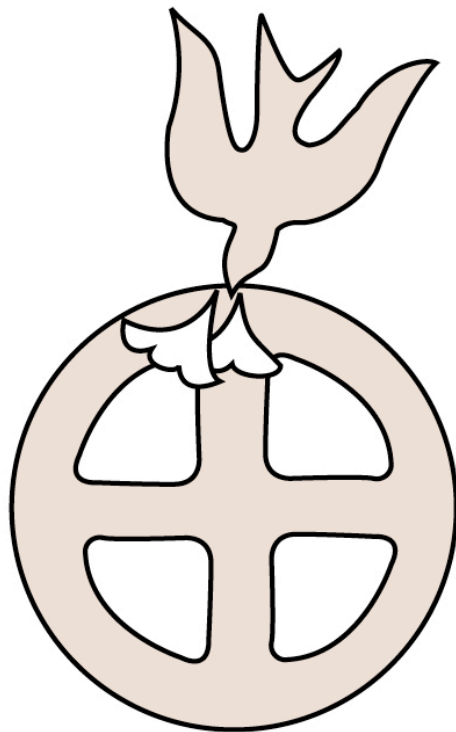


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



JANUARY 2, 2022

10:30AM
LIVE-STREAM

**VISION STATEMENT FOR
ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*The vision of St. Gregory the Great is to be a program-sized, culturally integrated parish,
proclaiming and loving like Jesus with varied worship, music, and outdoor spaces.*

**DIOCESE OF ATLANTA STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Adopted at Annual Council 2015**

*We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus as we:
Worship Joyfully; Serve Compassionately, and Grow Spiritually.*

Welcome visitors and newcomers! Please sign our guest book or fill out a pew card. If you would like to receive communications from St. Gregory's during the week, &/or our monthly newsletters, please visit our website at www.stgregoryathens.org and join our mailing list!

Large-Print Bulletins/Assistance. Please let an usher know if you would like a large-print bulletin or if you are unable to come to the altar for communion; the elements will be brought to you.

Contact us:

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm

Facebook : @stgregoryathens

stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553

3195 Barnett Shoals Road | Athens, GA 30605

To receive emails from us, visit www.stgregoryathens.org and click “Join Our Mailing List”.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite you to please silence your cell phones and to enter worship in stillness, silence, and reverence as we begin our service.

Prelude

Opening Hymn 497

How bright appears the Morning Star

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 351

Celebrant: *Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

Song of Praise 92

On this day earth shall ring

PERSONENT HODIE

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of / hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living / God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her / young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my / God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your / house! *
they will always be / praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in / you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' / way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of / springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of / water.
- 6 They will climb from height to / height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in / Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my / prayer; *
hearken, O God of / Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O / God; *
and look upon the face of your A-/nointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own / room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the / wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and / shield; *
he will give grace and / glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord with-/hold *
from those who walk with in-/tegrity.
- 12 O Lord of / hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in / you!

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called

you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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

Thanks be to God.

The people stand to sing and remain standing for the Gospel.

Sequence Hymn 709

O God of Bethel

DUNDEE

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Celebrant: *The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.*

People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Ellen Richardson

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

(said 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: 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form VI

BCP 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

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. We pray for our President, Joseph, our Governor, Brian, and our Mayor, Kelly.

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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Rob, Don, and Paul, our Bishops; (...)

and for all bishops and other ministers, especially Nikki, our priest, and Christina, our deacon;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for (...)

silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for (...)

silence

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. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

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

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 PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

arr. Craig Courtney

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown
When Thou camest to earth for me.
But in Bethlehem's home there was found no room
For Thy holy nativity.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus.
There is room in my heart for Thee!
Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming Thy royal degree.
But in lowly birth didst Thou come to earth
And in great humility.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee.
When the heav'ns shall sing and the angels sing
At Thy coming to victory,
Let Thy voice call me home, saying,
"Yet there is room, there is room at My side for Thee."
And my heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
And my heart shall rejoice when Thou comest and callest me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (*Here a Proper Preface is said*)

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 S-129

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Robert Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven 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.

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 Father,

*Celebrant and People: We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; 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 your sons and daughters; 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 Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

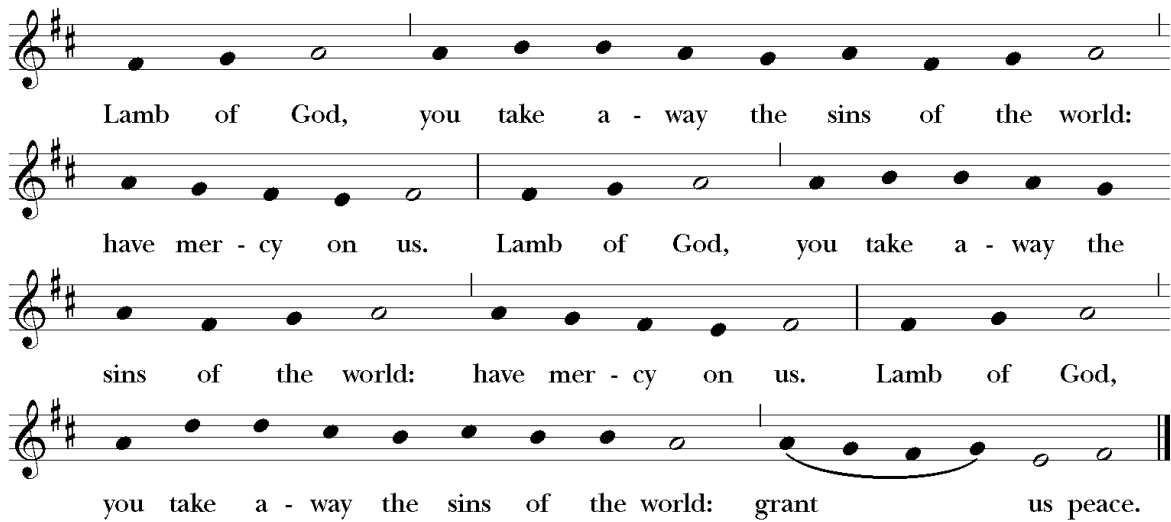
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

