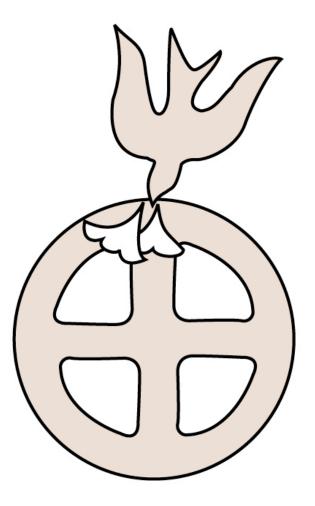
St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



April 24, 2022 Live Streamed on <u>YouTube</u>

10:30AM

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION *

What happens when you are spiritually prepared and desire to receive communion, but can't? Such a case is referenced by a paragraph in the 1979 Prayer Book:

If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability, is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.

A nation-wide shut down due to a pandemic fits, I'm sure we'll agree, with the words "by any other impediment" listed in the first Prayer Book. Our Lord will not cut us off from his grace. If we truly desire him, he will come to us, even if we cannot receive the Sacraments he has instituted so that we may receive his grace. This is not a new idea. St Thomas Aquinas, writing nearly 800 years ago, said:

before receiving a sacrament, the reality of the sacrament can be had through the very desire of receiving the sacrament. Accordingly, before actual reception of this sacrament, a man can obtain salvation through the desire of receiving it, just as he can before Baptism through the desire of Baptism, as stated above (Summa, III.73.iii)

Desiring to receive the spiritual grace of the Most Holy Eucharist (and being prevented from receiving it sacramentally) is known as Spiritual Communion. It is so very important to note that this gift is given to us when we cannot, for very good reason, be present at mass.

When you are watching a live-stream or recording of our liturgies, any of the following prayers may be said at the moment of communion when you would normally leave your pew and make your journey to the altar:

In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from You. Let me live and die in Your love. Amen.

OR

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 I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I 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 I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. (from Enriching Our Worship 2)

OR

"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already in my heart and unite myself to you completely. Please do not let me ever by separated from you." (by St. Alphonsus Liguori)

*Except where otherwise indicated, the whole of this article (with only very little amendment) is taken from the website of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where it was posted on April 5, 2020. No author was specified.

THE HOLY VIRTUAL EUCHARIST

The Second Sunday of Easter

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Carillon on "Gelobt sei Gott"

Charles Callahan

We invite you to please silence your cell phones and to enter worship in stillness, silence, and reverence during the Prelude, which begins our service.

Processional Hymn 205

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

GELOBT SEI GOTT



OPENING ACCLAMATIONCelebrant:Alleluia! Christ is risen!People:The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

BCP 351

BCP 355



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

Psalm 150

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy / temple; * praise him in the firmament of his / power. 2 Praise him for his mighty / acts; *
- praise him for his excellent / greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the / ram's-horn; * praise him with lyre and / harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and / dance; * praise him with strings and / pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding / cymbals; * praise him with loud-clanging / cymbals. 6 Let everything that has / breath *

praise the Lord. Halle-/lujah!



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Revelation 1:4-8

THE SECOND READING John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every every every will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be, Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

Sequence Hymn 58

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

ST. THOMAS



THE GOSPEL

Celebrant:The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to John.People:Glory to you, O Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Nikki Mathis

THE NICENE CREED

(said by all)

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 III

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, especially Michael, Rob, and Don, and all priests and deacons, especially Nikki and Christina;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. ...

We give special thanks for ...

The Celebrant adds a Collect.

BCP 383

BCP 358

THE PEACECelebrant:The peace of Christ be always with you.People:And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Easter Alleluias

Alleluia! He is arisen from the grave. Alleluia! Where have they taken my Jesus? Where have they taken my Lord? He is arisen from the grave. Alleluia! Death is swallowed up in death. See the tomb is empty now. Alleluia! He is arisen from the grave. Alleluia!

Presentation Hymn 400

Doxology

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D

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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

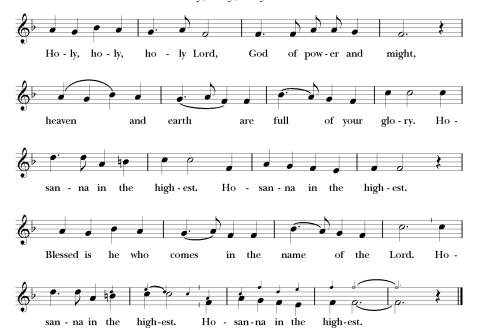
Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

John Behnke

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

BCP 372

Holy, holy, holy Lord



Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Gregory and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

Healey Willan

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-158 O Lamb of God 0 Lamb of God, that ta - kest a a σ the the world, wav sins of have mer - cy up God, \mathbf{on} us. 0 Lamb of that ta - kest а way the sins of the world, have mer - cy us. O Lamb of up on God, that the of the ta - kest а way sins world, grant us thy peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Solo

Meditation on "Christians, to the Paschal Victim"

Charles Callahan

Communion Hymn 203

O sons and daughters, let us sing!

