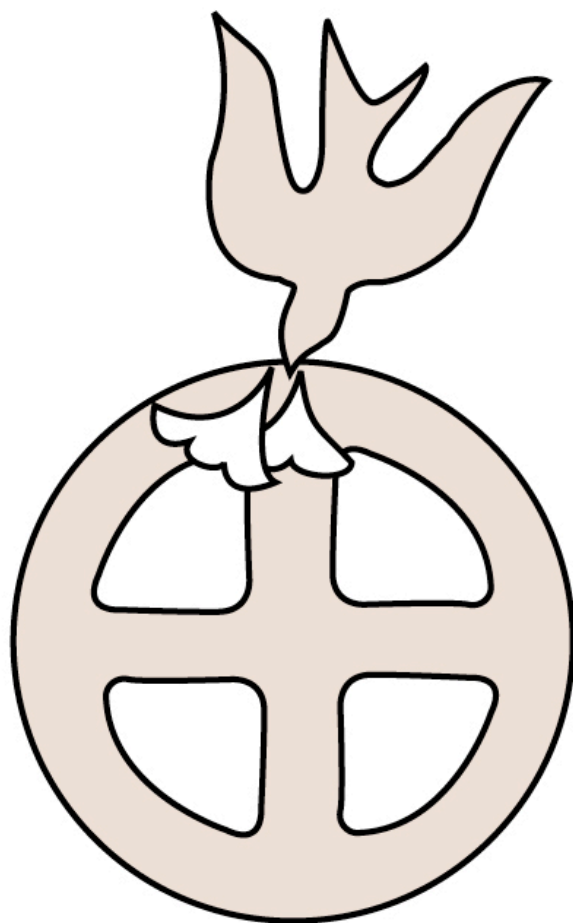


# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



AUGUST 2, 2020

PREMIERED ON YOUTUBE

10:30AM

W/ ONLINE COFFEE HOUR BEGINNING AT 10:15AM

# THE HOLY VIRTUAL EUCHARIST

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 13

---

## THE WORD OF GOD

### 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.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opening Hymn 48

*O day of radiant gladness*

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

1 O day of ra - dant glad - ness, O day of joy and  
 2 This day at the cre - a - tion, the light first had its  
 3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, his Ho - ly Scrip - ture  
 4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, we walk the pil - grim

light, O balm of care and sad - ness, most  
 birth; this day for our sal - va - tion Christ  
 hear; his liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through  
 way, at length our rest at - tain - ing, our

beau - ti - ful, most bright; this day the high and  
 rose from depths of earth; this day our Lord vic -  
 Bread and Wine made near. We jour - ney on, be -  
 end - less Sab - bath day. We sing to thee our

low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune, sing,  
 to - rious the Spi - rit sent from heaven, and  
 liev - ing, re - newed with heaven - ly might, from  
 prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son; the

“Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” to the great God Tri - une.  
 thus this day most glo - rious a tri - ple light was given.  
 grace more grace re - ceiv - ing on this blest day of light.  
 Church her voice up - rais - es to thee, blest Three in One.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: *Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

BCP 355

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; 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

*read by John Granrose*

Genesis 32:22-31

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 17:1-7, 16**

*Spoken by all*

- 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord; give heed to my cry; \*  
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; \* let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, \* melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; \* I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; \* in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; \* incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, \*  
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise up against them.
- 16 But at my vindication I shall see your face; \* when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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

***Thanks be to God.***

1 O Food to pil - grims giv - en, O Bread of life from  
 2 O stream of love past tell - ing, O pur - est foun - tain,  
 3 O Je - sus, by thee bid - den, we here a - dore thee,

hea - ven, O Man - na from on high! We  
 well - ing from out the Sa - vior's side! We  
 hid - den in forms of bread and wine. Grant

hun - ger; Lord, sup - ply us, nor thy de - lights de -  
 faint with thirst; re - vive us, of thine a - bun - dance  
 when the veil is riv - en, we may be - hold, in

ny us, whose hearts to thee draw nigh.  
 give us, and all we need pro - vide.  
 hea - ven, thy coun - te - nance di - vine.

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 14:13-21

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

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

*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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

***That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for all bishops, especially Michael, Rob, Paul, and Don, and all priests and deacons, especially Nikki & Christina (...)

