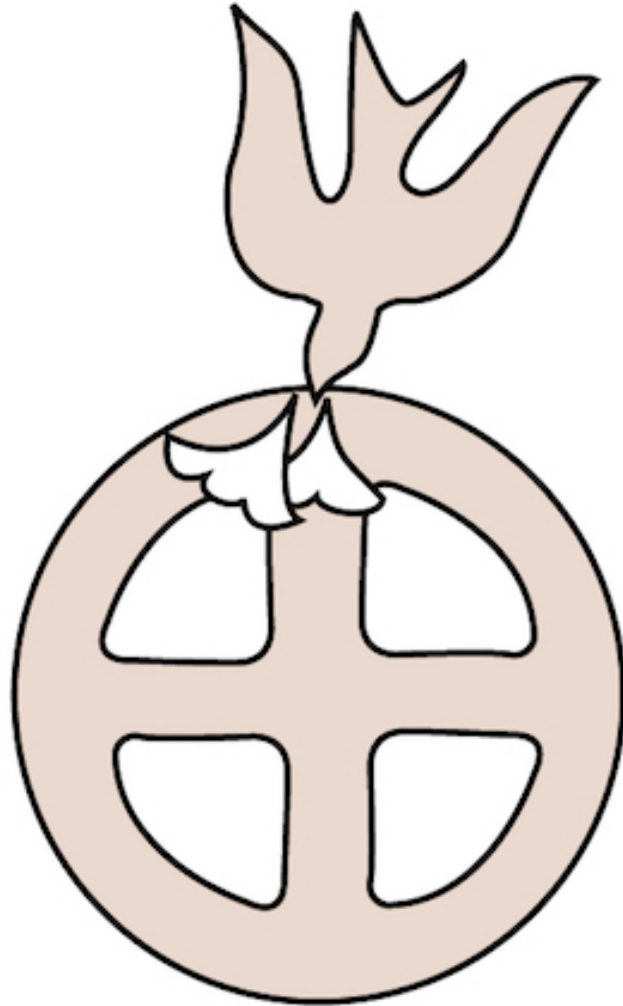


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



FEBRUARY 25, 2024
LIVE STREAMED ON YOUTUBE

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 be 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 Lent

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Lenten Sarabande

Eric H. Thiman

Silent processional

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

OPENING SENTENCES

BCP 351

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

THE DECALOGUE *(please kneel if you are able)*

BCP 350

Celebrant: Hear the commandments of God to his people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not commit murder.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not steal.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not be a false witness.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

The Celebrant continues

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *(Mark 12:29-31)*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 352

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister 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.**

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of people.

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

Psalm 22:22-30

© 1978, James Frazier.

- 22 Praise the Lord, you that / fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give / glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his / face from them; *
but when they cry to him he / hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great as-/sembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who / worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall / praise him: *
"May your heart live for / ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the / Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow be-/fore him.

- 27 For kingship belongs to the / Lord; *
 he rules over the / nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in / worship; *
 all who go down to the dust fall be-/fore him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall / serve him; *
 they shall be known as the Lord's for / ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet un-/born *
 the saving deeds that he has / done.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

Sequence Hymn 145

Now quit your care and anxious fear

QUITTEZ, PASTEURS

THE GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

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

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

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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 I

BCP 383

The people's response to "*let us pray to the Lord*" is "**Lord, have mercy.**"

Final petition: *In the communion of Mary, Gregory, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. To thee, O Lord our God.*

The Celebrant adds a Collect.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

Malcolm Archer

Thanks be to thee, our Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which thou hast given us,
for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us.
O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
may we know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly.
Amen.

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 (say),

* **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 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

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-169

My flesh is food indeed

Ray W. Urwin

The musical score is written on four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. It starts with a whole rest followed by a double bar line with repeat dots. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -". The second staff continues the melody with a first ending bracket over the notes "My Lord." and a second ending bracket over "Those who eat my". The lyrics are: "deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my". The third staff continues with the lyrics: "flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My". The fourth staff concludes the piece with the lyrics: "flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord." The score includes performance directions: "Cantor or Choir" above the first staff, "All" above the first ending of the second staff, "Cantor or Choir" above the second ending of the second staff, and "All" above the third staff.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Hymn 10

New every morning is the love

KEDRON

1 New ev - ery morn - ing is the love
 2 New mer - cies, each re - turn - ing day,
 3 If on our dai - ly course our mind
 4 Old friends, old scenes, will love - lier be,
 5 The tri - vial round, the com - mon task,
 6 On - ly, O Lord, in thy dear love,

1 our wak - ening and up - ris - ing prove;
 2 a - round us ho - ver while we pray;
 3 be set to hal - low all we find,
 4 as more of heaven in each we see;
 5 will fur - nish all we ought to ask:
 6 fit us for per - fect rest a - bove;

1 through sleep and dark - ness safe - ly brought,
 2 new per - ils past, new sins for - given,
 3 new trea - sures still, of count - less price,
 4 some soft - ening gleam of love and prayer
 5 room to den - y our - selves; a road
 6 and help us, this and ev - ery day,

1 re - stored to life and power and thought.
 2 new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.
 3 God will pro - vide for sac - ri - fice.
 4 shall dawn on ev - ery cross and care.
 5 to bring us dai - ly near - er God.
 6 to live more near - ly as we pray.

