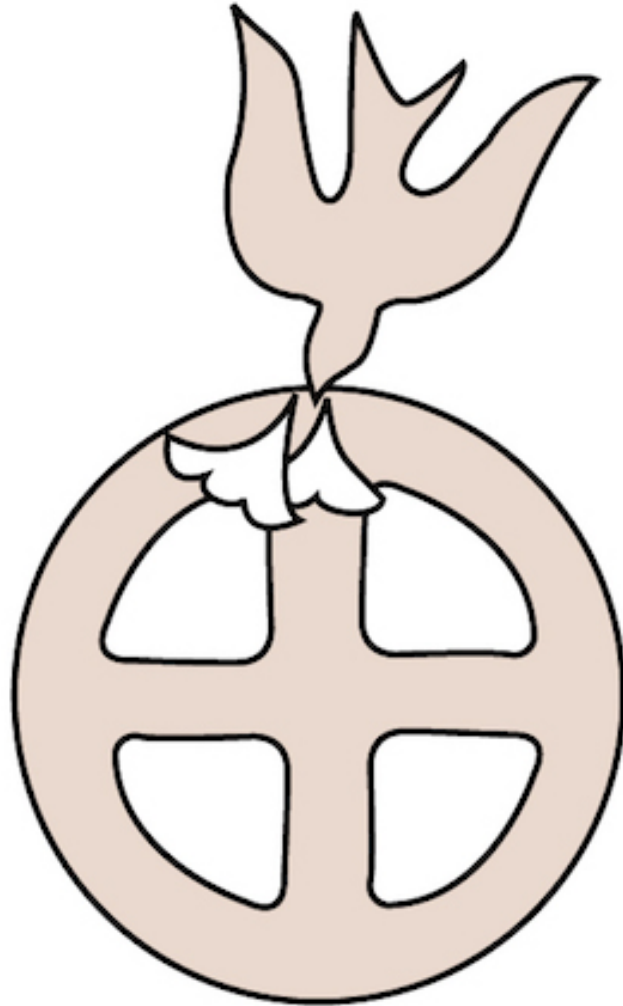


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



MARCH 3, 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 Third Sunday of Lent

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

In Babilon

arr. David N. Johnson

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.**

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e
 e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e -
 le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of / God, *
and the firmament shows his / handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to / another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to / another.
- 3 Although they have no words or / language, *
and their voices are not / heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all / lands, *
and their message to the ends of the / world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the / sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its / course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it a-/gain; *
nothing is hidden from its burning / heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the / soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the / innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the / heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the / eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for / ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous alto-/gether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine / gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the / comb.



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 11 By them also is your servant en-/lightened, *
and in keeping them there is great re-/ward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he / offends? *
cleanse me from my secret / faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over / me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great / offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your / sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my / redeemer.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

1 Wilt thou for-give that sin, where I be-gun,
 2 Wilt thou for-give that sin, by which I won
 3 I have a sin of fear that when I've spun

which is my sin, though it were done be-fore?
 o - thers to sin, and made my sin their door?
 my last thread, I shall per-ish on the shore;

Wilt thou for-give those sins through which I run,
 Wilt thou for-give that sin which I did shun
 swear by thy-self, that at my death thy Son

and do run still, though still I do de-plore?
 a year or two, but wal- lowed in a score?
 shall shine as he shines now, and here - to - fore.

When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.
 When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.
 And hav-ing done that, thou hast done, I fear no more.

THE GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

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

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

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Let the Words of My Mouth

Everett Titcomb

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart,
be always acceptable in thy sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.
Amen.

Presentation Hymn 11 vs. 4

Doxology

MORNING HYMN

1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy
 2 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new; dis -
 3 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all
 *4 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
 perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
 I de - sign, or do, or say; that all my powers, with
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice:
 thought and will, and with thy - self my spi - rit fill.
 all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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 and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -". Above the first few notes, it says "Cantor or Choir". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my". Above the first two measures, it says "1 All", and above the next two measures, it says "2 Cantor or Choir". The third staff has lyrics: "flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My". Above the last measure, it says "All". The fourth staff concludes the piece with lyrics: "flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord." and ends with a double bar line.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Hymn 51*We the Lord's people*

DECATUR PLACE

1 We the Lord's peo - ple, heart and voice u - nit - ing, praise him who
 2 This is the Lord's house, home of all his peo - ple, school for the
 3 This is the Lord's day, day of God's own mak - ing, day of cre -
 4 In the Lord's ser - vice bread and wine are of - fered, that Christ may

called us out of sin and dark - ness in - to his own light,
 faith - ful, ref - uge for the sin - ner, rest for the pil - grim,
 a - tion, day of re - sur - rec - tion, day of the Spi - rit,
 take them, bless them, break, and give them to all his peo - ple,

that he might a - noint us a roy - al priest-hood.
 ha - ven for the wea - ry; all find a wel - come.
 sign of hea - ven's ban - quet, day for re - joic - ing.
 his own life im - par - ting, food ev - er - last - ing.

