

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA
CHORAL EUCHARIST



March 8, 2013

The Right Reverend Charles G. vonRosenberg
Celebrant

The Right Reverend Dr. J. Neil Alexander
Preacher

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
in the City of Charleston, South Carolina

Cover image: *Christ The True Vine*

Icon of the Cretan School, first half 15th century, tempera on gold and gesso on wood

- 1. The love of Jesus calls us
Our joyous praise to sing;
Our deeply felt thanksgivings
We now together bring,
For all God's many blessings,
Unasked yet still received,
And for the generations,
Who faithfully believed.
- 2. The love of Jesus calls us,
That we may always be
Companions on a journey,
Where all the world may see
That serving Christ is freedom
Which time does not destroy;
Where Christ's command is duty,
And every duty joy.

- 3. The love of Jesus calls us
To go where he would go,
To challenge all that limits,
To change, to learn, to grow,
To know that Christ has freed us,
That prisons are no more;
For those who seek his kingdom,
Christ opens every door.
- 4. The love of Jesus calls us
In swiftly changing days,
To be God's co-creators
In new and wondrous ways;
That God with men and women
May so transform the earth,
That love and peace and justice
May give God's kingdom birth.

Herbert O'Driscoll

THE WORD OF GOD

The Acclamation and Response

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: His mercy endures for ever.

The Collect for Purity

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.*

Kyrie

Festival Eucharist

Craig Phillips

Refrain (*sung by all*)

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Choir: Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

All: **Refrain**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in this diocese for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us to perceive in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

The First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-13

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and return not thither but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign which shall not be cut off.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

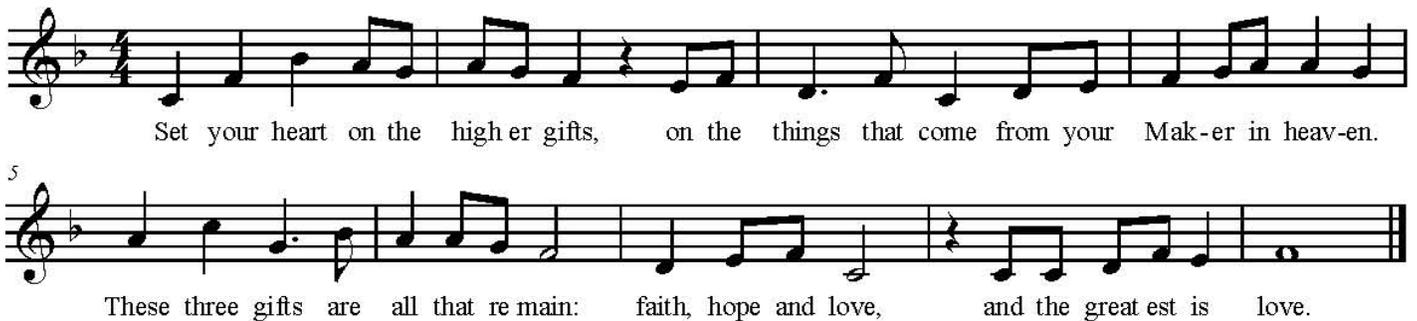
People: Thanks be to God.

Responsory

Set your heart on the higher gifts

Steven C. Warner

Refrain (*sung first by Cantor, then by all*)



Set your heart on the higher gifts, on the things that come from your Mak-er in heav-en.

5
These three gifts are all that remain: faith, hope and love, and the great est is love.

Cantor: If I speak with the tongues of the living,
and of angels, but speak without love,
I am only brass without song,
an empty noise on the wind.

All: **Refrain**

Cantor: And if I understand ev'ry myst'ry,
having wisdom, but think without love,
had I faith to scatter the hills,
I am nothing at all.

All: **Refrain**

Cantor: And if I should renounce all my riches,
feed the hungry, give over my life;
without love my profit is loss,
my caring finds no reward.

All: **Refrain**

The Second Reading: II Corinthians 4:5-10

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn

Sister, let me be your servant

Servant Song

1 Sis - ter, let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav - ellers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll

Christ to you; pray that I may have the
on the road; we are here to help each
of your fear; I will hold my hand out
laugh with you. I will share your joy and

grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Music and text: Richard Gillard

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-11

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Right Reverend Dr. J. Neil Alexander

A period of silent reflection is kept.

Please stand.

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

Celebrant: Lord God, as your church gathers in this Lenten season, grant that we may always manifest the life of him who emptied himself and took the form of a servant, and gave his life as a ransom for many.