Communion Hymn 654

Day by day

SUMNER

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
 to see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,
 fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.

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

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.

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn 665

All my hope on God is founded

MICHAEL



1 All my hope on God is found - ed; he doth still my
2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -
3 God's great good - ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep his wis - dom
*4 Dai - ly doth the al - might - y Giv - er boun - teous gifts on
5 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of

1 trust re - new, me through change and chance he
2 tray our trust; though with care and toil we
3 pass - ing thought: splen - dor, light, and life at -
4 us be - stow; his de - sire our soul de -
5 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es

1 guid - eth, on - ly good and on - ly true. God un -
2 build them, tower and tem - ple fall to dust. But God's
3 tend him, beau - ty spring - eth out of nought. Ev - e -
4 ligh - teth, plea - sure leads us where we go. Love doth
5 prais - ing for the gift of Christ, his Son. Christ doth

1 known, he a - lone calls my heart to be his own.
2 power, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tower.
3 rmore from his store new-born worlds rise and a - dore.
4 stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his com - mand.
5 call one and all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



About today's music...

The famous German hymn writer Joachim Neander (1650-1680) drew his inspiration for this text from I Timothy 6:17: "Do not set your hopes on uncertain riches, but on God who richly furnishes us with everything to enjoy." The extraordinary prominence of Neander in his time is attested to by the fact that his name was used to identify the remains of a cave man found near his home on the Rhine - "Neanderthal man." Neander's text was paraphrased by England's Poet Laureate, Robert Bridges (1844-1930), for inclusion in a hymnal he was preparing for his own parish choir.

Herbert Howells (1892-1983) wrote the tune "Michael" for these words at the suggestion of a friend. Howells later related that he received this request in the morning mail and composed the tune on the spot at the breakfast table where he was sitting when he opened the letter. It is named in memory of Howell's son, Michael, who died in childhood.

Don't forget to turn in your vote on which physical improvements to our church are most important to you!
The ballot box and blank voting forms are in the narthex;
or mail them to the church office

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Janet Wright, Billy Hale, Kyra Madden, Eddie Bennett, Mary Burkett, Jim Klippel, Jackie Dorsey, Denise Glynn, Mike Fowler, Cecil Hudson, Jean Estes, Elmer Clark, Shelby Welch, Nancy Carter, Randy Harrelson, Teri Bouknecht, Kara Russe, Ellen Kappel, David Kirshenblatt, Cayden Mitchell, Bill Alworth, Stephen Morris, Barbara Johnson, Sue Bush, Janice Rusk, Jennifer Polzin, Susan Williams, Pat MacKinnon, Don Downie, Angie Defalco, Ken Packer, Donna, Michael, Rachel, Christy, Rosina, Eliot, Patricia, Ben, Scott, and Lynn.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week: Ben Barkdoll, Rainsly Vogt, Rachel Hoover, Emma Gibbs, Nancy Watson, Sami Johnson, and David DeJoy; **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

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Parish Life Committee meeting in the library right after the 10:30AM service. All are welcome to join!

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

The Outreach Committee will meet in the office next to Kendall's right after the 10:30AM service. Anyone is welcome to join!

THIS WEEK

LENTEN PROGRAM | FEB. 21 - MARCH 20

Adult Spiritual Formation will be offering a Wednesday evening program for Lent. The wonderful Matt Rogers will once again be leading us in Bibliodrama, this time in an exploration of the Psalms. Wednesday evenings 2/21-3/20, 6:30PM for a simple supper with the program to follow at 7PM.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS | WEDNESDAYS @ 5:30PM

Wednesdays February 21, 28, & March 6, 13, 20, & 27 @ 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.

YOUTH DnD NIGHT | FRIDAY, MARCH 1

We are holding another Youth DnD Night on March 1st at 7PM, in the youth room. Snacks and drinks will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorites. Even if you've never played before, come join us, we'd be happy to teach you! If you have any questions, contact Wade directly (770-624-4837) or reach out on the youth Discord server.

COMING UP...

