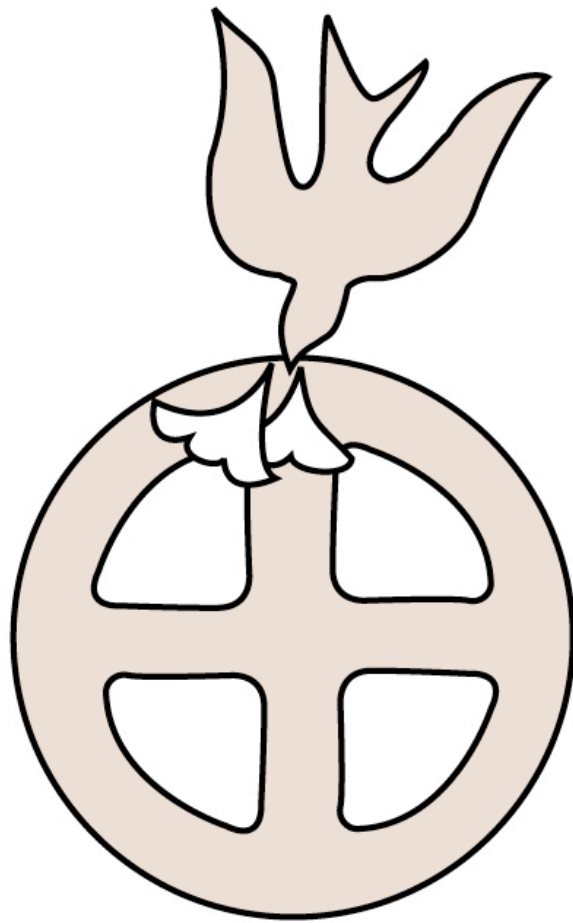


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



OCTOBER 17, 2021
PREMIERED ON YOUTUBE

10:30AM

THE HOLY VIRTUAL EUCHARIST
The 21st Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 24

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 477


All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine

ENGELBERG

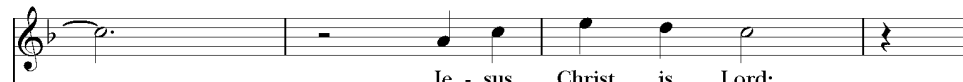
Descant




5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord.




1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King di - vine,
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought;
3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
4 Where - fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, thou
5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord.




Je - sus Christ is Lord;



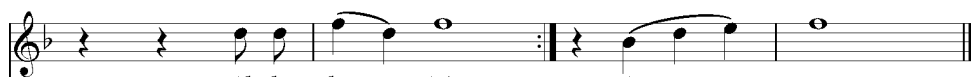
1 didst yield the glo - ry that of right was thine,
2 by thee the out - cast and the poor were sought;
3 who wast a ser - vant that we might be free,
4 art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now,
5 in heaven and earth that Je - sus Christ is Lord;




and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.



1 that in our dark - ened hearts thy grace might shine.
2 and by thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought.
3 hum - bling thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry.
4 and given the Name to which all knees shall bow.
5 and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.



Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.



Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

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.

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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 Michael Castengera

Job 38:1-7

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?"

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

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:1-9, 25, 37b (*spoken*)

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul; *

O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!
you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

2 You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak * and spread out the heavens like a curtain.

3 You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; *

you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind.

4 You make the winds your messengers * and flames of fire your servants.

5 You have set the earth upon its foundations, * so that it never shall move at any time.

6 You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; * the waters stood higher than the mountains.

7 At your rebuke they fled; * at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

8 They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, *

to the places you had appointed for them.

9 You set the limits that they should not pass; * they shall not again cover the earth.

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! *

in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

37b Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

Thanks be to God.

1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
 2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee
 3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for
 4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the

and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
 in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
 us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
 dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion

bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.
 low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
 high, our life to live, our death to die.
 light we read the full - ness of thy might.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 10:35-45

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

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

*The Gospel of the Lord.***Praise to you, O Christ.***The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE SERMON: The Rev. Nikki Mathis

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

(said by all)

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

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

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

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

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

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; we pray for our President, Joseph, our Governor, Brian, and our Mayor, Kelly.

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. ...

