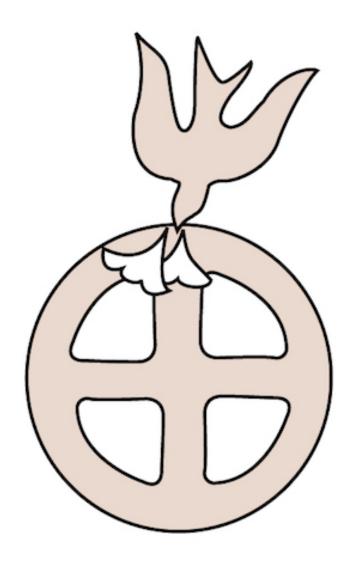
St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



FEBRUARY 19, 2023 Live Streamed on <u>YouTube</u>

10:30АМ

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 Last Sunday after the Epiphany

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Sarabande, from Suite No. 1 in G Major Eunice Kang, cello J. S. Bach

Processional Hymn 461

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

ALLELUIA



OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

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

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.

* Gloria S-280 Glory to God Robert Powell



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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 Exodus 24:12-18

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy

1 The Lord is King; let the people / tremble; *

he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth / shake.

2 The Lord is great in / Zion; *

he is high above all / peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and / awesome; *

he is the / Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established / equity; *

you have executed justice and righteousness in / Jacob.'

5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his / footstool; * he is the / Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his / Name, *

they called upon the Lord, and he / answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of / cloud; *

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he / gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them in-/deed; *

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil / deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy / hill; *

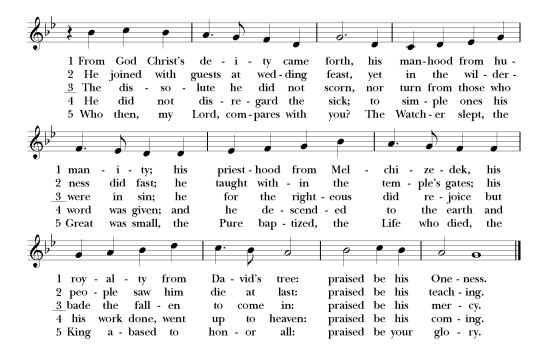
for the Lord our God is the / Holy One.

THE SECOND READING 2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL Matthew 17:1-9

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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 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, Rob, Paul, and Don, our Bishops; (...) and for all bishops and other ministers, priests, deacons, and clergy associates, especially Lin, Dutton, Carol, Ellen, Christina, Doug, & Nikki;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for (...) Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

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.

The Celebrant adds a Collect.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

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

Celebrant and People: 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.

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 Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Come Find His Rest

arr. Dan Forrest Come weary one, leave thy labors;

come, lift thy head, see thy Savior and Friend. His arms are opened wide; O soul, be satisfied. Come find his rest.

Take his yoke upon thee, for he is gentle and lowly in heart. So learn from Christ the Lord, thy Portion and Reward.

Come find his rest.

Come, weary one, lift thy head,

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast." I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad. Take his yoke upon thee, for he is gentle and lowly in heart. So learn from Christ the Lord, thy Portion and Reward.

Come find his rest.

"Come unto me and rest. Come".

Christina LaFontaine, soprano

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.

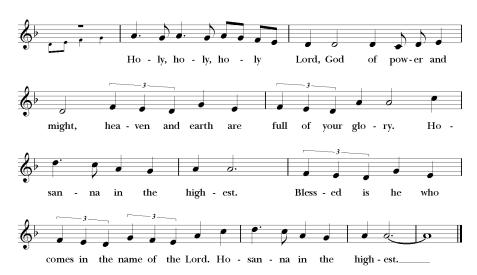
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface is said)

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



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

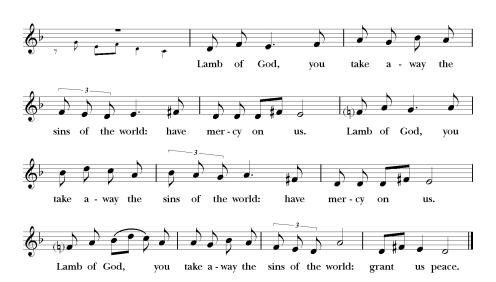
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