Communion Anthem*I Will Bow*

Frederick Chatfield

I will bow and be simple, I will bow and be free;
 I will bow and be humble, yea, bow like the willow tree.
 I will bow, this is the token, I will wear the easy yoke,
 I will bow and be broken, yea, I'll fall upon the rock.
 I will bow and be simple, I will bow and be free;
 I will bow and be humble, yea, bow like the willow tree.

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.

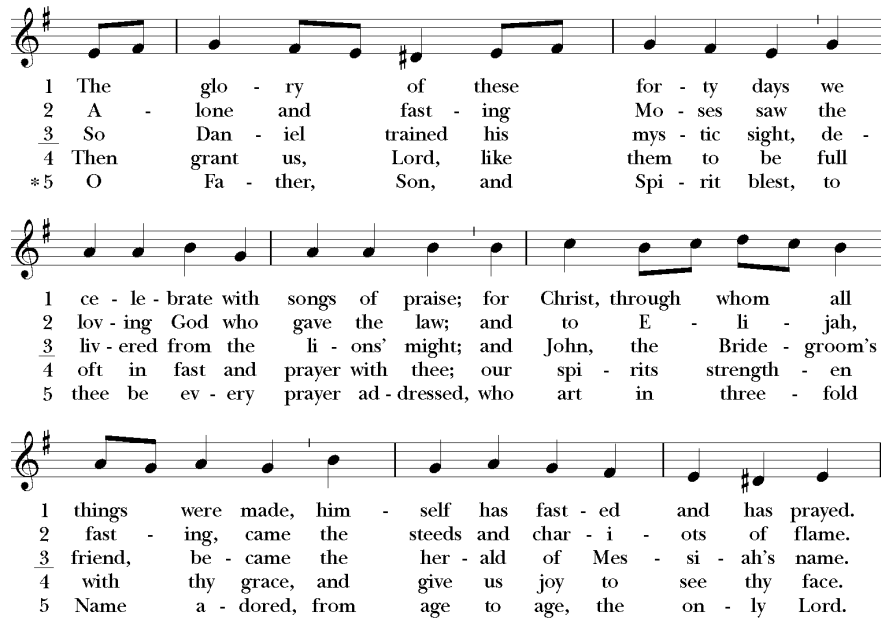
POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. 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.



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 DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**



About today's music...

Legend attributes the authorship of the words of today closing hymn (#143) to our own Pope St. Gregory the Great. If that is true, it is ironic that the poem is now paired with a tune that was originally used to sing a poem by Martin Luther in which he criticized the Pope and Turks. It was popularly know as the 'Pope and the Turk Tune' but we now call it by the first line of the German text 'Erhalt uns, Herr'.

We sing the melody this morning with J.S. Bach's harmonization. It is one of the many chorale tunes he made use of in writing 200 cantatas which were adapted to the liturgy of the church year. This particular one was used for Sexagesima Sunday (the name for the second Sunday before Ash Wednesday in the pre-1970 Roman Rite).

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: Hugh Sawyer, Mincy Moffett, Jack Armistead, Mark Reinberger, Sam Johnson, and Janeanne Napoli; **and for those celebrating anniversaries:** Jason & Danielle Vogt.

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.

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

TODAY

Today the children present an altar garland that they made during Children's Church over the last two weeks. Each child used a piece of local wool to felt a cross medallion. They then sewed the medallions onto the garland, singing while they worked. The crosses are purple to mark the season of Lent. In Children's Church we have been focusing on worship as gifts of love to God; music, movement, and gifts of the hand. This project was an expression of art as worship, and they bring it forward as their offering of worship today.

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.

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.

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.

SAVE THE DATE BLUE JEAN SUNDAY | SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Save the date for Sunday, April 14: Blue Jean Sunday! Everyone wear their blue jeans to church that day and bring your gardening gloves. More info to come!

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

EASTER EGG HUNT

Easter is almost here, and among the many Easter week events will be the Children's Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday! We need some donations to fill our plastic eggs. If you would like to help out, bring donations to the copy room across from Kendall's office. And remember, we are a peanut free parish. Thanks!

EASTER LILIES

If you wish to dedicate an Easter lily in honor/thanksgiving of someone living or in remembrance of someone deceased, please complete the yellow form found in your bulletin or in the narthex and leave the form and your donation in the offering plate or in Kendall's office. The suggested donation is \$15/lily. **The deadline is Monday, March 25. ** Please note the additional question we ask on the form: Would you like to keep your lily after Easter or have it given to Pastoral Care to take to one of our shut-ins? ****

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: Berni McCranie
Reader: Stacie Court (8AM)
Karen Hankins (10:30AM)
EMs: Beth Thornton & Lin Kromhout
Crucifers: Grayson Krause
Torches: Rainsly Vogt & Jeffery Ross

Flowers: Flower Guild
Altar Guild: Jane Sheridan & Jenifer Marquardt
Ushers: Anthony & Deb Garner
Counters: Jane Hudson & Michael Castengera
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

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

Wade McGlamery Youth Minister
wwmclamery@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: Berni McCranie bernimccranie@yahoo.com

