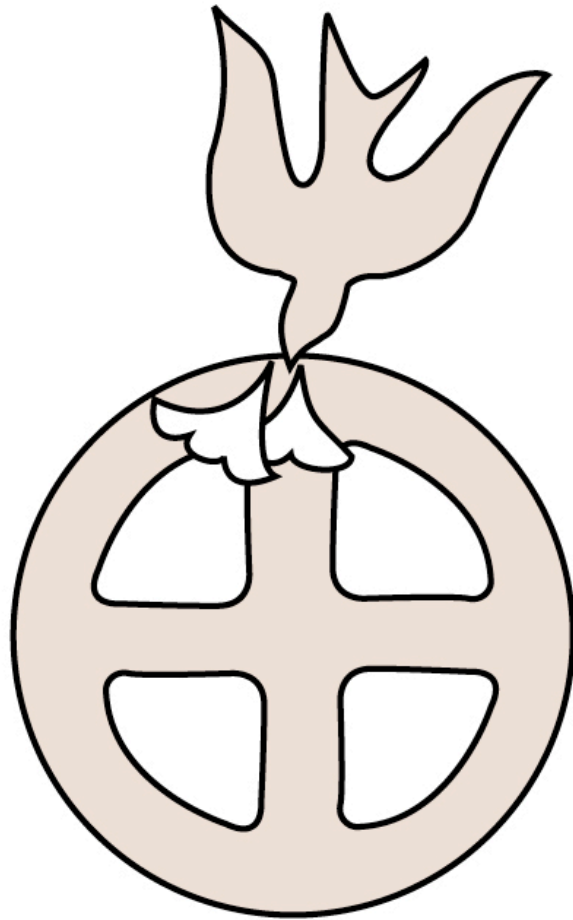


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



MARCH 20, 2022
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 Third Sunday in Lent

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

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

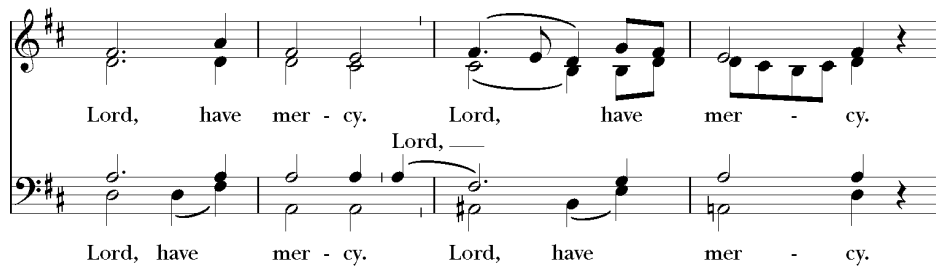
BCP 352

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

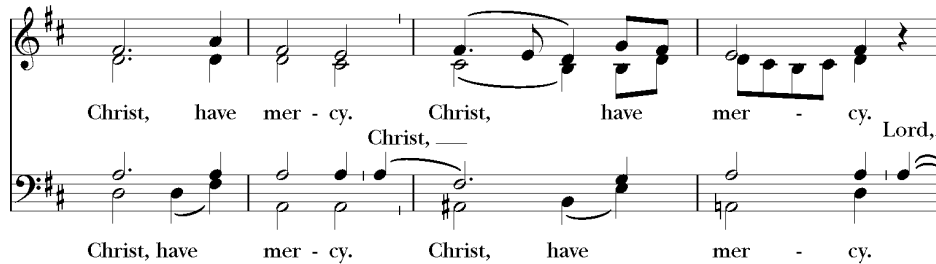
Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son 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.**



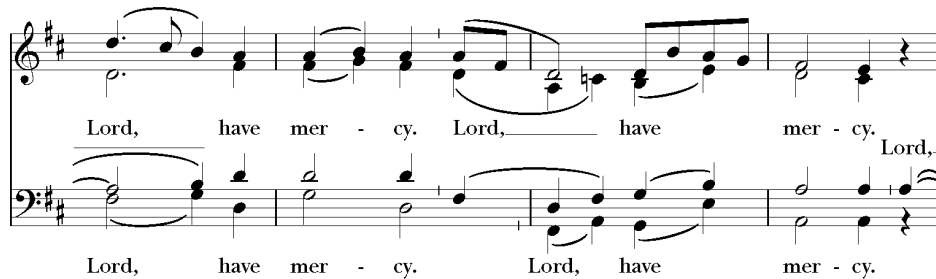
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians

oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.” But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.”

