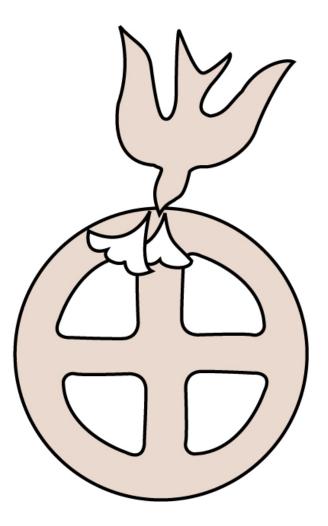
St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



JULY 23, 2023 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 8th Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 11

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

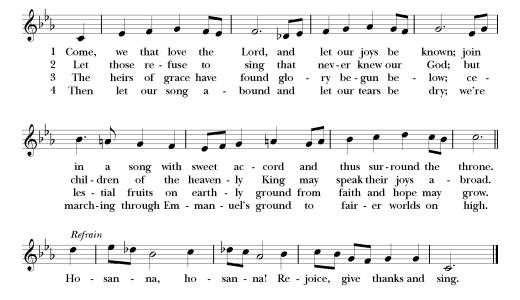
Where Can I Turn for Peace

arr. James C. Kasen

Processional Hymn 392

Come, we that love the Lord

VINEYARD HAVEN



OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant:Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.People:And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 351

Glory to God

Robert Powell



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

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

Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23



1 Lord, you have searched me out and / known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from a-/far. 2 You trace my journeys and my / resting-places * and are acquainted with all my / ways. 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my / lips, * but you, O Lord, know it alto-/gether. 4 You press upon me behind and be-/fore * and lay your / hand upon me. 5 Such knowledge is too / wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot at-/tain to it. 6 Where can I go then from your / Spirit? * where can I flee from your / presence? 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are / there; * if I make the grave my bed, you are there / also. 8 If I take the wings of the / morning * and dwell in the uttermost parts of the / sea, 9 Even there your hand will / lead me * and your right hand hold me / fast. 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will / cover me, * and the light around me turn to / night," 11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the / day; * darkness and light to you are both a-/like. 22 Search me out, O God, and know my / heart; * try me and know my restless / thoughts. 23 Look well whether there be any / wickedness in me * and lead me in the way that is ever-/lasting.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Sequence Hymn 665

All my hope on God is founded

MICHAEL



THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Celebrant: People:

nt: *The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.* **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON: The Rev. Bob Dendtler

THE NICENE CREED (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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Celebrant and People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form IV

The congregational response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer."

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you. People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; and in your weariness lay down your head upon my breast." I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink, and live." I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright." I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun; and in that light of life I'll walk till pilgrim days are done.

Presentation Hymn 380, vs. 3

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Sondra K. Tucker

OLD 100TH

BCP 360

BCP 388

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

* Sanctus S-130

Holy, holy, holy



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory! Franz Schubert

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary and Gregory and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

* Fraction Anthem S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God

us.



THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Solo

Gabriel's Oboe

Ennio Morricone

BCP 364

Franz Schubert

Communion Hymn 593

Lord, make us servants of your peace

DICKINSON COLLEGE



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

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.

THE BLESSING

BCP 365

As those of old their first fruits brought



THE DISMISSAL

Deacon:Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.People:Thanks be to God.

Choral Postlude

Lord, I trust thee

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee. Ah! thou friend of man, restore me! On thy loving grace relying, For the bread of life I'm sighing. Quench my thirst and let my hunger cease, Fill my heart with joy and endless peace. When the breath of life has left me, May my soul be blended with thee.

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Special thanks to Heidi Nibbelink for her music this morning!

The altar flowers are dedicated by Stacie Court to the honor and glory of God, and in thanksgiving for her children, Joe and Rachel O'Connor.

