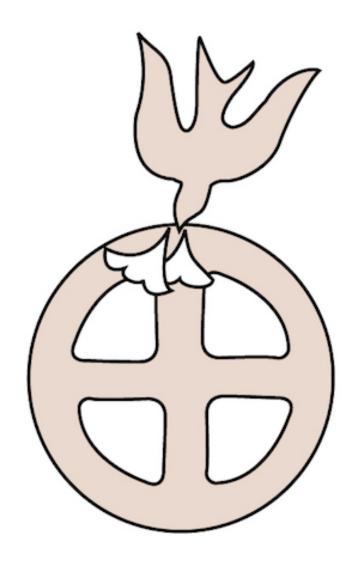
# St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



AUGUST 14, 2022 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 10th Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 15

## THE WORD OF GOD

# **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Prelude**

We invite you to please silence your cell phones and to enter worship in stillness, silence, and reverence during the Prelude, which begins our service.



# **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

BCP 355

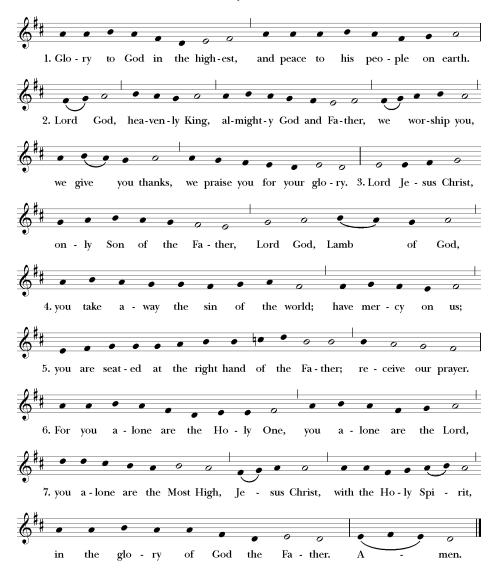
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.



# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

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

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18



1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a / flock; \* shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the / cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma-/nasseh, \* stir up your strength and come to / help us.

8 You have brought a vine out of / Egypt; \*

you cast out the nations and / planted it.

9 You prepared the / ground for it; \*

it took root and filled the / land.

10 The mountains were covered by its / shadow \* and the towering cedar trees by its / boughs.

11 You stretched out its tendrils to the / Sea \* and its branches to the / River.

12 Why have you broken down its / wall, \*

so that all who pass by pluck off its / grapes?

13 The wild boar of the forest has / ravaged it, \*

and the beasts of the field have / grazed upon it.

14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this / vine; \* preserve what your right hand has / planted.



15 They burn it with fire like / rubbish; \*

at the rebuke of your countenance let them / perish.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your / right hand, \*

the son of man you have made so strong for your-/self.

17 And so will we never turn a-/way from you; \*

give us life, that we may call upon your / Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of / hosts; \*

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be / saved.

# THE SECOND READING Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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



THE GOSPEL Luke 12:49-56

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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 VI

**BCP 392** 

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; We pray for our President, Joseph, our Governor, Brian, and our Mayor, Kelly.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Rob, Paul, and Don, our Bishops; (...) and for all bishops and other ministers, priests, and deacons, especially Nikki and Christina;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for (...)

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for (...)

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant adds a Collect.

## 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**.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

## **Offertory Anthem**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

James Ellor

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!

Let angels prostrate fall, let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
on this terrestrial ball, on this terrestrial ball,
to Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng
we at His feet may fall! we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all.