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

Psalm 63:1-8



© 1978, James Frazier.

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I / seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no / water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your / holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your / glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life it-/self; *
my lips shall give you / praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I / live *
and lift up my hands in your / Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and / fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful / lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my / bed, *
and meditate on you in the / night watches.
- 7 For you have been my / helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will re-/joice.
- 8 My soul / clings to you; *
your right hand holds me / fast.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
 4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
 *5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
 2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
 4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
 5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
 5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

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

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Carl Mueller

Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence;
and take not thy holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;
and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways;
and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

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:

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.

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.

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -
 deed, says the Lord. *1 All* My Lord. *2 Cantor or Choir* Those who eat my
 flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. *All* My
 flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Hymn 147

Now let us all with one accord

BOURBON

1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
 2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to
 3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
 4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
 5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so

1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
 2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
 3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
 4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -
 5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for

1 heaven - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.
 2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.
 3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.
 4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.
 5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.


Unison



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
 is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

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

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
 may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Ann Darby, 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: Jessica Severens, Dylan Severens, Margaret Agner, Bruce Copeland, Barbara Goodwin, Madalyn Kuhn, Rhonda Packer, David Floyd, Berry Rice, Maggie Reinberger, and Evan Lewis; **and for those celebrating their anniversaries:** David & Stacie Court.

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 HAS RETURNED!

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

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 (ellenrichardson52@gmail.com), LeeAnne Krause (leeanne.krause@verizon.net), or Ron Balthazor (ron.balthazor@gmail.com).

NEXT WEEK

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: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/> and <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community/>

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING | THURSDAY, MARCH 31

All young adults (ages 18-35) are welcome to come by Walker's Coffee and Pub in downtown Athens on March 31st at 7PM for an evening of fellowship. Come chat, have a cup of your favorite beverage, and get to know some other members of our church community! You can send any questions to Wade McGlamery at wmcglamery@gmail.com or 770-624-4837.

COMING UP ...

LABYRINTH | APRIL 6-15

The cloth labyrinth will be out in Parish Hall from Weds., April 6 through Good Friday, April 15. Please come and walk the labyrinth at your leisure, when other events are not going on in Parish Hall, during Holy Week and prior.

YOUTH LABYRINTH WORKSHOP | FRIDAY, APRIL 8

All youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to participate in a workshop on walking the labyrinth, led by our own Lane Norton. The labyrinth provides a unique prayer experience, and is great for those that find it easier to focus while up on their feet and moving. The workshop will be held in the parish hall on April 8th at 6PM. Pizza will be provided afterward. Please RSVP and send any questions by emailing Wade McGlamery at wmcglamery@gmail.com, so that we can get an accurate count of attendees.

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!

EASTER RECEPTION | SUNDAY, APRIL 17

We will be having a coffee hour reception on Easter morning after our (1) service at 10AM! However, coffee hour folks need your help in providing the food. If you attend and are able, please bring a finger food to share! The church will provide a cake, coffee, water, & lemonade. There will be a sign-up sheet in Parish Hall for people who are willing to help clean up afterwards!

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 wmcglamery@gmail.com and/or fill out one of our parishioner information forms in the narthex so the office has you in the church database!

EASTER CANDY NEEDED

Donations of Easter candy (nothing with peanuts or peanut butter, please) and trinkets will be collected in the copy room. The Easter Egg hunt for toddlers through 5th graders will be held after the 10AM service on Easter Sunday. Youth 6th grade and up are invited to hide the eggs after taking communion. We'll be hiding empty eggs, which the children will trade-in for an Easter goody bag, and will also have goody bags for the youth as well!

Those Who Serve

Readers: Lynn Hanna (8AM)

Roger Schwenke (10:30AM)

Vestry: Lane Norton

Flowers: Flower Guild

Altar Guild: Berni McCranie

Counters: Marilyn Walsh &

Katie Hein

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: Lane Norton [*nortonlane@bellsouth.net*](mailto:nortonlane@bellsouth.net)