G. F. Handel

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Randy Harrelson, Teri Bouknecht, Kara Russe, Roger Swagler, Jamaica Miller, Ellen Kappel, Susan Dunn & family, David Kirshenblatt, Cayden Mitchell, Billy Hale, Bill Alworth, Stephen Morris, Barbara Johnson, Sue Bush, Janice Rusk, Jennifer Polzin, Susan Williams, Dan Williams, Pat MacKinnon, Shelby Welch, Don Downie, Olivia Carlisle, Angie Defalco, Ken Packer, Rachel, Christy, Rosina, Eliot, Patricia, Ben, Mobley, Scott, and Lynn.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Suzy Preston, Richard Cooper, Salley Dingus, Lex Lamm, Janet Paterson, and Emma Davis; and for those celebrating anniversaries: Dutton & Joyce Morehouse, and Hank & Margarette Fowler.

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.

THIS WEEK

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR VACATION

Kendall will be out of town from Monday, July 24 - Tuesday, August 1.

BACKPACKS & BINDERS - ACC SCHOOLS HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Outreach Committee has received confirmation from the Clarke County School District's Homeless Program that contributions of backpacks and binders are needed for homeless students. While other school supplies will be provided to all CCSD students by the district, these two items probably will not be. Over the years, our congregation has been very generous with these donations, and they make a big difference to these students.

We will be collecting backpacks and binders for elementary, middle and high school students from Monday, July 3 **through 5PM Wednesday, July 26,** in the entry to the Parish Hall. If you want to be certain that the Parish Hall is open before you come to leave your contributions, you may call Kendall at 706-546-7553. Contact Gail Eilers, <u>eilersgail@gmail.com</u>, if you have questions.

COMING UP....

FAMILY PROMISE | AUGUST 13-20

Our Family Promise (formerly IHN) week comes up August 13-20. This is an outreach to help those who are temporarily homeless and who live in the shelter attached to and behind Milledge Avenue Baptist Church. Individuals or groups of friends volunteer to fix supper (usually no more than 10 people to feed) or sign up to be available in the host room for a few hours on an evening or weekend. This is easy and gives so much to these families who are working to maintain a steady job and obtain permanent housing. The Family Promise social worker helps them with these goals and regularly checks in with them after they leave the shelter. If you have questions, email Annette at bateskannette@gmail.com or call 706-255-5839. To sign up, use this link and scroll down to August 13-20: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-2022#/.

BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES | SUNDAY, AUG. 20

The next Brown Bag Lecture will be held at St. Gregory's on Sunday, August 20 in the Parish Hall from 2-4pm. Presenter will be Holle Tubbs, Director of Diocesan Youth Ministries, and co-author of <u>Keep Watch: Suicide, Christ, and Community.</u> Keep/Watch is a learning tool for people of faith around suicide causes and prevention. Bring a snack if you'd like!

NOTES

CLERGY ON CALL

Through July 26, for any emergencies, you may contact The Rev. Bob Dendtler at 770-312-6253. From July 27-July 31, please contact The Rev. Ellen Richardson at 912-660-0151.

THE LITTLE RED WAGON

The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank needs Saltines, family-sized cereals, and juices! Please help us fill the Little Red Wagon!

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Those Who Serve

Vestry: Mark Richardson Reader: (8AM); Lois Alworth (10:30AM) EMs: Beth Thornton & Lin Kromhout Crucifers: Torches: Mariel & Julia Sanford Flowers: Jenifer Borg Altar Guild: David Lowe & Jenifer Marquardt Ushers: Anthony & Deb Garner Counters: Stacie Court & Angela Greene Livestream: Alec Nelson

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Nikki Mathis Rector rector@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x2

The Rev. Doug Adkins Associate Rector & Director of Children's Ministries *jdadkins@hotmail.com* | 706-474-4784

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

Joseph Napoli Choir Director awn1984@att.net | 706-546-6638

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

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

Mark Hein Buildings/Grounds markehein@gmail.com | 706-549-3239

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

Terri Tillman WebMaster/Social Media *ttillman@gmail.com*

Danielle Vogt Coffee Host *danielle1784@gmail.com*

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

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

Vestry Members: Kate Avinger, John Barrett; John Bray; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Anna Hiers; LeeAnne Krause; Lane Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson; Shelby Welch; Anna Thornton, Clerk; Les House, Treasurer

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