# 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.

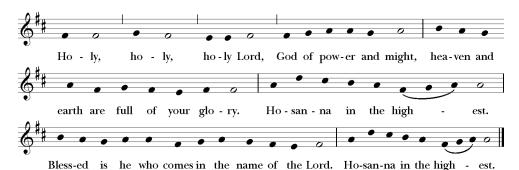
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface may be said)

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-124

## Holy, holy, holy Lord

David Hurd



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

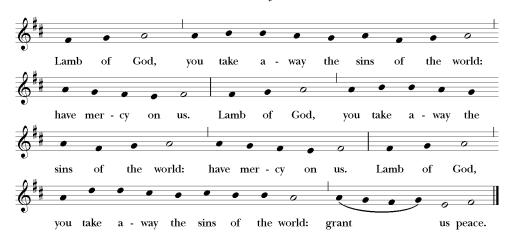
# THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

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-161

# Lamb of God

David Hurd



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 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



## THE DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.



The altar flowers are dedicated by Lane Norton to the honor and glory of God and in honor of the 91st birthday of her mother, Janice Lanford Rusk.

# Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Olivia Carlisle, Barbara Dean, Mack Thurmond, Dan Nolen, Jr., Ann Worley, Jamaica Miller, Becky Thomas, Carol Whitson, Tom Sturgis, Diane Miller, John Granrose, Heather Kleiner, Martha Beach, Tammy Bowman, Rose Ann Pace, Cameron Steele, Nathan Parrish, Ed Spivey, Hannah Bennett, Anna Thornton, Sheryl King, Tom Hiers, Jane Bowen, Pat Irby, Pat Titus, Stephanie Gamble, Stephen Morris, Shelby Welch, Roger Swagler, Cindy Beagle, Bill Beagle, Sally Stuckey, Diane Holcomb, Stephen Corn, Ken Packer, Scott, David, Sandy, Christina K., Will, Melissa, Karyna, Ben, Byron, Andi, Jennie, Benedict, Robby, Cecil, Brooke, Jim, Peter, Jason, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, and Buddy.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Julia Adang, Marilyn Vickers, Emma Scott, Joseph Cook, Martha DeHart, Benjamin Compton, and Hank Fowler; 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.

# **TODAY**

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

As families are settling into the school routine, don't forget to "settle in" to our weekly routine at St. Gregory the Great. We continue our Sunday schedule as we did prior to the summer: **Children's Sunday School**, 9:15-10:15 in the Christian Education Building (meeting in the chapel) **Children's Church** - meeting during the 10:30 service Please see Doug Adkins if you have any questions about details for our children's ministry. Doug will be convening a parents meeting after Labor Day in effort to plan some family ministry events for the fall.

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Spiritual Formation Committee will meet after the 10:30AM service today. Anyone is welcome to join!

# THIS WEEK

# MOVIE NIGHT! | FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

This month, on August 19, we will be watching *Nomadland* (2021). "A woman in her sixties, after losing everything in the Great Recession, embarks on a journey through the American West, living as a van-dwelling modern-day nomad." Join us in the parish hall and enjoy some popcorn and soft drinks - or bring a blanket and a picnic dinner! The movie begins promptly at 7pm.

## **NEXT WEEK**

# PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING | SUNDAY, AUG. 21

The Pastoral Care Committee will meet in the library next Sunday, Aug. 21, after the 10:30AM service.

## **NOTES**

# FEAST VOLUNTEERS WANTED

St. Gregory's is a supporter of FEAST, the food pantry on the eastside of Athens, which operates out of Covenant Presbyterian Church every Thursday, between 10am-4pm. Currently, the operation does not have anyone in charge, since Covenant's Community Outreach Coordinator has gone to seminary. Covenant is asking for people to consider helping with this ministry as volunteers to help set up food, or take down names/addresses from folks who pick up groceries, and/or fill shopping carts and distribute groceries. You can also contribute by donating funds in order to purchase food. To volunteer, please sign up <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aa5aa22a20-covenant">www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aa5aa22a20-covenant</a> or to give online, visit <a href="https://www.covpresathens.org/online-giving">www.covpresathens.org/online-giving</a> or mail a check to 1065 Gaines School Road, 30605.