O FILII ET FILIAE



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Enriching Our Worship 2

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 I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I 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 I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Recessional Hymn 209

We walk by faith

ST. BOTOLPH



THE DISMISSAL

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

Postlude

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Ann Darby, Dan Nolen, Jr., Jamaica Miller, Diane Barret, Brenda Browning, Becky Thomas, Carol Whitson, Tom Sturgis, Diane Miller, John Granrose, Martha Beach, Tammy Bowman, Rose Ann Pace, John Gay, Cameron Steele, Nathan Parrish, Ed Spivey, Hannah Bennett, Anna Thornton, Sheryl King, Ellen Peck, 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, Melissa, Karyna, Ben, Byron, Andi, Jennie, Benedict, Patrick, Pam, Robby, Cecil, Brooke, Jim, Dianne, Peter, Jason, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, Buddy, Nicholas, Mike, and Margaret.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Riley Byers, Jane Hudson, Ian Van Giesen, Paige Lowe, Geneva Preston, Ron Balthazor, and Linda Morris; and for those celebrating anniversaries: Sarah Gordon & Betty Littleton, and Ron Balthazor & Jane Hudson.

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.

TODAY

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING |12PM

The Pastoral Care Committee will meet in the library today, immediately following the 10:30AM service.

THIS WEEK

TAIZÉ EVENING PRAYER | WEDS., APRIL 27

Join us this Wednesday evening at 6PM in the sanctuary as we resume our Taizé evening prayer service IN PERSON!

COMING UP ...

POETRY + 2 | SATURDAY, MAY 7

Please join us for a poetry reading from our new books! Rebecca Baggett's *The Woman Who Lives Without Money* (Regal House Publishing) and Sarah Gordon's *The Lost Thing* (Mercer University Press) both appeared in March of 2022, and we are eager to share our work with the St. Gregory community. The joint reading will be held in the Parish Hall at 7:00 on May 7, and it's free and open to the public. Hey, even if you think you don't like poetry, we'll convert you! Note that we are not allowed to sell our books at the reading, but they are both available in local bookstores, on bookshop.org, and Amazon. Please wear masks.

MONTHLY PARISH MOVIE NIGHT! | FRIDAY, MAY 20

Join us as we bring back the monthly parish movie night! Movie nights will be held on the third Friday of each month and begin at 7pm. Our first movie night will be May 20th and we will be showing the 1985 classic, *Back to the Future*!

BLINDSPOT MOVIE NIGHT | FRIDAY, MAY 27

Calling all those in our Blindspot (20s and 30s)! Join us at University 16 cinemas to see Dr. Strange: Multiverse of Madness!

YOUTH GAME NIGHT | SATURDAY, JUNE 4

All youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to a monthly game night in the youth room at 6pm on the first Saturday of each month, beginning on June 4th. Come, bring your friends and a favorite snack!

NOTES

BLINDSPOT GROUP CHAT

Send your name and phone number to Wade McGlamery at 770-624-4837 to be added to the group chat for our 20s and 30s group! Make sure you have downloaded WhatsApp.

EASTER LILIES

Those of you who dedicated lilies, please take them home, or to someone who might enjoy them!

BREAD BAKERS

You may have noticed we no longer are using Styrofoam wafers during Communion. Lane Norton and Brad Hankins have been baking bread for us to use as Communion bread. If you enjoy baking and have 2 hours a month you would like to smell fresh baked bread, consider joining Lane and Brad as we eliminate Styrofoam from our environment. Each baker would supply bread one Sunday per month. If you are interested, contact Brad at bhankinsjr@outlook.com or 706-255-2313.

USHERS NEEDED

Now that we are back to worshiping in person (yay!), Saint Gregory's is in need of volunteers to serve as ushers during our 10:30AM service. Additionally, we need a kind soul to serve as a coordinator for the ushers. If you would like to volunteer, and/ or coordinate, please contact Anna Hiers, vestry liaison to the Worship Committee, at Email: <u>aldhiers@gmail.com</u>, or 706-340-9799. Training will be provided.

COFFEE HOUR

Join us today after the service for our weekly coffee hour! Grab a coffee, tea, or hot chocolate, and a light snack. Come get to know some of the St. Gregory community! If you are able to host or bring a baked item for a future coffee hour, contact Melissa or Catrina to sign up. A sign up sheet will also be posted at the event.

Melissa Hamlin- melmariehamlin@gmail.com - 8AM service ; Catrina King - Catrina.anirtac@gmail.com - 10:30AM service

Those Who Serve

Readers: Ron Balthazor (8AM) Jenifer Borg (10:30AM) EMs: Barbara Kuhn, June Ball Crucifers: Wade McGlamery & Roger Schwenke Torches: Philip Scottright & Anna Thornton Vestry: LeeAnne Krause Flowers: Kris Braman Altar Guild: Jenifer Marquardt & Carol Schwenke Counters: Stacie Court & Angela Greene Livestream: Alec Nelson

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 WebMaster *ttillman@gmail.com*

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

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

Doug Adkins Director of Children's Ministries *jdadkins@hotmail.com* | 706-474-4784

Wade McGlamery Youth Minister wwmcglamery@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

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Jude Red Bear

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

Vestry Members: Eddie Bennett; John Bray; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Blaine Everson; Anna Hiers; Jane Hudson; LeeAnne Krause; Lane Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson; Caley Ross; Chrissy Moffett, *Clerk*; Les House, *Treasurer*

Vestry Person of the Day/Week: LeeAnne Krause leeAnne Krause@verizon.net