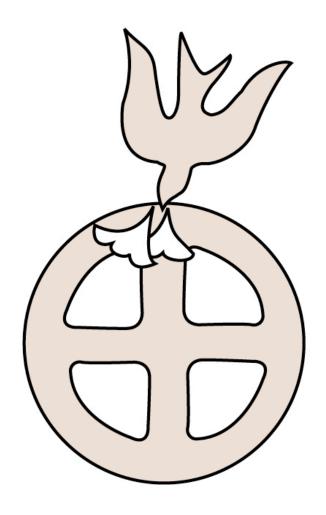
# St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



MARCH 13, 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 in Lent

# THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude What a Friend We Have in Jesus arr. Philip Keveren

Silent processional

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

#### 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** 

Hear the commandments of God to his people: Celebrant:

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.

Amen. Lord have mercy. People: 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 Spiritt keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Kyrie S-96 Franz Schubert



#### 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 15:1-12, 17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 27



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I / fear? \*

the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be a-/fraid?

2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my / flesh, \*

it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and / fell.

3 Though an army should encamp a-/gainst me, \*

yet my heart shall not be a-/fraid;

4 And though war should rise up a-/gainst me, \*

yet will I put my / trust in him.

5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I / seek; \*

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my / life;

6 To behold the fair beauty of the / Lord \*

and to seek him in his / temple.

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his / shelter; \*

he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a / rock.

8 Even now he lifts up my / head \*

above my enemies round a-/bout me.

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great / gladness; \*

I will sing and make music to the / Lord.

10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I / call; \*

have mercy on me and / answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my / face." \*

Your face, Lord, will I / seek.

12 Hide not your / face from me, \*

nor turn away your servant in dis-/pleasure.

13 You have been my helper; cast me not a-/way; \*

do not forsake me, O God of my sal-/vation.

14 Though my father and my mother for-/sake me, \*

the Lord will sus-/tain me.

15 Show me your way, O / Lord; \*

lead me on a level path, because of my / enemies.

16 Deliver me not into the hand of my / adversaries, \*

for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak / malice.

17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the / Lord \*

in the land of the / living!

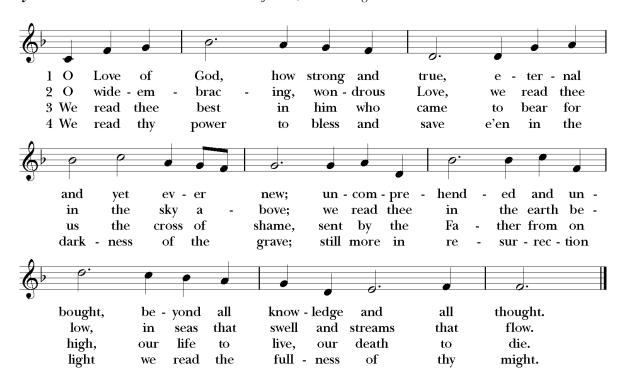
18 O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your / heart; \* wait patiently for the / Lord.

#### THE SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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



THE GOSPEL Luke 13:31-35

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

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)

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.

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** 

Now Let Us All With One Accord

Arlen Clarke

Now let us all with one accord, in company with ages past, keep vigil with our heavenly Lord in his temptation and his fast. Your love, O Lord, our sinful race has not returned, but falsified, author of mercy, turn your face, and grant repentance for our pride. Remember, Lord, though frail we be, in your own image were we made; help us, lest in anxiety, we cause your Name to be betrayed. Therefore, we pray you Lord, forgive; so when our wanderings here shall cease, we may with you for ever live, in love and unity and peace.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

**BCP 369** 

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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

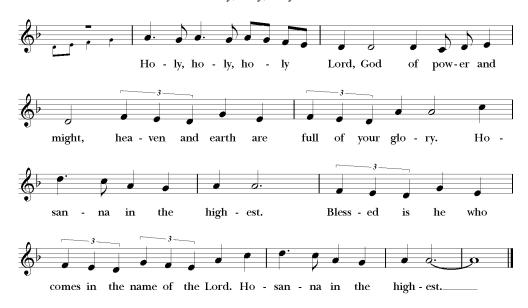
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



#### Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

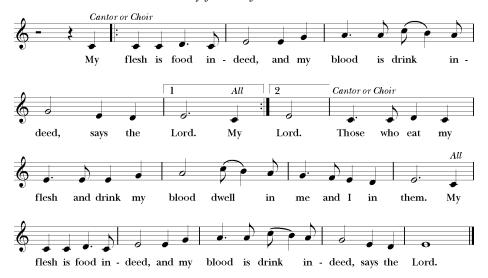
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen**.