* Fraction Anthem S-161

Lamb of God

David Hurd



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Whoever you are and wherever you are in your journey of faith, know that you are welcome to join with us at God's table to share in the holy communion. If you would like to receive a blessing rather than the bread, cross your arms over your chest when the priest comes to you in the communion circle.

Communion Hymn 247

Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child

COVENTRY CAROL

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

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 93

Angels, from the realms of glory

REGENT SQUARE

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Postlude



Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Diane Barret, Brenda Browning, Carol Whitson, Tom Sturgis, Diane Miller, John Granrose, Tammy Bowman, Rose Ann Pace, John Gay, Cameron Steele, Nathan Parrish, Ed Spivey, Hannah Bennett, Anna Thornton, Sheryl King, Ellen Peck, Bill Alworth, Charles Thornton, James Morris, Tom Hiers, Jane Bowen, Marge Massey, Pat Irby, Pat Titus, Stephanie Gamble, Stephen Morris, Shelby Welch, Roger Swagler, Stanley Armour, Cindy Beagle, Bill Beagle, Sally Stuckey, Diane Holcomb, Stephen Corn, Ken Packer, Robby, Cecil, Brooke, Dianne, Peter, Jason, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, Buddy, Nicholas, Mike, and Margaret.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week: Scott Thornton, Mark Richardson, Bill Alworth, Katie Tavernier, Melissa Hamlin, Christina Dondero, Sybil Lott, Ellen Richardson, Emma Jones, and Danielle Vogt; **for those celebrating anniversaries:** Rob & Walker McNiff, and Anthony & Deborah Garner.

The people listed here are prayed for by name at each Sunday service. To request prayer for yourself or someone else, please call the office (706-546-7553). If at the beginning of the next month the person needs to remain on the list, please call and give the office an update.

COMING UP

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING | SUNDAY, JAN. 23

Join us for a celebration of the mission and ministries of St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, elections of new vestry members, on Sunday, January 23. The meeting will also include reports from the vestry and a presentation of the 2022 budget.

NOTES

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2022 flower dedication sign-up sheet is up in the Christian Education building. If you wish to dedicate flowers this year, please sign your name next to the date, and fill out one of the yellow-orange sheets hanging next to it and leave in Kendall's office. Suggested donation is \$35/dedication.

THE FLOWERS ON THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR ARE GIVEN

In Memory of

Dwayne & Thelma Coker, by Jeff & Shelby Welch
Bill & Evelyn Welch, by Jeff & Shelby Welch
John Rives, by Diane Barret
Mary Ellen Cherry, by Jenifer Marquardt
Paul Edmonston, by his wife, Elizabeth
Iris and Jack Moorhead, by Sheila Kelley
Jackie and Roy Kelley, by Sheila Kelley
Violeta Moore, by Sheila Kelley
Lucille West, by Jenifer Marquardt
Jack Beach, by Martha Beach
Conoly Hester
George Watson

In Thanksgiving for

Nathanial, Jenny, Charlie, and Hayden Welch, by Jeff & Shelby Welch
Toni and Wes Chapman, by Jeff & Shelby Welch
Amelia, Caley, Jeffery, & Kitty Ross, by Jeff & Shelby Welch
Our children and grandchildren, by John & Linda Barrett
My St. Gregory's Family, by Martha Beach
Robert Wright, by the Napoli Family

In Honor of

Evelyn Wright, by the Napoli family

Those Who Serve

Reader: Roger Schwenke
Vestry: John Bray
Flowers: Flower Guild
Altar Guild: Barbara Dean & Susanne Burton

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Nikki Mathis Rector
rector@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x2

The Rev. Christina Dondero Deacon
christinadondero@gmail.com | 404-918-7248

Kendall M. Kookogey Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper
office@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x1

Terri Tillman Website Master
ttillman@gmail.com

Jonathan Klein Music Director/Organist
jonathanfk@gmail.com | 706-296-8102

Joseph Napoli Choir Director
awn1984@att.net | 706-546-6638

Catherine Drewry Director of Children's Ministries
cbdrewry@gmail.com | 706-201-7241

Wade McGlamery Youth Minister
wmcglamery@gmail.com | 770-624-4837

Jude Red-Bear Nursery Director
juderedbear@yahoo.com | 706-614-0008

Mark Hein Buildings/Grounds
markehein@gmail.com | 706-549-3239

Allena Armour Sexton
allenaarmour57@yahoo.com | 706-614-3704

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Jude Red Bear

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator

Pete Nicholls Today's livestream volunteer

Vestry Members: Jane Hudson, *Sr. Warden*; Kelly Black, *Jr. Warden*; Julie Worley; LeeAnne Krause; John Bray; Anna Hiers; Blaine Everson; Eddie Bennett; Caley Ross; Chrissy Moffett, *Clerk*; Les House, *Treasurer*

Vestry Person of the Day/Week: John Bray johnpatrickbray@gmail.com



