</i>	Acts 17: 22-31
Psalm 66: 7-18	BCP 674
Second Lesson	1 Peter 3: 13-22
Gospel	John 14: 15-21
Homily <i>(seated)</i>	Rev. Christopher Roe
The Nicene Creed <i>(standing)</i>	BCP 326
Prayers of the People	BCP 328
Confession of Sin	BCP 331
The Peace <i>(standing)</i>	
Announcements <i>(seated)</i>	

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence	
The Great Thanksgiving <i>(standing or kneeling)</i>	BCP 340
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP 337

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion

You may process forward to receive at the altar. The Chalice is available for those who would like to drink from it or receive through the process of intinction done by the Clergy or LEM serving. For those wishing to receive in One Kind (i.e., bread "only") that is also full communion.

Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 339
The Blessing	
The Dismissal	

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

10:30 AM

*Welcome to worship at Grace. Your presence is blessing.
If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of The Episcopal Church,
simply relax into worship and let the congregation carry you through the liturgy.
Please know that all are welcome at Christ's table.*

The Prelude

Noël nouelet by Michael Bedford

The Welcome

Opening Hymn *(standing as able)*

Now The Green Blade Riseth #204

Salutation

Priest: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*
Priest: There is one Body and one Spirit;
People: *There is one hope in God's call to us;*
Priest: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People: *One God and Father of all.*
Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*
Priest: Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson *(seated)*

Acts 17: 22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*



- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
 Make your voice of God's praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
 and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
 you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snares; *
 you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
 but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
 which I promised with my lips
 and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
 I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
 and I will tell you what God has done for me.
- 15 I called out to God with my mouth, *
 and praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
 the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
 And has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
 nor withheld love from me.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 3: 13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you— not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.
 People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*standing as able*)

Alleluia, VII by Jacques Berthier



Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, © 1982, 1983, 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
 People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel

John 14: 15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
 People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Homily (*seated*)

Rev. Christopher Roe

Baptismal Procession Hymn (*standing as able*)

We Know That Christ is Raised #296

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Priest: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsors: *I present Maxwell Auden to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*

Priest: Will you be responsible for seeing that the person you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life? **Sponsors:** *I will, with God's help.*

Priest: Will you by your prayers and witness help this person to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Sponsors: *I will, with God's help.*

The priest asks the following questions.

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: *I renounce them.*

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: *I renounce them.*

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: *I renounce them.*

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: *I do.*

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: *I do.*

Question: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: *I do.*

The Priest addresses the congregation, saying:

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: *We will.*

Priest: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Priest: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: *I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: *I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Priest: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

Priest: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Priest: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Priest: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Priest: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Priest: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Priest: Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth and for those who have renewed their commitment to Christ, responding with "Lord, hear our prayer."

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

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

People: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Priest: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Priest touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Priest: Maxwell Auden, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Priest: Let us pray. Loving God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Priest: Maxwell Auden, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Priest: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Priest & People: *We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.*

The Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Announcements *(seated)*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

If ye love me
Keep my commandments
And I will pray the Father
And he shall give you another comforter
That he may 'bide with you forever
E'en the spirit of truth.

If Ye Love Me by Thomas Tallis

Eucharistic Prayer *(standing as able)*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

(standing or kneeling)

Priest: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O God,

Priest and People:

*We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;*

Priest: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

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

Priest and People:

*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 for ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: *Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Fraction Anthem

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

The Invitation

Priest: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion

You may process forward to receive at the altar. The Chalice is offered for those who would like to drink from it or receive through the process of intinction done by the Clergy or LEM serving. For those wishing to receive in One Kind (i.e., bread only) that is also considered full communion. Gluten Free wafers are available.

Communion Hymns

Come Down, O Love Divine #516

Love Astounding

1 Love a - stound-ing, Love con - found - ing lim-its fear - ful minds im - pose.
2 Love re - ceiv - ing, Love be - liev - ing, we re - joice with thanks and song,
Love re - new-ing, Love pur - su - ing ev - ery heart un - til it knows
faith re - gain-ing, hope pro - claim-ing; Love has taught us, we be - long
Love's trans-form-ing, heal-ing good-ness, Love's a - bid - ing, gen - tle grace,
safe with - in Love's tend - er keep - ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent call.
Love's en - dur - ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol - ing, strong em-brace.
Love de - fend-ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold - ing all.

