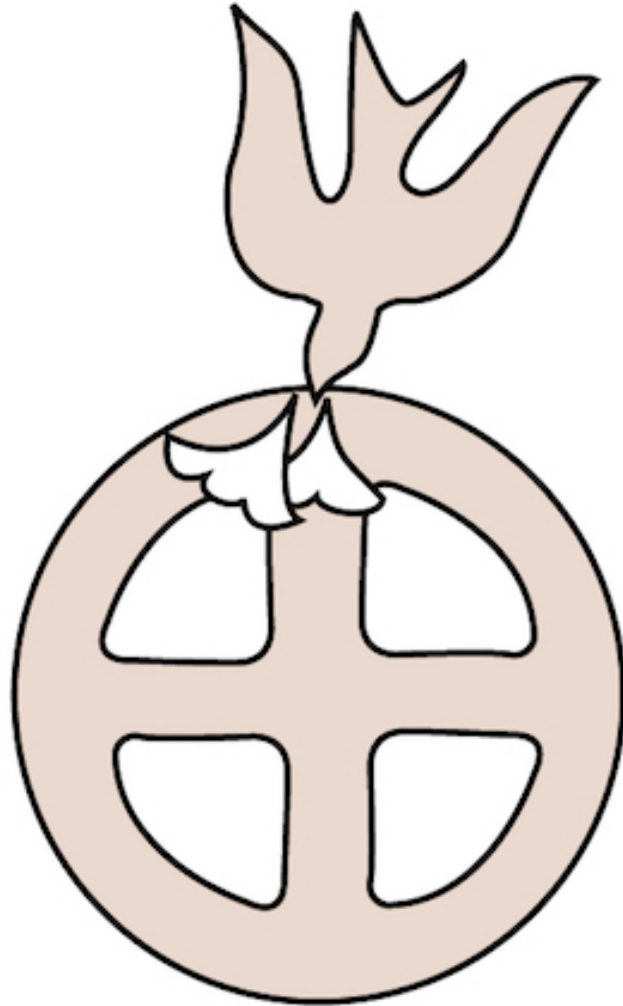


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 11, 2022
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 14th Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Largo

F. J. Haydn

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.

Processional Hymn 470

There's a wideness in God's mercy

BEECHER

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice, which is more than lib-er-ty.
there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
and the heart of the E-ter-nal is most won-der-ful-ly kind.

There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more gra-ces for the good;
There is plen-ti-ful re-demp-tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more faith-ful, we should take him at his word;

there is mer-cy with the Sa-vior; there is heal-ing in his blood.
there is joy for all the mem-bers in the sor-rows of the Head.
and our life would be thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

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.

3

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord_ God, heav-en-ly King, al -
 might-y God and Fath-er, we wor-ship you, we_ give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
 Son_ of the Fa - ther, Lord God,_ Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fath - er re -
 ceive_ our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High Je - sus
 Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit in the glo - ry of
 God the Fath - er. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them. "For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good." I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 14 (*spoken in unison at 8AM*)



- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no / God." *
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts; there is none who does any / good.
- 2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us / all, *
to see if there is any who is wise, if there is one who seeks after / God.
- 3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned / bad; *
there is none who does good; no, not / one.
- 4 Have they no knowledge, all those / evildoers *
who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the / Lord?
- 5 See how they tremble with / fear, *
because God is in the company of the / righteous.
- 6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the af-/flicted, *
but the Lord is their / refuge.
- 7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of / Zion! *
when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel be / glad.

THE SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen..

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

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 689

I sought the Lord

FAITH

1 I sought the Lord, and af - ter - ward I knew he
 2 Thou didst reach forth thy hand and mine en - fold; I
 3 I find, I walk, I love, but oh, the whole of

moved my soul to seek him, seek - ing me; it was not
 walked and sank not on the storm-vexed sea; 'twas not so
 love is but my an - swer, Lord, to thee: for thou wert

I that found, O Sa - vior true; no, I was found of thee.
 much that I on thee took hold, as thou, dear Lord, on me.
 long be - fore-hand with my soul, al - ways thou lov - edst me.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

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

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Christina Dondero

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, deacons, and clergy associates, especially Lin, Dutton, Carol, Ellen, Christina, & Nikki;

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

Give Thanks and Glorify His Name!