Intercessor: Give the fullness of your grace to the Church and bless its witness and its ministry in every place. Support and strengthen Charles, our Bishop, Katharine our Presiding Bishop, and Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Father, establish peace and righteousness through all the earth; give to your children in every place the blessings of justice and freedom and wise and compassionate government: that human dignity may be accorded to all and the whole world sing to the glory of your name. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We pray for all those engaged in theological education and in preparing men and women for the ordained ministry. We ask your special blessing on Neil, Bishop in your church, and all those bringing leadership to our seminaries. Let your loving-kindness be upon them. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and will save those whose spirits are crushed: we pray for all who are in any kind of distress and affliction, that they may know that they are held in your love. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Lord, our times are in your hands. Make your face shine upon those who have gone from this world: show them your goodness in the land of the living. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord, you invited the beggars and the crippled, the lame and the blind, to eat and drink at your table and to feast in your kingdom; and lo, here we are. Grant us the grace to extend to others the same generosity you have shown to us; for you are our Lord, our God forever and ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: 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.

Absolution

Celebrant: 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

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please be seated.

Special Presentation

The Reverend Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II
President of the Standing Committee

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

God so loved the world

Bob Chilcott

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

Members of the congregation will present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

At the recommendation of the Convention Committee, the Offering from today's service will be dedicated to establishing a Discretionary Fund for the Bishop of this Diocese.

Presentation Hymn

Doxology

Rockingham

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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.

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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Picardy (arr. Patrick Webb)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of power and might,
7 heav'n and earth are full, full of your glo - - - ry. Ho -
13 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - - na, ho - san - na in the high -
19 est. Bless - ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
26 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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,

The Lord's Prayer *(said together)*

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

My flesh is food indeed

Ray W. Urwin

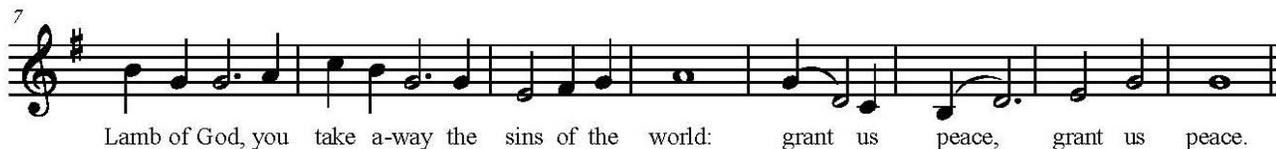
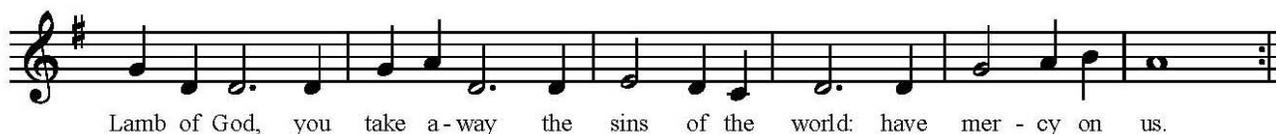
Cantor: My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.
All: My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.
Cantor: Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them.
All: My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Please be seated.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

Beckett Gerald Senchur



The Communion of the People

The Episcopal Church invites all baptized Christians of any age to the Lord's Table. To receive the consecrated Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. When receiving the Wine, please assist the chalice as it is offered; or, having consumed the Bread, you may return to your seat. We believe Christ fully present in either element. If you are not baptized, or if you prefer not to receive the Sacrament, you may ask for a blessing. If you wish to be baptized, please speak to a priest.

Gluten-free wafers are available. Please speak to a priest when you come forward for Communion.

Hymn*This day God gives me*

Bunessan

The congregation is invited to join in singing all the Communion Hymns.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. This day God gives me
Strength of high heaven,
Sun and moon shining,
Flame in my hearth,
Flashing of lightning,
Wind in its swiftness,
Deeps of the ocean,
Firmness of earth.</p> <p>2. This day God sends me
Strength as my guardian,
Might to uphold me,
Wisdom as guide.
Your eyes are watchful,
Your ears are list'ning,
Your lips are speaking,
Friend at my side.</p> | <p>3. God's way is my way,
God's shield is 'round me,
God's host defends me,
Saving from ill.
Angels of heaven,
Drive from me always
All that would harm me,
Stand by me still.</p> <p>4. Rising I thank you,
Mighty and Strong One,
King of creation,
Giver of rest,
Firmly confessing
Threeness of Persons,
Oneness of Godhead,
Trinity blest.</p> |
|---|--|

Anthem*Ubi caritas*

Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.
(Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity; God will dwell with you.)

