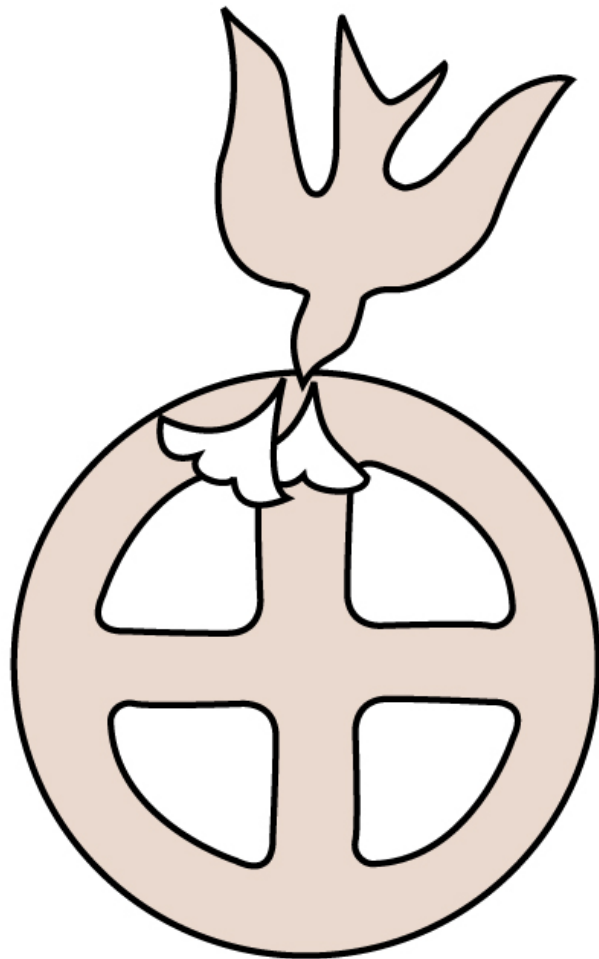


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



AUGUST 13, 2023
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 11th Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 14

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Processional Hymn 388

O worship the King

HANOVER



1 O wor-ship the King, all glo-rious a-bove!
2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
3 The earth, with its store of won-ders un-told,
4 Thy boun-ti-ful care, what tongue can re-cite?
5 Frail chil-dren of dust, and fee-ble as frail,

1 O grate-ful-ly sing his power and his love!
2 Whose robe is the light, whose can-o-py space.
3 Al-might-y, thy power hath found-ed of old,
4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

1 Our shield and de-fend-er, the An-cient of Days,
2 His char-iots of wrath the deep thun-der-clouds form,
3 hath stab-lished it fast by a change-less de-ree,
4 it streams from the hills, it de-scends to the plain,
5 thy mer-cies, how ten-der! how firm to the end!

1 pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor, and gird-ed with praise.
2 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
3 and round it hath cast, like a man-tle, the sea.
4 and sweet-ly dis-tills in the dew and the rain.
5 Our Ma-ker, De-fend-er, Re-deem-er, and Friend!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 351

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.

1 We will ex - tol you, ev - er - bless - ed Lord; your ho - ly
 2 Age shall to age pass on the end - less song, tell - ing the
 3 You, Lord, are gra - cious, mer - ci - ful to all, close to your

Name for ev - er be a - dored; each day we live our
 won - ders which to you be - long, your might - y acts with
 chil - dren when on you they call; and slow to an - ger,

psalm to you we raise; you, God and King, are wor - thy of all
 joy and fear re - late; praise we your glo - ry while on you we
 mer - ci - ful and kind, in your com - pas - sion we your bless - ings

praise, great and un - search - a - ble in all your ways.
 wait, glad in the know - ledge of your love so great.
 find. We love you with our heart and strength and mind.

The first stanza may be repeated at the end.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" — that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (*spoken*)

1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; * make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, * and speak of all his marvelous works.

3 Glory in his holy Name; * let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

4 Search for the Lord and his strength; * continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, * his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, * O children of Jacob his chosen.