* Fraction Anthem S-163

Lamb of God

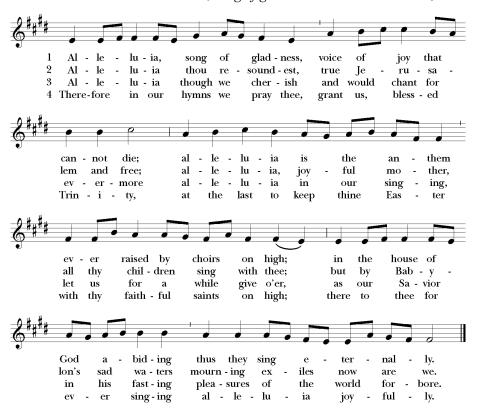
Robert Powell

BCP 364



THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Mowsley



Communion Hymn 129

Christ upon the mountain peak



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

BCP 366

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 137

O wondrous type!

WAREHAM



THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Sonata in D Major, "Kirchen" W. A. Mozart

Ť

Special thanks to Rogelio Bonilla (viola), Alexis Boylan (violin), Eunice Kang (cello), Christina LaFontaine (soprano), and Sean Smith (violin) for all their music today!

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Don Musholt, Harry Stooksbury, Billy Hale, Bill Alworth, Ray Hoover, Stephen Morris, Barbara Johnson, Sue Bush, Janice Rusk, Jennifer Polzin, Susan Williams, Dan Williams, Pat MacKinnon, Shelby Welch, Don Downie, Olivia Carlisle, Angie Defalco, Ken Packer, Ben, Mobley, Scott, and Lynn.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Madeleine Lewis, Cedric Van Giesen, Wade McGlamery, Porter Welch, John Barrett, Mark Goodwin, Paula Sanford, Gail Eilers, and Sonia Vail; and for those celebrating anniversaries: Brad & Karen Hankins.

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

COMMITTAL SERVICE FOR LIEF CARTER | SUNDAY, FEB. 19

The committal service for Lief Carter will be held in our memorial garden on Sunday, February 19 @ 2:30PM followed by a celebration at the Botanical Garden Terrace Room at 3PM.

THIS WEEK

ASH WEDNESDAY | FEB. 22

Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday, February 22. We will have 2 services this year: 12 noon and 6PM. Childcare will be provided at the 6PM service.

LABYRINTH | FEB. 22 - MARCH 4

The cloth labyrinth will be out in Parish Hall from Wednesday, Feb. 22 through Saturday, March 4. Please come and walk the labyrinth at your leisure, when other events are not going on in Parish Hall.

LENT

SEVEN DEADLY SINS IN MEDIA | WEDS. in LENT

Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

If you need childcare, you must let the office (Kendall) know by the Monday prior to the Wednesday you are attending the class, or just let her know by February 27 if you know you will need childcare for all 5 Wednesdays.

This Lent, LeeAnne Krause will be reprising the "Seven Deadly Sins in Media" class that was so rudely interrupted by COVID in 2020. Reflection and repentance are cornerstone disciplines during the holy season of Lent, but how do we accomplish this? How do we identify shortcomings in our own behavior? The ancient grouping of objectionable sins into the "Seven Deadly Sins" is a useful framework to begin this practice. We will be discussing the sins themselves, defining them and identifying common manifestations. Then we will watch video clips from feature films, TV, YouTube, and even cartoons, discussing the behaviors of the characters, identifying which, if any, sins they are committing. Examining the behaviors of fictitious characters is more objective and friendly than criticizing each other in the first or second person. Don't worry, we won't be watching anything very racy or violent! If you have any questions, contact LeeAnne Krause (leeanne.krause@verizon.net), Ellen Richardson (ellenrichardson52@gmail.com), or Ron Balthazor (ron.balthazor@gmail.com).

Choir will begin at 7:30 during Lent so that choir members can participate in the study.

5:30 Stations of the Cross 6:00 Healing Service w/ Holy Eucharist 6:00 Simple supper in the Education Building 6:30 Lenten Program 7:30 Choir practice

STATIONS OF THE CROSS | WEDNESDAYS @ 5:30PM

Wednesdays March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, & April 5 @, 5:30PM in the Sanctuary

The stations mark Jesus' journey through the streets of Jerusalem from his arrest and trial to his crucifixion and burial. At each station, we pause for a brief reading and prayer.

COMING UP ...