# **GEORGIA FREEDOM LETTERS**

Georgia Freedom Letters was formed in the summer of 2020 by a group of organizers, educators, and people who care about building connections across the walls of Georgia's criminal legal system through letter writing. Due to an overwhelming amount of interest in recent months from those currently experiencing incarceration, GFL is eagerly asking us to get out our

pens and paper and participate in their recently launched pen pal project. Especially now, people experiencing incarceration need our support. Since COVID, many of the programs and visitations at our prisons have been significantly reduced if not cancelled-letter writing is one way we can help provide human connection and companionship especially until these programs can be reinstantiated.

## **Streamlined instructions:**

Please read and purpose to follow the GFL guidelines, before signing up. <a href="www.georgiafreedomletters.wordpress.com/guidelines-logistics/">www.georgiafreedomletters.wordpress.com/guidelines-logistics/</a>. This link should get you to the form to fill out for being a penpal: <a href="www.georgiafreedomletters.wordpress.com/joinus/">www.georgiafreedomletters.wordpress.com/joinus/</a>

Here's the address you can use for your mailing address, instead of giving your home address:

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany 2089 Ponce de Leon Avenue, NE Atlanta, Georgia 30307

Please email the Rev. Nicole Lambelet, at <a href="mailto:nlambelet@epiphany.org">nlambelet@epiphany.org</a> to let her know that you are using their church address, and to give her your real address so that their church can send you any mail you receive from your pen pal.

## ACOLYTES WANTED

We are in need of a few more acolytes to give a bit of relief to those in our current rotation. Never served before? That's fine - we will teach you! Acolyting is a great, low commitment, way to get involved in the life of the parish! Reach out to Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, if you would like to volunteer.

# **BLINDSPOT GROUP CHAT**

If you're in your 20s or 30s and would like to stay up to date on events for your age group please reach out to Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, to join our group chat.

#### **USHERS NEEDED**

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to usher! **We still need 8 more volunteers to fill out the roster, so that we don't over-burden the group we have now!** If you would like to volunteer, and/or coordinate, please contact Anna Hiers, vestry liaison to the Worship Committee, at Email: <a href="mailto:aldhiers@gmail.com">aldhiers@gmail.com</a>, or 706-340-9799. Training will be provided.

# **COFFEE HOUR**

Due to a lack of volunteers, there may or may not be coffee hour on any given Sunday. If you are able to host or bring a baked item for a future coffee hour, contact Melissa or Catrina to sign up. A sign up sheet will also be posted at the event. Melissa Hamlin- melmariehamlin@gmail.com - 8AM service Catrina King - Catrina.anirtac@gmail.com - 10:30AM service

## Those Who Serve

Vestry: Mark Richardson Readers: Jane Hudson (8AM) Roger Schwenke (10:30AM)

EMs:

Crucifers: Gravson Krause & Gavin Avinger

Torches: Ethan Vogt & Porter Welch

Flowers: Lane Norton

Altar Guild: David Lowe & Berni McCranie Counters: Maggie Reinberger & Anna Hiers

Livestream: Pete Nicholls

# Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Nikki Mathis Rector

rector@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x2

The Rev. Christina Dondero Deacon

christinadondero@gmail.com | 404-918-7248

Kendall M. Kookogey Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

office@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x1

Terri Tillman WebMaster

ttillman@gmail.com

Jonathan Klein Music Director/Organist

*jonathanfk@gmail.com* | 706-296-8102

Joseph Napoli Choir Director

awn1984@att.net | 706-546-6638

Doug Adkins Director of Children's Ministries

jdadkins@hotmail.com | 706-474-4784

Wade McGlamery Youth Minister

wwmcglamery@gmail.com | 770-624-4837

Jude Red-Bear Nursery Director

juderedbear@icloud.com | 706-614-0008

Mark Hein Buildings/Grounds

markehein@gmail.com | 706-549-3239

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Jude Red Bear

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator

anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

Vestry Members: Eddie Bennett; John Bray; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Blaine Everson; Anna Hiers; Jane Hudson; LeeAnne Krause; Lane

Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson; Caley Ross; Chrissy Moffett, Clerk; Les House, Treasurer

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