Hymn 315*Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray*

Song I

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray
that all thy Church might be for ever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul, "Thy will be done."
O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.</p> <p>2. For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace;
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.</p> | <p>3. So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all thy Church above,
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
one with thy saints in one unbounded love;
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in Unity.</p> |
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W.H. Turton

Anthem*God be in my head*

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in my heart and in my thinking.
God be at mine end and at my departing.

Hymn*Father, who in Jesus found us*

Quem Pastores

1. Father, who in Jesus found us,
God, whose love is all around us,
Who to freedom new unbound us,
Keep our hearts with joy aflame.
2. For the sacramental breaking,
For the honor of partaking,
For your life our lives remaking,
Young and old, we praise your name.

3. From the service of this table
Lead us to a life more stable;
For our witness make us able;
Blessing on our work we claim.
4. Through our calling closely knitted,
daily to your praise committed,
for a life of service fitted,
Let us now your love proclaim.

Fred Kaan

Anthem*Ave verum corpus*

Edward Elgar

Ave verum corpus, natum ex Maria virgine.
Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,
Cuius latus perforatum, vero fluxit,
Esto nobis prægustatum mortis in examine.
O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariæ.

*Hail, true body born of the Virgin Mary,
Who truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for mortals,
Whose pierced side truly flowed with blood,
Be for us a foretaste (of heaven) in our final examining.
O merciful, O holy, O sweet Jesus, Son of Mary.*

*Please stand.***The Postcommunion Prayer** *(said together)*

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.

*Please be seated.***Convention: Call to Order****The Blessing****Processional Hymn***Lift high the cross*

Crucifer

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore His sacred Name.

3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw the world to Thee.

Refrain

1. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.

Refrain

4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory.

Refrain

2. Each newborn servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of Him Who died.

Refrain

5. Go now to live the life of love outpoured;
Go now, God's beloved, love and serve the Lord.

Refrain**The Dismissal**

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary*Praeludium Festiva (Sonata No. 1 in G Minor)*

René Becker

Please join us for a Reception in Hanahan Hall following the service.



The greens in the church are given to the Glory of God by the Flower Guild of Grace Episcopal Church



Service Participants

Celebrant

The Right Reverend Charles G. vonRosenberg
Bishop of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

Preacher

The Right Reverend Dr. J. Neil Alexander
Dean of the School of Theology
The University of the South

Deacon

The Reverend Fred Thompson

Music

St. Gregory Choir
Dr. Scott Bennett, Organist and Master of the Music
Steve Skardon, Cantor

St. Thomas Guild of Acolytes

Will Suggs, Bishop's Verger and Master of Acolytes
Robert Behre, Assistant Verger
Joseph Behre, Parker Chavis, Wilbert Suggs,
Mary Patterson Suggs, Shay Tompkins
Grace, Charleston

Ushers

Ian MacDonald, Captain;
Margaret MacDonald, Jim Callahan,
Barbara Mann, Dave Mann, Gary Tasker

Oblation Bearers

Annie vonRosenberg, Margriet Wright

Lectors

Kerry Grant
All Saints Hilton Head
Maggie Warren
St. Stephen's North Myrtle Beach

Intercessor

Rebecca Lovelace
St. Anne's, Conway

Ministers of Communion

The Venerable Calhoun Walpole, Archdeacon
The Reverend John Zahl
Grace, Charleston
The Reverend Mark Brinkmann
All Saints Hilton Head
The Reverend Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II
St. Stephen's, North Myrtle Beach

Chalice Bearers

Dale Tasker, Mac Magee,
Grace, Charleston
Scott Shaffer
St. Mark's, Port Royal
Judy Ingle
Holy Cross Faith Memorial, Pawleys Island

Tower Bells

St. Dunstan's Guild of Change Ringers

The Right Reverend Dr. J. Neil Alexander

J. Neil Alexander became Dean of the School of Theology at the University of the South in August 2012, previously having served as Chancellor of the University. From 2001 to 2012 he was the Ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta. At the time of his election, Bishop Alexander was the Norma and Olan Mills Professor of Divinity at the University and was priest in charge of St. Agnes' Church in Cowan, Tenn. Previously he served as the Trinity Church Professor of Liturgics and Preaching at The General Theological Seminary, New York City, while serving in a variety of parish settings. He has also taught at Yale, Drew and Wilfrid Laurier universities.

Bishop Alexander is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Moravian College, and the University of South Carolina. He earned a master of divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary and a doctor of theology in liturgics from The General Theological Seminary. He is the recipient of two honorary doctorates.