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

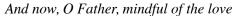
THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

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.



## THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## **Communion Hymn 337**



UNDE ET MEMORES



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

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



# THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

# Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for 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, Bill Alworth, 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, Tatiana, Andi, Jennie, Benedict, Patrick, Robby, Cecil, Brooke, Jim, Dianne, Peter, Jason, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, Buddy, Nicholas, Mike, and Margaret.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week: Missy Martin, Julie Worley, Max McNiff, Emery Freeman, George Krause, Charlotte Lamm, Ada Poister, Beth Davis, Paul Davis, and Cheryl Copeland; and for those celebrating their anniversaries: Jude Red Bear & Missy Hamlin, Ben & Cecilia Reynolds, and Philip & Wynn Walter.

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**

#### **COFFEE HOUR RETURNS!**

Join us today after the service as our weekly coffee hour resumes! 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

# **LENT**

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS | WEDS. @ 5:30PM

Wednesdays March 9, 16, 23, 30, & April 6 @, 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.

## SPRINGTIME PRAYER | WEDNESDAYS IN LENT (childcare available)

Wednesdays March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6

The world is a bit weary, right now, isn't it? Lent is the perfect time for reflection and spiritual examination, but it's also almost springtime, a time for renewal and rebirth. This year's Lenten class on Wednesday evening will attempt to combine the best of both Lenten reflection and springtime renewal, and focus on the art and practice of prayer.

The Springtime Prayer Class will meet every Wednesday at 6PM during Lent (March 9 through April 6), to learn more about prayer: to taste-test a buffet of different prayer practices- to examine the intersection of prayer and sacred music; to explore sensory aids and try out different physical postures; to take time-honored practices such as Luther's Four Strand meditation and Stations of the Cross out for a test drive, and to discuss the purpose and techniques for all of the above.

Please join this class, moderated by LeeAnne Krause, on Wednesdays during Lent, starting March 9, in the Education Building. A light meal will be provided. **Childcare can be arranged if requested with the church office no later than 12 noon on Tuesdays.** 

For more information, please contact Ellen Richardson (<u>ellenrichardson52@gmail.com</u>), LeeAnne Krause (<u>leeanne.krause@verizon.net</u>), or Ron Balthazor (<u>ron.balthazor@gmail.com</u>).

#### **COMING UP...**

## WELCOME TO SACRED GROUND | SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Now that it has become sound and safe to meet in person, all are welcome to attend a gathering for a follow-up conversation with those who have completed the Sacred Ground course, the book group for The Warmth of Other Suns, or both. Our call to

address our histories, attitudes and learnings about racism as God's Beloved Community is becoming increasingly important as our legislative bodies seek to suppress conversation about race at every institutional level. The call to see and address racism in our own lives and community is real.

Our initial meeting will be at 12:30 to 2PM on Sunday March 27, 2022 in the Parish Hall, giving those who attend church at 10:30 a chance to pick up some lunch (or bring a sack lunch from home) and return. Having attended one of the above programs is NOT a prerequisite for coming to the meeting. There could be future Sacred Ground or book groups started depending on interest. The following links provide some background information and food for thought: <a href="https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/">https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/</a> and <a href="https://www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community/">https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/</a> and <a href="https://www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community/">https://www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community/</a>

# FLOWER GUILD | SATURDAY, APRIL 16

The Flower Guild invites you to help us adorn the nave in celebration of the resurrection of Christ. We would welcome more hands for the Easter Workday Saturday, April 16 10:00-1:00. Whether you are adept at floral arranging or are willing to "tote and fetch", you will be welcomed with open arms!

## **NOTES**

## YOUNG ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

As our parish begins returning to a sense of normalcy we are planning on starting some ministry programs and events for young adults (ages 18-35). In order to move forward with this we will need to update our current contact list. If you, or someone you love, would be interested in hearing more please send your contact info to Wade McGlamery at <a href="https://www.wwm.cglamery@gmail.com">wwm.cglamery@gmail.com</a> and/or fill out one of our parishioner information forms in the narthex so the office has you in the church database!

## **Those Who Serve**

Readers: Sue Alford (8AM) George Krause (10:30AM) Vestry: Blaine Everson

Flowers: Flower Guild

Altar Guild: Jenifer Marquardt

Counters: Maggie Reinberger &

Anna Hiers

Livestream: Anthony Barkdoll

# 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: Blaine Everson doceverson@gmail.com