



Alex Lummell

Sunday, September 20, 2026

St. Titus' Episcopal Church
The Reverend Valerie J. Mayo, Rector
400 Moline Street—Durham NC 27707

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Welcome to St. Titus' Episcopal Church

Thank you for joining us for worship today. St. Titus' is a diverse community of faith where all people find home in Jesus and each other. We unite to transform the world to celebrate God.

No matter where you are on your journey of faith, and whether you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability. We believe that God delights in the diversity of creation and so do we!

We encourage you to get to know us better by visiting our website, www.sttitusdurham.org. As by God's grace we become more like Christ in his life of self-sacrificing love and service, we welcome you to the amazing adventure of participating with God through St. Titus' Church in changing our world for the better.

And please, take this bulletin home with you as a reference and reminder of your worship experience, the prayers we prayed and ask you to pray, and the upcoming program year events and activities.

Serving September 13, 2026	9:30 am
Celebrant	The Reverend Valerie J. Mayo
Speaker	Dr. Rheaya Willis
Lay Eucharistic Minister(s)	Patricia Valentine and Keith Bishop
First Lesson	Janelle Armstrong
Second Lesson	Cheryl Myers
Intercessor	Robyn Furges
Altar Guild	Robyn Furges and Lisa Barnes
Tech Team	Livio Carnera, Chuck Hennessee, Deborah DeBourg-Brown, Elijah Mayo-McMullen, Solomon Lester and Isabelle Lester
Ushers	Ken Valentine & Valerie Quiett

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Enriching Our Worship 1

Enriching Our Worship is a collection of liturgical resources approved for use in the Episcopal Church. These texts expand the language and imagery of our worship, drawing from deep theological traditions while embracing **inclusive** and **contemporary** expressions of faith. Today's liturgy reflects this commitment to honoring the **diversity** of God's people and the richness of God's creation.

Chorale Prelude

The Bidding Prayer

Celebrant

Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn (All sing, Standing)

Glad to Be in the Service

The Word of God

Opening Sentences

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant Together, let us pray:

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Gloria (Recited by all, Standing)

BCP, p. 356

**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.

The Collect of the Day (Standing)

Celebrant God be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for your servant Alexander Crummell, whom you called to preach the gospel to those who were far off and to those who were near: Raise up, in this and every land, evangelists and heralds of your kingdom, that your church may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

Invitation to Children's Chapel

We invite all children ages 3-11 to participate in the re-telling
of our biblical lessons, suited to their ages.

The First Lesson (Seated)

Ecclesiasticus 39:6-11

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus:

If the great Lord is willing, he will be filled with the spirit of understanding; he will pour forth words of wisdom of his own and give thanks to the Lord in prayer. The Lord will direct his counsel and knowledge, as he meditates on his mysteries. He will show the wisdom of what he has learned, and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant. Many will praise his understanding; it will never be blotted out. His memory will not disappear, and his name will live through all generations. Nations will speak of his wisdom, and

the congregation will proclaim his praise. If he lives long, he will leave a name greater than a thousand, and if he goes to rest, it is enough for him. [Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.]

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Song of Praise (Standing)

He's So Real

AAHH-#237

The Second Lesson (Seated)

James 1:2-5

A Reading from the letter of James:

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you. [Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.]

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn, AAHH-#563 (All sing, Standing)

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me

The Gospel Announcement (Standing)

Mark 4:21-25

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away." [The Gospel of our Savior.]

People **Praise to you, Jesus Christ.**

The Message

Rev. Valerie J. Mayo

Silent Reflection

The Nicene Creed (Spoken by All, standing)

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

Sisters and brothers, turn for help to the Lord your strength and constantly seek God's presence. Let us pray to our generous God, saying, "Lead us with gladness, O God; cover us with shouts of joy!"

Intercessor

Generous God, you have chosen us to do the work of your kingdom; you have called us to labor in your vineyard. With grateful hearts, we offer to you the best of what we have.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgiving, followed by silence.

Lead us with gladness, O God;
Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you hear the cry of the hungry. Give bread to all those who face starvation. Use us, as you will, to relieve suffering in our world.

Silence

Lead us with gladness, O God;
Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you make rivers run in dry places. You have blessed this earth with bountiful resources. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.

Silence

Lead us with gladness, O God;
Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, there is enough kingdom work for everyone. Give us eyes to see the opportunities in our own neighborhood. Guide us the we may live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Silence

Lead us with gladness, O God;
Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you hear the cries of the desperate. Marvelous are your works, O God. May the sick and suffering rejoice in you. May the sorrowful call upon your name.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence.

Lead us with gladness, O God;
Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, living is Christ and dying is gain. May those who now rest from their labors find their comfort in you. Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Silence

Lead us with gladness, O God;
Cover us with shouts of joy!

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Concluding Collect

Celebrant

Gracious and merciful God, who honors the last as well as the first, hear prayers we offer this day and welcome your people into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession

EOW, p 56

Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace (Standing)

Celebrant The peace of the Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us share the peace with one another and especially with our guests.