FAMILY PROMISE | MARCH 17-24

For 2024, we will have new opportunities to better the lives of the temporarily homeless families in the program. Our next week is March 17-24. As our week gets closer, we will have more information about the families and their needs. Here's what we have so far:

1. Make/purchase an evening meal on Tuesday, March 19, by 6:30 p.m.; for two families who are living in two separate parts of the same duplex, to be done by either one or two volunteers.
2. Transport families to and from the First Baptist Day Center on Saturday, March 23, tentative times 12:45-1:00 p.m. and/or 5:45-6:00 p.m. using the Family Promise van.

3. Be available at the First Baptist Day Center on Saturday, March 23 to help families as they do their laundry there, tentative times 1:00-6:00 p.m.

4. Plan and help with an activity for the children at the First Baptist Day Center on Saturday, March 23 sometime during the afternoon with other volunteers.

As we get more information, it will be published. The Day Center is located in First Baptist Church downtown. Park behind the church and head toward the door marked Family Promise on the far right hand side of the building as you face it. Questions? Annette Bates at bateskannette@gmail.com.

FAMILY PROMISE TRAINING

If you plan to volunteer for Family Promise, there is training available to help you be more comfortable with the program. You may just show up to one of these events, which are all held at the First Baptist Day Center.

Tuesday, February 27, 6-7PM

Wednesday, March 6, 11AM- 12Noon

Thursday, March 14, 6-7PM

Park behind the church and head toward the door marked Family Promise on the far right hand side of the building as you face it.

SAVE THE DATE | APRIL 6

Jack Armistead has again chaired a committee to plan the annual 5K run/walk in support of Parkinson's research through the Michael J. Fox Foundation. This year's event will honor his late wife Jane (1946-2023) for her work toward finding a cure for Parkinson's. Outpace Parkinson's 9 will start at 8 am on April 6th in Sandy Creek Park, Pavilion 1. Runners can choose either on-site or virtual participation. To qualify for a T-shirt, they should register by midnight, March 22nd. Late registration will be available as well. There will be a full slate of awards and plenty of refreshments and opportunities to socialize. Donations to the Parkinson's research effort are also encouraged. Details about the race and links to registration and donations can be found at pdathens.com.

NEW FOLK OFFERING | FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Beginning on Friday, April 19, St Gregory's will be offering a monthly Ceilidh service (pronounced kay-lee). Based on a Gaelic tradition of celebrating community and hospitality, a folk liturgy complete with live folk music and a meal will be offered in the Christian Education building at 6:30PM. Foot washing and hand anointing will also be available at these services for anyone who wants to take part. Any musicians that are interested in helping to provide the music for these services, as well as anyone with questions about the service, are encouraged to reach out to Wade McGlamery.

ONGOING

HOLY EUCHARIST & HEALING SERVICE | WEDNESDAYS

Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6PM in the sanctuary for eucharist and prayers for healing.

NOTES

FREE BOOKS

The newly formed Library Committee has begun to sort through generations of books with the intention of making the offerings of the St. Gregory Library more accessible and useful to everyone. Those volumes that have seen better days and times will be placed for a week or so on the long white tables in the main area of the Education Building and made available for the taking with one rule—no bringing them back! Though you never know what might speak to you! Those books left there over a week or two will be donated to the public library. Hopefully by making some space the many hidden treasures that remain in St. Gregory's Library will be more easily seen, accessed and appreciated.

REMINDER: ACOLYTES SCHEDULING

We have been low on acolytes lately. Please be aware that we use Sign-Up Genius as a way to schedule acolytes. Please sign up when Ron Balthazor sends out reminders and the link! The link can also be found in every Friday newsletter (link has been fixed!)

THE LITTLE RED WAGON

The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank needs boxed mac & cheese, pork & beans, dried beans, and sanitary napkins! Please help us fill the Little Red Wagon!

Those Who Serve

Vestry: Stacie Court
Reader: Jane Hudson (8AM)
Lois Alworth (10:30AM)
EMs: David Stooksbury & Karen Hankins
Crucifers: Maggie Reinberger
Torches: Mariel & Julia Sanford

Flowers: Flower Guild
Altar Guild: Barbara Dean & David Lowe
Ushers: Mark & Ellen Richardson
Counters: Angela Greene & Katie Reinberger
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

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

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

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

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, Willem Swindler, Stephanie Swindler, Berkeley Boone

Vestry Members: Amanda Aycock; Kate Avinger, John Barrett, Jr. *Warden*; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Berni McCranie; Lane Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson, Sr. *Warden*; Vicky Tavernier; Paul Welch; Shelby Welch; Anna Thornton, *Clerk*; Les House, *Treasurer*

Vestry Person of the Day/Week: Stacie Court [*stacie.court@gmail.com*](mailto:stacie.court@gmail.com)