16 Then he called for a famine in the land * and destroyed the supply of bread.

17 He sent a man before them, * Joseph, who was sold as a slave.

18 They bruised his feet in fetters; * his neck they put in an iron collar.

19 Until his prediction came to pass, * the word of the Lord tested him.

20 The king sent and released him; * the ruler of the peoples set him free.

21 He set him as a master over his household, as a ruler over all his possessions,

22 To instruct his princes according to his will and to teach his elders wisdom.

45 Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

Thanks be to God.

1 O all ye works of God, now come to thank him
 2 O sun and moon and stars of heaven, your end - less
 3 O heat and cold, O night and day, O storms and
 4 O earth and sea, O all that live in wa - ter
 5 O let his peo - ple bless the Lord like right - eous

1 and a - dore; O an - gels, sing and
 2 praise out - pour; O chang - ing sea - sons,
 3 thun - der's roar, O fields and for - ests,
 4 or on shore, O men and wo - men,
 5 souls of yore; let those of ho - ly,

1 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
 2 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
 3 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
 4 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
 5 hum - ble heart come praise him ev - er - more.

6 So let us glorify and bless
 the God we bow before,
 the Father, Holy Spirit, Son,
 and praise him evermore.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

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

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form IV

BCP 388

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

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

John A. Behnke

Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die, crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.
Word that caused blind eyes to see, speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be; loose our tongues to tell your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
heal the world, by sin now broken.
Word that speaks God's tender love, One with God beyond all telling,
Word that send us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one Bread feed us.

Presentation Hymn 380 v. 3

Doxology

OLD 100TH

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

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 is 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 Lord

Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

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.***

The Celebrant continues

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

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

Franz Schubert

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Hymn 383

Fairest Lord Jesus

ST. ELIZABETH

1 Je - sus, Lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bos - om
2 O - ther ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on
3 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cleanse from ev - ery

fly, while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest
thee; leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and
sin; let the heal - ing streams a - bound, make and keep me

still is high: hide me, O my Sa - vior, hide,
com - fort me! All my trust on thee is stayed;
pure with - in. Thou of life the foun - tain art,

till the storm of life be past; safe in - to the
all my help from thee I bring; cov - er my de -
free - ly let me take of thee; spring thou up with -

ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last.
fense - less head with the sha - dow of thy wing.
in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of thy sal - va - tion

bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,
 free our hearts to faith and praise: grant us wis - dom,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these days.
 grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

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.

THE BLESSING

Closing Hymn 680

O God, our help in ages past

ST. ANNE

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home;
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past, be thou our guide while life shall last,
 our hope for years to come, and our eternal home.

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



Special thanks to Daniel Self for his music this morning!

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Elmer Clark, Nancy Carter, Kathy Davis, Randy Harrelson, Teri Bouknecht, Kara Russe, 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, Michael, Rachel, Christy, Rosina, Eliot, Patricia, Ben, Mobley, Scott, and Lynn.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Luther Rogers, Will Drosos, Ralph Beckworth, Marilyn Vickers, Emma Scott, Joseph Cook, Martha DeHart, and Benjamin Compton; **and for those celebrating anniversaries:** Alex & Janet Patterson.

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

FAMILY PROMISE | AUGUST 13-20

Our week begins this Sunday, August 13. We are grateful that almost all the meals are taken care of by you! More information will be sent by email to those volunteering for meals about the families.

We still need volunteers for these times:

*weekend hosting (several times, including 8:00-10:30, 10:30-2:00, 2:00-5:00, this coming Sunday and the following Saturday),

*evening hosting (except for 8/17) 5:00-8:00;

*one evening meal on 8/18.

The hosting is very easy. You are on site at Milledge Avenue Baptist reading or browsing your phone and are only there in case of emergency, which is rare. The families are upstairs or out. The emergency numbers and contacts are in a notebook in the hosting room. There are snacks and cold waters available for you. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-2022#/>

Thank you for your generous gift of time! If you are unable to volunteer, please keep these families in your prayers. For questions, please contact Annette Bates, 706-255-5839, bateskannette@gmail.com

MOVIE NIGHT | FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

Come join us this month, on Friday, August 18, when we will watch *Come From Away* (2021). "7000 passengers are stranded after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in a small town in Newfoundland, where they were housed and welcomed. Based on a true story." Join us in Parish Hall and enjoy some popcorn and soft drinks - or bring a blanket and a picnic dinner! The movie begins promptly at 7pm.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL | SAT., AUGUST 19

The Rite of Christian Burial for Roger Swagler will be here at St. Gregory's on Saturday, August 19 at 11AM followed by a catered reception in Parish Hall.