Bishop Alexander has served the wider church in a variety of capacities. He serves as president of the Board of Directors of the College for Bishops, as a regent of the University of the South, and as a member of the board of the Archives of the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Alexander is the author of *This Far by Grace: A Bishop's Journey Through Questions About Homosexuality*, as well a number of publications in the fields of liturgics, homiletics, sacramental theology and pastoral practice. He has led a number of pilgrimages and mission trips to dioceses in Africa and South America and is placing a special focus on relationships with global-south dioceses.

Welcome to Grace Church

We are glad you are with us this evening. The map on this page is designed to help you find your way around during your visit. Here are some quick facts that may be helpful:

Welcome: Baptized Christians of every age are invited to receive Holy Communion.

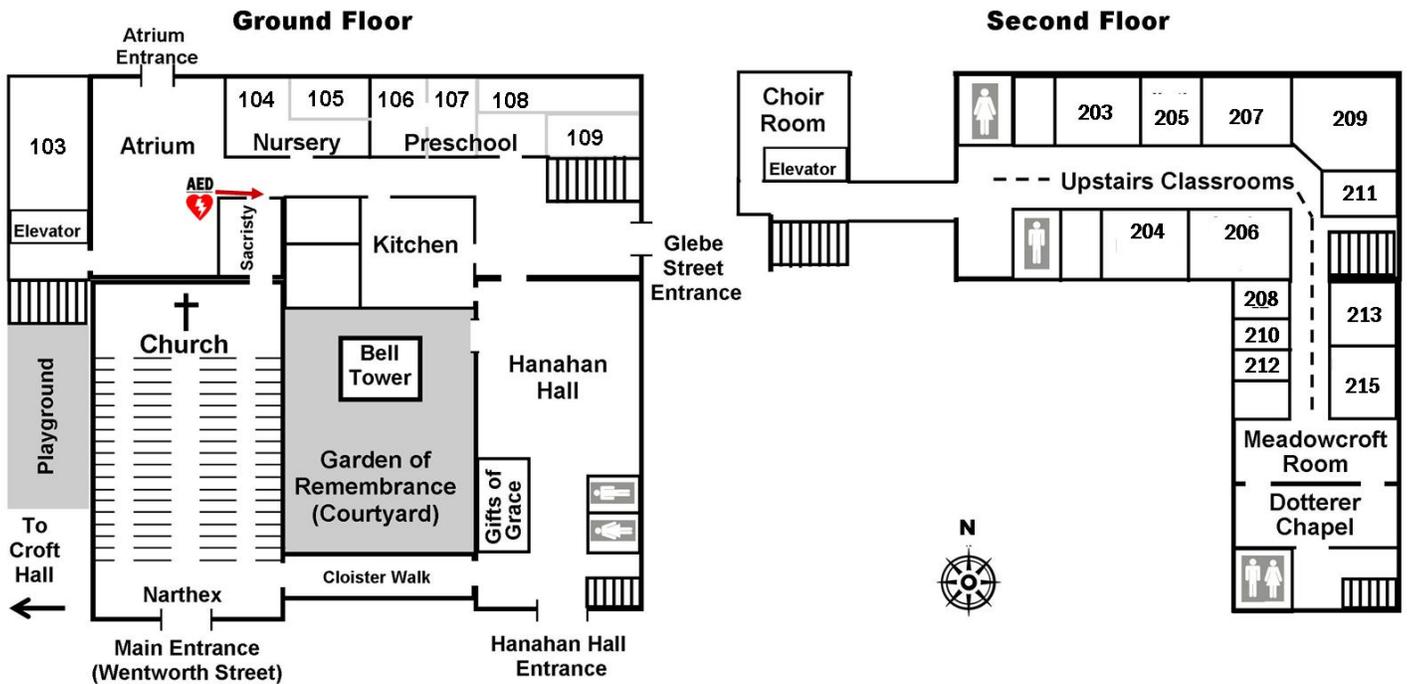
Persons with disabilities: If you would like to receive Communion but cannot come to the altar rail, please let an usher know so the Sacrament can be brought to you.

Parking: If you parked in a city garage, tear off the stub on the inside back page of this bulletin to give the attendant. You will not be charged for parking during our Sunday and Wednesday services.

Restrooms: Exit at the rear side doors near the baptismal font; walk along the covered cloister through the door into Hanahan Hall. Turn left, and the restrooms are on the right. Diaper changing facilities are in the nursery.

Church tours: A self-guided tour brochure of Grace Church is available from any usher.

Grace Episcopal Church (map not to scale)



FREE PARKING
Please present this stub when leaving the City of Charleston parking garages after today's services at Grace Episcopal Church and you will not be charged for parking.



The Episcopal Church in South Carolina
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(843) 259-2016
episcopalchurchsc.org