***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest;

***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. ...

A PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(people may stand)*

BCP 360

*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.**

THE PEACE

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

*Day by Day*

Martin How

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly,  
day by day.

*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 can 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:

*Celebrant and People*

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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

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**

*Celebrant:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE



## 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.

## THE BLESSING

### Closing Hymn 690

### *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield, be thou still my strength and shield.  
thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

## THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Fellowship Music**

*Allegro in A Major*

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

*Hymn permission used by RiteStuff, a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #732703-A*

## Backpacks and Binders for Homeless Students - UPDATE

The Clarke County School year begins **September 8**. Several hundred homeless children and youth in Athens-Clarke County begin the school year without adequate school supplies. The economic impact of COVID-19 makes the need even greater this year! Even though we have now learned ACC schools will start with online learning only, these supplies will still be needed in the future, and your monetary donations could be used for other expenses that arise.



St. Gregory parishioners have always been generous with donating backpacks and binders (the two most needed items) and other school supplies for elementary, middle, and high school students. This year you can contribute in three ways:

1. Make an [online donation](#) through REALM. Select the Outreach option when making your contribution. Include Backpacks and Binders in the memo line.
2. Write a check to St. Gregory the Great and mail to the parish. Include Backpacks and Binders in the memo line of your check.
3. Bring backpacks and binders to the church. Call Kendall in advance to let her know you are dropping off your items.

Monetary contributions should be received by **5:00PM Thursday, August 20**, allowing Clarke County Homeless Education staff time to purchase supplies for students prior to the school year start. Backpacks and binders should be delivered to the parish by **5:00PM Thursday, August 20**.

Contact Rhonda Packer [packer.rhonda@gmail.com](mailto:packer.rhonda@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Thank you for your support.

*St. Gregory Outreach Committee*

## Prayers of the People

**In our Parish** we pray for Sybil Lott, Dot Cooper, Carol Schwenke, Allena Armour, Doug Welch, Pat Irby, Pat Titus, Stephanie Gamble, Carol Jones, Ray Gotko, Rose Ann Pace, Aaron Muckin, Glen Jedlicka, Stephen Morris, Alice Hunt, George Watson, Conoly Hester, Deborah Freeman, Catherine Hartley, Terri Dotson, Mary Parkman, Gayle Duncan, Jimmy Simons, Gene Watson, Bill Walker, Sandy Elhenicky, Susan Kuzia, Shelby Welch, Sarah Gordon, Roger Swagler, Stanley Armour, Martha Beach, Jack Beach, Tammy Bishop, Cecil Miller, Bill Beagle, Sally Stuckey, Kim Rider, Patrick Dean, Harold Tillman, Diane Holcomb, Stephen Corn, Ken Packer, Evelyn, Ben, Anna, Fritz, Faye, Neal, Ann, Paula, John, Gwen, Barbara, Dusty, Daniel, Michael, Michelle, Meredith, Heather, Matt, Pete, Sophia, Jill, Ruth, Samantha, Jennifer, Chip, and Buddy.

**In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week:** Sandra House, Jeff Sanford, Bradley Koch, Patrick Risler, Sam Thornton, Ashley Green, Calum Cook, Janet Wright, Carol Cason, Jen Ingle, Stacie Court, and Carolyn Abney; **and for those celebrating anniversaries:** Mark & Ellen Richardson.

---

*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.*

---

## 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

**Terri Tillman and Anthony Barkdoll** Audiovisual Technicians  
tillman@gmail.com; anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

**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

**Catherine Drewry** Director of Children's Ministries  
cbdrewry@gmail.com | 706-201-7241

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

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

**Allena Armour** Sexton  
allenaarmour57@yahoo.com | 706-614-3704

**Nursery Attendants:** Missy Hamlin, Megan Reuter, Allison Weaver

**Vestry Members:** Kathryn Musholt, Sr. Warden; Kelly Black, Jr. Warden, Jack Armistead; Eddie Bennett; Rhonda Hefner-Packer; Jane Hudson; Marge Massey; Caley Ross; Beth Thornton; Chrissy Moffett, Clerk; Les House, Treasurer

**Vestry Person of the Day/Week:** Marge Massey [mmassey@uga.edu](mailto:mmassey@uga.edu)