Lloyd Larson

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
Give thanks to the Lord, His faithful love endures forevermore!
God has redeemed you. Sing it out, His love proclaim!
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
Glorify His holy name!
Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and enter His courts with your praise;
give thanks to God and praise His name.
He is evermore the same.
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
Give thanks to the Lord, His faithful love endures forevermore!
God has redeemed you. Sing it out, His love proclaim!
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
Glorify His holy name!
Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom the world rejoices;
who, from our mother's arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good!
His love endures forevermore!
God has redeemed you. Sing it out, His love proclaim!
Give thanks to the Lord, and glorify His holy name!
Give thanks and glorify His name!

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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Thomas Pavlechko

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blest is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Lamb of God

Thomas Pavlechko

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin_ of the
world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin_ of the world, grant_ us your peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Solo

Sheep May Safely Graze

J. S. Bach

Communion Hymn 683

O for a closer walk with God

BEATITUDO

1 O for a clos - er walk with God, a calm and heav-en-ly frame,
2 Where is the bless - ed - ness I knew when first I saw the Lord?
3 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet mes-sen - ger of rest;
4 The dear-est i - dol I have known, what - e'er that i - dol be,
5 So shall my walk be close with God, calm and se - rene my frame;

1 a light to shine up - on the road that leads me to the Lamb!
2 Where is the soul - re - fresh-ing view of Je - sus and his word?
3 I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.
4 help me to tear it from thy throne, and wor - ship on - ly thee.
5 so pur - er light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

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

Recessional Hymn 646

The King of love my shepherd is

DOMINUS REGIT ME

Descant

6 And so through all the length of days thy

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
 * 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
 5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

6 good - ness fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 thy goodness faileth never:
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house for ever.

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



*The altar flowers are dedicated by Stacie Court
to the honor and glory of God,
and in gratitude for the 84th birthday of her father, Don Downie.*

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Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Olivia Carlisle, Jan VanKeuren, Brenda Browning, Barbara Dean, Angie Defalco, Mack Thurmond, Amy Watkins, Megan Cox, Dan Williams, Kelly Fields, Lane Dennard, Dan Nolen, Jr., Ann Worley, Jamaica Miller, 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, Stephanie Gamble, Stephen Morris, Shelby Welch, Roger Swagler, Cindy Beagle, Bill Beagle, Sally Stuckey, Diane Holcomb, Ken Packer, Annie, Missy, Scott, Sandy, Christina K., Will, Melissa, Karyna, Ben, Byron, Andi, Jennie, Benedict, Robby, Cecil, Brooke, Jim, Jason, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, and Buddy.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Danielle Wilson, Allison Lewis, Emma Laing, Rebecca Welch, Leigh Hodges, Mattee Barkdoll, Tom Sturgis, Elmer Clark, Jim Green, & Andrew Majsztirik.

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.

Seeking Nominations to the Vestry

The Nominating Committee is developing a list of potential nominees to the Vestry for the term 2023-2026. We want your recommendations. With those nominations and with recommendations from the current Vestry, the Nominating Committee will assemble a slate of three eligible candidates to replace the three outgoing Vestry members. The slate of three nominees will be presented to the congregation before the end of the year, and the congregation will vote on the slate at our Annual Meeting in January, 2023. As specified in our ByLaws, the slate of three candidates will be elected collectively, not as individuals, so the election isn't competitive.

Not only can you nominate parishioners—with their permission—to be considered for the Vestry, you can self-nominate. That is, you can offer your own name in nomination to the Vestry.

Eligible candidates for membership on the Vestry, as stipulated in our parish ByLaws, must

- be confirmed communicants in good standing in the parish,
- be at least 18 years old,
- regularly attend church services,
- and have made and fulfilled a financial commitment (a pledge) to the church in the past year.

To submit your name or that of others in the parish for possible membership on the Vestry, simply send it to a member of the Nominating Committee: Amelia Ross (awelch1987@gmail.com); Anthony Garner (agg9396@gmail.com), Eddie Bennett (ilason@charter.net), Jane Hudson, (janeghudson@gmail.com); LeeAnne Krause (leeanne.krause@verizon.net) or Nikki Mathis (rector@stgregoryathens.org).

Please send us your nominations for membership on the Vestry by Monday, September 19.

TODAY

LECTIONARY CLASS | 9:15AM

After a long hiatus, Les House will be restarting the **live** Lectionary class today! The class will meet in the Library at 9:15AM on Sundays. We will be studying the assigned readings for each Sunday. Please contact Les House at 478-733-2939 or lwhouse9@gmail.com if you have any questions. Ken Taylor will continue the Zoom classes on Thursday at least through the end of September.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING | 12PM

The Outreach Committee will meet today in the library at 12 Noon.