*During the Exchange of Peace, the people of God greet one another with
a wave, a holy bow, a handshake, a hug, or a peace sign.*

Words of Welcome

Vestry Member

Celebration of September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthday Prayer

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they celebrate another year on this side of life. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anniversary Prayer

O gracious and everliving God, look with favor upon those who celebrate the anniversary of their marriage. Continue to deepen their love for one another; grant them grace to honor and cherish each other in faithfulness and joy, and may their life together continue to bear witness to your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Instructions for Holy Communion and the Offertory

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion or a blessing from our clergy. If you are baptized and/or receive Communion in your home church, you also may receive Communion at St. Titus'. Full and complete Communion consists of both bread and wine OR bread only OR wine only. To decline one or both of the elements, simply cross your arms in front of your chest, and our clergy will offer a blessing. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

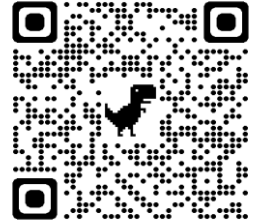
The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. *Amen.* The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. *Amen.*

Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Please let the Celebrant know your preference when you come to the Altar.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory (Seated)

The congregation remains seated during the singing of the Offertory Anthem and the bringing forth of our oblations and monetary gifts. Our thanks to our in-person and virtual worshippers for supporting our ministry. You can make an online donation here by following the QR code or by visiting our homepage: sttitusdurham.org. You can also mail a check to St. Titus' Episcopal Church at 400 Moline St., Durham, NC, 27707.



The Offertory

He Never Failed Me Yet

by Robert Ray

Eucharistic Prayer 2

EOW, 60

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant
We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

The Sanctus—*LEVAS II* #255

Holy, holy, holy, holy,
holy Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord, of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebration is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance me."

The Celebrant continues

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine. and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with [_____ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

LEVAS II #264

The Celebrant says

As our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say

**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

EOW, p.69

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Fraction Verse (All seated)

Lamb of God

LEVAS II #271

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to 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.

The Communion of the People of God

The Bread and cup are given to the communicants with these words:
The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. Amen.

Celebrant All are welcome to the Lord's table. Won't you come?

The ministers receive the Sacraments in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Communion Hymn, AAHH-#255

Lamb of God

Post Communion Prayer (Kneeling or Standing)

Celebrant Together, let us pray:

All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit; that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of

Christ our Savior. Amen.

Announcements (seated)

- **Ms. Mary Hawkins.** It is with a very heavy heart that we share the news of the passing of our beloved and treasured, long-standing member, **Mary Hawkins**. Details will be coming in the following days regarding her Celebration of Life service.
- **Christian Formation—Fall Lecture Series.** Beginning **Tuesday, September 15th**, we will join virtually on Zoom, from **7pm-8pm**, for a 4-week lecture series, sponsored by **Wake Forest Divinity School's Lilly Endowment Thriving Congregations Grant**. The Zoom link is in the weekly eNews.
- **September Vestry Meeting.** There will be an **in-person** Vestry Meeting at St. Titus' on **Thursday, September 17th**, from **6:30pm-8pm**.
- **Intergenerational Sunday.** In support of our **Let the Children Come Grant**, we are pleased to announce that we will be joined by **NCCU students**, during our **10:30am worship service**, who have been invited to share aspects of their spiritual formation.

Looking Ahead—Mark Your Calendars!

- **Tuesday, October 6th—National Night Out; Durham Police Headquarters, 6pm-8pm; Volunteers Needed!**
- **Saturday, October 10th—NCCU Homecoming Parade & Parking Lot Ministry; Candy Donations and Volunteers Needed**
- **Sunday, October 11th—Greek Celebration Day; ONE SERVICE at 9:30am**
- **Saturday, October 17th—Celebration of Life Service for Dennis S. Estes, Sr.; 12pm at St. Titus'**
- **Thursday, October 15th—Vestry Meeting; 6:30pm-8pm**
- **Thursday, October 22nd-Sunday, October 25th—Rev. Mayo away at TEC Sacred Ground Regional Gathering in Memphis, TN**
- **Saturday, October 31—2026 PMC Pauli Murray Pilgrimage; at St. Titus'; More info to come.**
- **Saturday, October 31—Trunk or Treat at St. Mark's AMEZ; Volunteers Needed**
- **Sunday, November 1—All Saints' Day at St. Titus**

The Blessing

Celebrant

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us along the way. So, let us be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and the blessing of God Almighty—Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn, AAHH-#131 (All sing, standing)

Guide My Feet

The Dismissal (Standing)

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People *Thanks be to God.*



Alexander Crummell, Priest 1898

Born March 3, 1819, in New York City, Alexander Crummell struggled against racism all his life. As a young man of color, he was driven out of an academy in New Hampshire, dismissed as a candidate for Holy Orders in New York, and rejected for admittance to General Seminary. Ordained in 1844 as a priest in the Diocese of Massachusetts, he left for England after being excluded from participating in diocesan convention.

After receiving a degree from Cambridge University, he went as a missionary to Liberia, where a model Christian republic seemed possible. The vision embraced by Crummell included European education and technology, traditional African communal culture, and a national Episcopal Church headed by a Black bishop. He traveled extensively in the United States, urging Black people to emigrate to Liberia and to support the work of the Episcopal Church there.

Upon returning to Liberia, he worked to establish a national Episcopal Church. Political opposition and a loss of funding finally forced him to return to the United States, where he concentrated his efforts on establishing a strong urban presence of independent Black congregations that would be centers of worship, education, and social service. When Southern bishops proposed that a separate missionary district be created for Black congregations, Crummell created a national convocation to defeat the proposal. The Union of Black Episcopalians is an outgrowth of that organization.

Crummell's ministry spanned more than half a century and three continents. Everywhere, at all times, he labored to prepare Black people and to build institutions that would serve them and provide scope for the exercises of their gifts in leadership and creativity. His faith in God, his perseverance in spite of repeated discouragement, his perception that the church transcended the racism and limited vision of its leaders, and his unfailing belief in the goodness and greatness of Black people are the legacy of this African American pioneer.

He died in Red Bank, New Jersey, in 1898.