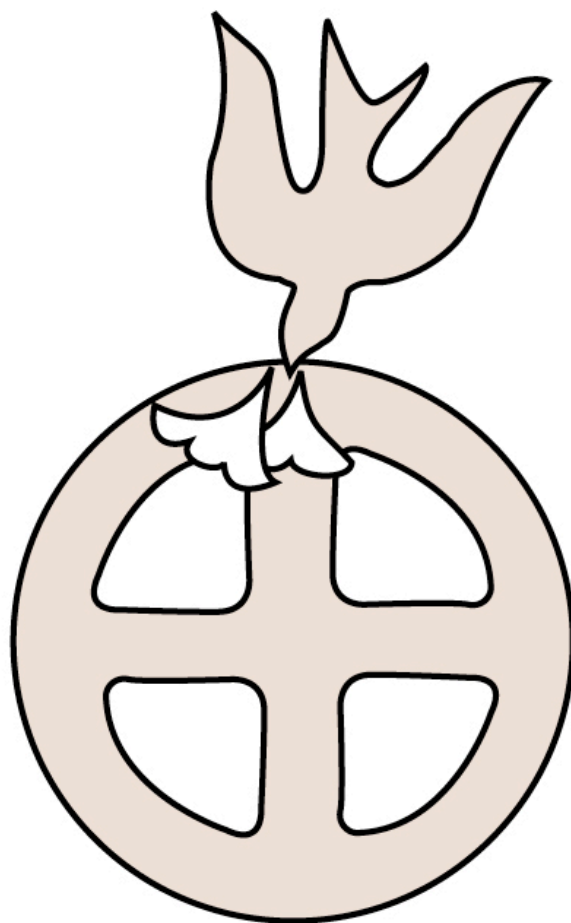


# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

PREMIERED ON YOUTUBE

10:30AM

W/ ONLINE COFFEE HOUR BEGINNING AT 10:15AM

# THE HOLY VIRTUAL EUCHARIST

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 21

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## THE WORD OF GOD

### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION \*

What happens when you are spiritually prepared and desire to receive communion, but can't?  
Such a case is referenced by a paragraph in the 1979 Prayer Book:

*If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability, is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.*

A nation-wide shut down due to a pandemic fits, I'm sure we'll agree, with the words "by any other impediment" listed in the first Prayer Book. Our Lord will not cut us off from his grace. If we truly desire him, he will come to us, even if we cannot receive the Sacraments he has instituted so that we may receive his grace. This is not a new idea. St Thomas Aquinas, writing nearly 800 years ago, said:

*before receiving a sacrament, the reality of the sacrament can be had through the very desire of receiving the sacrament. Accordingly, before actual reception of this sacrament, a man can obtain salvation through the desire of receiving it, just as he can before Baptism through the desire of Baptism, as stated above (Summa, III.73.iii)*

Desiring to receive the spiritual grace of the Most Holy Eucharist (and being prevented from receiving it sacramentally) is known as Spiritual Communion. It is so very important to note that this gift is given to us when we cannot, for very good reason, be present at mass.

When you are watching a live-stream or recording of our liturgies, any of the following prayers may be said at the moment of communion when you would normally leave your pew and make your journey to the altar:

**In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from You. Let me live and die in Your love. Amen.**

*OR*

**Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. (from *Enriching Our Worship 2*)**

*OR*

**"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already in my heart  
and unite myself to you completely.  
Please do not let me ever be separated from you." (by St. Alphonsus Liguori)**

*\*Except where otherwise indicated, the whole of this article (with only very little amendment) is taken from the website of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where it was posted on April 5, 2020. No author was specified.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opening Hymn 7

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

RATISBON

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:  
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

BCP 355

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

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

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE FIRST READING

*read by Roger Schwenke*

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

## Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

*Spoken by all*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \* incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \* I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, \* we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \* in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; \* he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, \* and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \* and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, \* and the waters gushed out like rivers.

## THE SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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



1 At the Name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,  
 2 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a Name  
 3 bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,  
 4 Name him, Chris - tians, name him, with love strong as death,  
 \*5 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
 \*6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



1 ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;  
 2 from the lips of sin - ners, un - to whom he came,  
 3 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,  
 4 name with awe and won - der and with bat - ed breath;  
 5 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;  
 6 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



1 'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord  
 2 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,  
 3 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast;  
 4 he is God the Sa - vior, he is Christ the Lord,  
 5 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
 6 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



1 who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
 2 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;  
 3 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.  
 4 ev - er to be wor - shipped, trust - ed, and a - dored.  
 5 let his will en - fold you in its light and power.  
 6 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

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

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE SERMON: The Rev. Kim Jackson

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

*(said by all)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Give to the departed eternal rest;

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

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

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

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

## A PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(people may stand)*

BCP 360

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

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

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

## THE PEACE

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

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

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn 343

*Shepherd of souls*

ST. AGNES

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen  
2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy  
3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not  
4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the  
word of grace, in strength of which we  
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with  
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.  
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.  
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.  
heav - en - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

### 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 can be said*)

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

*Celebrant and People*

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

***Hosanna in the highest.***

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

***Hosanna in the highest.***

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



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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

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

**Fraction Anthem**

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

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

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Enriching Our Worship 2

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

1. Come, Thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy  
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm  
 3. O, to grace how great a debt - or, Dai - ly I'm con - strained to

1. grace; Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est  
 2. come; And I hope, by thy good pleas - ure, Sure - ly to ar - rive at  
 3. be; Let that grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - d'ring heart to

1. praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a -  
 2. home. Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan - d'ring from the fold of  
 3. Thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel - it, Prone to leave the God I

1. bove. Praise the mount, O fix me on it. Mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
 2. God. He, to save my soul from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
 3. love. Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, Seal it from thy courts a - bove.

## THE DISMISSAL

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

## Fellowship Music

*Gilead & Gloria*

Traditional Spirituals/arr. J. Klein

*The altar flowers are dedicated by Ron Balthazor & Jane Hudson  
 to the honor and glory of God  
 and in celebration of the 7<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of their daughter and son-in-law,  
 Katherine & Michael Crowley.*

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## Prayers of the People

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

**In sympathy to** Julia Marlowe, on the death of her brother, John.

**In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week:** Don Musholt, Kris Braman, Crystal Hitchcock, Cecil Hudson, Zachary Jarrett, Wynn Walter, Brad Hankins, Nikki Mathis, Cleo Weinmeister, Mark Tavernier, Sarah Gordon, and Mia Camoston; **and for those celebrating anniversaries:** Anthony & Mattee Barkdoll, Jeff & Paula Sanford, and Kevin & Angela Greene.

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*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.*

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### Clergy and Staff

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**Vestry Person of the Day/Week:** Rhonda Hefner-Packer [packer.rhonda@gmail.com](mailto:packer.rhonda@gmail.com)