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.**

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 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

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Enriching Our Worship 2

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

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

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

THE BLESSING

Closing Hymn 347

Go forth for God

LITTON

1 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in peace;
2 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in love;
3 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in strength;
4 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in joy,

be of good cour - age, armed with heaven - ly grace,
strength - en the faint, give cour - age to the weak;
hold fast the good, be ur - gent for the right;
to serve God's peo - ple ev - ery day and hour,

in God's good Spi - rit dai - ly to in - crease,
help the af - flict - ed; rich - ly from a - bove
ren - der to no one e - vil; Christ at length
and ser - ving Christ, our ev - ery gift em - ploy,

till in his king - dom we _____ be - hold his face.
his love sup - plies the grace _____ and power we seek.
shall o - ver - come all dark - ness with his light.
re - joic - ing in the Ho - ly Spi - rit's power.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Fellowship Music

The Power of Your Love

arr. Mark Hayes

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Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for John Gay, The Rev. Judy Gay, Ed Spivey, Rick Berry, Hannah Bennett, Anna Thornton, Bill Alworth, Charles Thornton, James Morris, Tom Hiers, Jane Bowen, Marge Massey, Pat Irby, Pat Titus, Stephanie Gamble, Stephen Morris, George Watson, Tina Carlson, Shelby Welch, Roger Swagler, Stanley Armour, Cindy Beagle, Bill Beagle, Sally Stuckey, Diane Holcomb, Stephen Corn, Ken Packer, Cecil, Brooke, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, and Buddy.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week: Katie Coyne, Kelly Black, Roger Schwenke, Adrienne Freeman, Deirdre Murray, Carolyn Ingle, Anna Thornton, Katie Hein, Hannah Scarbrough, Warren Lamm, & Aiden Lamm.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDRENS THEATRE

New! We are forming a fall Theatre group for children, and also seek interested youth and adults to help facilitate the process. The group will meet Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 10:15, outdoors, or in the parish hall or Children's Chapel with windows open. Please contact Catherine Drewry to sign up cbdrewry@gmail.com 706-201-7241.

YOU TUBE STORIES

Tune in to our church YouTube channel to hear great stories read by fellow Gregorians each week. Recent readers have included Dakota Hamlin, Jude RedBear, Conoly Hester, Barbara Kuhn, Brenda Browning, and Carolyn Howell, and coming soon are videos by Porter Welch, Karen Hankins, and Nancy Watson. Click here to find the videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyRMekJhoZKkfXtJc1nKWyg/videos>

And, if you want to be a reader, contact Catherine Drewry to volunteer at cbdrewry@gmail.com or 706-201-7241.

ALTAR GUILD

The altar guild needs volunteers! No experience is needed, and training will be provided. Anyone who is interested can contact Barbara Dean at 706-354-4269 or bdean70020@gmail.com

NEEDED: CHILDREN'S CLOTHES

Our Outreach Committee is sponsoring a parish-wide clothes drive to support our neighbor Barnett Shoals Elementary School. Although the Barnett Shoals children do not wear uniforms, the school does have a clothes closet that is in dire need of replenishment of some items. The school counselor there has indicated a need for the following clothing items.

Boys

- Underwear in all sizes (XS, S, M, and L) especially in XS and S (or sizes 4-8)
- Pants/sweatpants/shorts in sizes (XS, M, and L)
- Shirts in sizes M and L (already set for everything smaller)
- Note that the school is well stocked with socks.

Girls

- Underwear in all sizes (XS, S, M, and L) especially in XS and S (or sizes 4-8)
- Pants/shorts/leggings in all sizes (XS, S, M, L)
- Tops in sizes S, M, and L
- Note that the school is well stocked with socks.

This year you can contribute to the Clothes Closet in three ways:

- Make an **online** donation through REALM by Sunday, October 31. Select the *Outreach* option when making your contribution. Include *Barnett Shoals Clothes Closet* in the memo line.
- Write a **check** to St. Gregory the Great and bring/mail to the Parish so it is received by Sunday, October 31. Include *Barnett Shoals Clothes Closet* in the memo line.
- **Bring clothing** to the Parish anytime Monday-Friday (10am-5pm) or on Sunday when you are here for church. We will be collecting these items in bins located in the lobby of the Parish Hall building from now through Sunday, October 31.

Thank you for your support, St. Gregory Outreach Committee

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Nikki Mathis Rector
rector@stgregoryathens.org | 706-546-7553 x2

The Rev. Christina Dondero Deacon
christinadondero@gmail.com | 404-918-7248

Terri Tillman and Dallas Bono Audiovisual Technicians
tillman@gmail.com; dallasbono@gmail.com

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awn1984@att.net | 706-546-6638

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

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

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

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

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Megan Reuter, Allison Weaver

Vestry Members: Jane Hudson, *Sr. Warden*; Kelly Black, *Jr. Warden*; Julie Worley; LeeAnne Krause; John Bray; Anna Hiers; Blaine Everson; Eddie Bennett; Caley Ross; Chrissy Moffett, *Clerk*; Les House, *Treasurer*

Vestry Person of the Day/Week: John Bray *johnpatrickbray@gmail.com*