Words: Jeannette M. Lindholm © 1999 Jeannette M. Lindholm. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; acc. Margaret W. Mealy © Praise Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

A Prayer for the Reception of Spiritual Communion

Priest and People: *Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though we cannot all consume these gifts of bread and wine, we thank you that we have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we embody your desire and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

Post Communion Prayer

Priest: Let us pray.

All: *Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son 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 Lord. Amen.*

The Blessing

Closing Hymn (standing)

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #376

The Dismissal

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia!

People: *Thanks be to God! Alleluia. Alleluia!*

The Postlude

Allegro in G Major by Luigi Bottazzo

WELCOME TO GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

WHAT KIND OF CHURCH IS GRACE?

We are a church that gathers in common prayer around a table that is open to all, embraced by a God whose love knows no bounds. We are a church beyond these walls, present with neighbors, helping to create a more just and merciful world, together.

FIRST TIME VISITING GRACE?

Thanks for visiting! After the service, please join us for Coffee Hour and see a Host in the Commons. They will be able to answer any questions you may have as well and help welcome you to Grace.

LET'S GET CONNECTED

Fill out a card, (found in the pews) and drop it in the offering plate, give it to a member of the clergy, or give to a Host in the Commons before or after the service. Check out our website and follow Grace on Facebook and Instagram. Email office@graceepiscopalholland.org with any questions.

GODLY PLAY (ages 4- upper elementary)

Godly Play meets every Sunday starting at 10:30am in the room across from the Commons. All children are encouraged to participate and will join the service at the time of receiving communion. Handouts and more information are located in the Commons. See Rev. Christopher if you have questions. Children are also welcome and encouraged to participate in our services of worship and the fellowship that follows. The nursery space in the lower level is also staffed and available for kids ages 4 and under.

CAN I RECEIVE COMMUNION?

Yes. Everyone, without exception, is invited to receive communion. Simply come forward at the time of distribution and receive around the altar. Gluten Free wafers are available. We offer intinction (dipping the bread or wafer into the wine) or you may sip directly from the chalice. Receiving "in One Kind" meaning bread only is also considered full communion. Those who prefer not to receive communion but would like a blessing may come forward too.

SHOULD I WEAR A NAMETAG?

We encourage the wearing of nametags so we can welcome each other by name. Folks generally wear one and visitors and guests can get them at the Host table in the Commons.

IS THERE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY?

Yes. An accessible restroom is located outside of the Commons on the main floor. There is an elevator which gives access to all levels and we are installing an accessible entry door soon! If you would like communion brought to you, please indicate that to someone near you in the pews and they will let a clergy person or Lay Eucharistic Minister know.

HOW ABOUT HEARING ASSISTANCE?

We can help there, too. We have a Hearing Loop that runs throughout the sanctuary. **You can turn your hearing aid to "T-Coil" or "Telecoil"** and the speakers will be directed through your aid.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Jennifer Adams, Rector
The Rev. Christopher Roe, Director of Spiritual Formation
Stephen Rumler-McClusky, Director of Music
Mary Miller, Parish Administrator
Nancy Rodgers, Finance Manager
Renee Krueger, Coordinator of Ministry Support
Alfonso Barajas, Maintenance Support

VESTRY MEMBERS

Karen Bylsma, Senior Warden
Abby Van Beek, Junior Warden
Dave Masselink, Treasurer
Holly Anderson, Clerk

Alan Babbitt, Communications
Allen Gradnigo, Finance and Endowment
Ed Hansen, Creation Care
Julia Hopkins-Melone, Spiritual Formation
Genia LaNore, Worship
Jeff Meyer, Congregational Care
Sally Reinink, Buildings and Grounds
Cherie Schmidt, Worship
Carolyn Stich, Outreach and Social Justice
Lynn Stubbs, Outreach and Social Justice

NOTICE OF STREAMING

Our 10:30am Sunday service is live-streamed each week on Facebook and YouTube. While most of the footage is of worship leaders, the congregation is shown, and audio from the sanctuary is heard. Children and people of all ages are visible in processing. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rev. Jen or Rev. Christopher.