NEXT WEEK

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 [Keep Watch: Suicide, Christ, and Community](#). Keep/Watch is a learning tool for people of faith around suicide causes and prevention. Bring a snack if you'd like!

YOUTH GROUP INTEREST MEETING | FRIDAY, AUG. 25

If you or your child are in the 6th-12th grades, come out to learn about all that St. Gregory's has to offer for the 2023/24 school year at our Interest Meeting, Friday, August 25 @ 7PM in Parish Hall! Sunday school, field trips, and more! Please contact Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, if you have any questions.

COMING UP ...

BLINDSPOT GROUP | AUGUST 31

Our 20s and 30s group meets on the last Thursday of each month at 6:30PM for dinner and a small group study (usually off-site of the church). We also meet at least once a month for game nights, dinner and drinks, movie nights, and more. Newcomers are always welcome! Contact Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837 for more information.

SACRED GROUND | BEGINS SEPTEMBER 7

Sacred Ground is a sensitive, prayerful resource that creates space for difficult but respectful and transformative conversations about race and racism. It invites participants into dialogue circles for 10 weekly sessions to walk back through history in order to peel away the layers that brought us to today, reflecting on family histories and stories, as well as important narratives that shape the collective American story.

This season, St. Gregory will be partnering with Emmanuel Episcopal Church to hold Sacred Ground circles with members and facilitators from both parishes, alternating our meeting sites on Thursday evenings between St. Gregory and Emmanuel. The curriculum developed through the Episcopal Church utilizes weekly readings and films made available to registered participants via secured online access, as well as 2 books that can be purchased or borrowed. Each weekly session will include a light meal at 6PM followed by discussion until 8:30PM.

Conversations about race and racial justice are needed in our world. They are difficult, and yet when entered in a context of faith and within a community of prayer they can help us in our call to create Beloved Community. Please prayerfully consider joining this Sacred Ground circle with our friends and neighbors at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, beginning Thursday September 7, 2023, and concluding on November 9, 2023. Friends, family, and neighbors may be invited to join you for the program but all must commit to the entire program. To ensure the sacred confidentiality with the sensitive nature of the discussions, drop-in visits are not permitted. **Deadline for signing up will be September 1, 2023.**

For questions or to sign up please contact **Ellen Richardson** ellenrichardson52@gmail.com or **Ron Balthazor** ron.balthazor@gmail.com.

NOTES

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Children's Sunday School (the Christian education time that coincides with Adult Spiritual Formation between our two morning services) is tentatively set to resume the Sunday after Labor Day.

We are in the process of recruiting a team of folks (around 10) who can share the teaching responsibilities. We are looking for adults who can commit to teach or shepherd an average of one Sunday per month during the school year. This year, we hope to have two Children's Sunday School groups (Kindergarten-2nd Grade and 3rd-6th Grades). The curriculum (Weaving God's Promises) is easy to use, with more than enough activities to choose from for each lesson.

Sunday School happens between 9:15 AM and 10:15 AM, which means teachers need to be at the church and getting ready around 8:45 AM.

During the month of August, I will be working on securing our team of leaders. If you receive an email or phone call invitation to participate in this important ministry, I hope you will consider it with a listening ear and heart.

Fr. Doug

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!

Those Who Serve

Vestry: LeeAnne Krause
Reader: George Krause (8AM);
Joyce Morehouse (10:30AM)
EMs: David Stooksbury & Roger Schwenke
Crucifers: Anna Thornton
Torches: Mariel and Julia Sanford

Flowers: Kris Braman
Altar Guild: Anna Thornton & Nancy Watson
Ushers: Mark & Ellen Richardson
Counters: Maggie Reinberger & Stacie Court
Livestream: Pete Nicholls

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
jdouglasadkins@gmail.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
wvmcglamery@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: LeeAnne Krause leeanne.krause@verizon.net