CONFIRMATION CLASSES | BEGIN MARCH 5

Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, March 5, immediately following the 10:30AM service. We will meet in the Parish Hall. If you're interested in being confirmed, reaffirmed, received, or an adult wishing to be baptized, please come! We'll meet for 6 weeks: March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 16, & 23.

WARRIOR WOMEN SPARK COMMUNITY CONVERSATION | SAT., MARCH 11

The Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies and the Jeannette Rankin Foundation will host a community conversation on Saturday, March 11 at the University of Georgia's Special Collections Library. This community conversation is sparked by artist Alice Woodruff's recent exhibition *Warrior Women: From Invisible to Formidable One Hundred Strong* depicting the stories and experiences of one hundred formidable women.

At the event, a selection of the sculptures from the Warrior Women exhibition will be on display starting at 1 p.m. After a brief lecture by Woodruff at 2 p.m., a panel featuring Patricia Richards, Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies and director of UGA'S Institute for Women's; Joan Prittie, Executive Director of Project Safe Domestic Violence Center and Instructor in UGA's Institute for Nonprofit Management and Leadership and the Masters in Public Administration program; and Tracy Brown, the subject of one of Woodruff's Warrior Women sculptures and Shelter Coordinator for the Athens Area Homeless Shelter (AAHS), will explore themes from the exhibition.

The warrior women community conversation will be held Saturday, March 11 from 1-4 p.m. at the Richard B. Russell Building, Special Collections Libraries, University of Georgia 300 South Hull Street, Athens, GA. The artist and panelists will participate in a Q&A with the audience. A light reception will follow.

ADULT DISCUSSION CLASS | PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2

The Right Rev. Porter Taylor (retired) will be here at the 9:15AM adult discussion group in the parish hall on Palm Sunday to do a reading and book signing for his new book, *Are You Persuaded? In and Out of Being a Bishop.*

NOTES

FAMILY PROMISE

Thanks to so many for donating to the Family Promise Amazon wishlist! The program director Madison Saunders told me that a number of you have participated in this request. Now, a new request: Because several churches have dropped out of the program, we will get four weeks in 2023, these are: March 5-12; April 30-May 7; August 13-20, and November 12-19. Please put these in your calendars and look for a signup genius as our first week gets closer. You can also email Annette Bates at bateskannette@gmail.com to let her know of your interest in participating. There is no longer a need for transportation, only for meals and evening, overnight and weekend hosts. It's so good to be in community with you who are so generous with your time and talents!

DISMANTLING RACISM TRAINING SCHEDULE

The 2023 Dismantling Racism Training schedule is available. This class is required for all parish clergy and all lay leaders, including vestry members. We also recommend taking the class every three years. Visit https://www.centerforracialhealing.org/ training for the training schedule.

FROM THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE

If you are a visitor or newcomer, welcome. Please help us get to know you. Please fill out a visitor card (found on a nave chair back or in the narthex track rack) and place it in the alms basin (collection plate).

Those Who Serve

Vestry: Mark Richardson

Readers: Michael Castengera (8AM); Wade McGlamery

(10:30AM)

EMs: June Ball & Jane Hudson Crucifers: Rainsly Vogt & Ethan Vogt

Torches: Jeffery Ross & Karlee Bethune

Flowers: MaryAnn Cox

Altar Guild: Anna Thornton & Nancy Watson

Ushers: Bill & Lois Alworth

Counters: Katie Hein & Lois Alworth

Livestream: Ron Balthazor

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. Kookogev Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

office@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x1

Jonathan Klein Music Director/Organist

jonathanfk@gmail.com | 706-296-8102

Joseph Napoli Choir Director

awn1984@att.net | 706-546-6638

The Rev. 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

 $jude redbear@icloud.com \mid 706\text{-}614\text{-}0008$

Mark Hein Buildings/Grounds

markehein@gmail.com | 706-549-3239

Terri Tillman WebMaster

ttillman@gmail.com

Danielle Vogt Coffee Host

danielle1784@gmail.com

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator

anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Jude Red Bear, Danielle Lyle, Megan Reuter, Allie Weaver

Vestry Members: Kate Avinger; John Barrett; John Bray; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Blaine Everson; Anna Hiers; LeeAnne Krause; Lane

Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson; Shelby Welch; Anna Thornton, Clerk; Les House, Treasurer

Vestry Person of the Day/Week: Mark Richardson mrichsn@gmail.com