THIS WEEK

SACRED GROUND | BEGINS SEPT. 15

Sacred Ground is a sensitive, prayerful program of learning and group conversations created by The Episcopal Church to promote transformative dialogue circles on race and racism. 24 parishioners from St. Gregory the Great have completed the Sacred Ground Program via Zoom in 2021, as have many faith centered groups throughout the Episcopal Church.

We are planning to begin our first **in-person** Sacred Ground Circle at St. Gregory's weekly on Thursday evenings 6:30 - 8PM beginning September 15 and concluding with the last meeting on November 17. Online reading materials and films will be made available online for participants to prepare for each circle discussion.

Participation is welcome for all adults 18 and older in the St. Gregory's community who are prepared to commit themselves to one another for the 10-week duration of the program and the time required to prepare for and to attend the meetings. Friends and family members beyond St. Gregory's are also welcome as long as the commitment to the full program is honored, and *not* brought as drop-in guests.

If you have questions please contact Ellen Richardson at ellenrichardson52@gmail.com or at 912-660-0151 or Ron Balthazar at ron.balthazor@gmail.com or at 706-338-0625.

If you would like to read more about the program, follow this link: <https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground>. We hope you will prayerfully consider this opportunity at this important time of seeking understanding and healing in our fragile communities and our wider world.

MOVIE NIGHT | FRIDAY, SEPT. 16

This month, on Sept. 16, we will be watching *Mrs. Doubtfire* (1993), starring Robin Williams. "*After a bitter divorce, an actor disguises himself as a female housekeeper to spend time with his children held in custody by his former wife.*" 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.

COMING UP ...

50 YEARS OF MUSIC & WORSHIP | SUN. SEPT 25

(and still celebrating)

In honor of our 50th anniversary, please join us in worship for the world premiere of St. Gregory's first commissioned choral work, "Living Christ, Our Rock and Foundation". Written by renowned composer Lloyd Larson, this piece will be featured on Sunday, September 25th at the 10:00am service (only service that day). This work will feature the St. Gregory's choir with brass + percussion along with composer Mr. Larson in residence with us that morning! ***In light of this, we would like to have a nice reception after the service, but we need your help! Anyone who is willing and able, please bring a finger food to share that morning. Coffee/water & cake will be provided.***

FAMILY PROMISE | OCTOBER 16-22

St. Gregory's next Family Promise (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network) week is October 16-22 (we help 3 weeks a year). We belong to this organization of churches in Athens which provides temporarily homeless families who are working their way back to stability with a place to stay for up to several months, giving them and their children much needed assistance. The breadwinners in the family get rides to work if needed. Those who don't have a job have the support to find one. Meals are provided. Family Promise also works to prevent homelessness by helping families who might need a rent payment or a utility payment to be able to continue living in their home. They have helped some families find and purchase a used vehicle. We have this chance to put our faith into action, to walk by faith into a role we maybe haven't experienced yet, but which God is calling us to, like Mother Nikki has so often preached. To feed the hungry and house the homeless, to give hope to those who need it. Contact Annette Bates, bateskannette@gmail.com or 706-255-5839, to learn more. Thank you for being willing to put your feet into action!

NOTES

3 GREGORIANS ARE EXHIBITING AT BOTANICAL GARDENS!

Vicky Tavernier and Jenifer Borg have an exhibit of collages made from found objects and poems called "Words About Birds and Insights About Insects. The exhibit will be on display in the Gardenside Room of the Visitor Center from 9/4 through 11/20. The opening reception will be on Sunday, 9/18, from 2:00-4:00 PM. Berkeley Boone's exhibit "Nature Photos Just Because", features plants and animals that are often overlooked along with captions about their natural history. The exhibition will be on display in the Great Room of the Visitor Center from 10/16 through 11/20. The opening reception will be on Sunday, 10/16 from 2:00-4:00 PM.

1 GREGORIAN EXHIBITING AT AURUM STUDIOS

June Ball has her paintings up at Aurum Studios on Clayton Street from now through Oct. 31!

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 re-instantiated.

Streamlined instructions:

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

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 nlambelet@epiphany.org 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.

Those Who Serve

Vestry: Eddie Bennett
Readers: Lynn Hanna (8AM)
Janet Patterson (10:30AM)
EMs: Barbara Kuhn & Beth Thornton
Crucifers: Mariel Sanford, Porter Welch

Torches: Ethan Vogt, Julia Sanford
Flowers: Mary Ann Cox
Altar Guild: Barbara Dean, Susanne Burton
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
wwmclamery@gmail.com | 770-624-4837

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

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

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

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

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: Eddie Bennett *ilason@charter.net*

