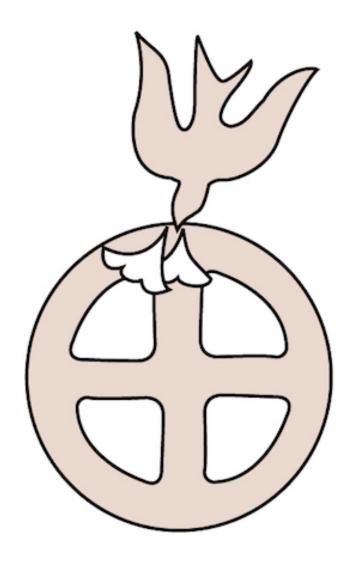
St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



OCTOBER 23, 2022 Live Streamed on <u>YouTube</u>

10:30АМ

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 20th Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 25

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude Brother James' Air

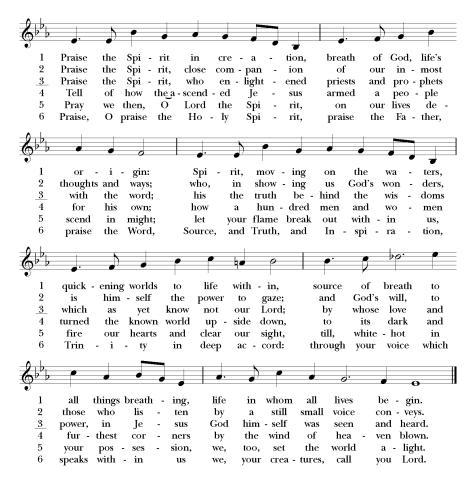
J. L. Macbeth Bain arr. J. Gilbert

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 506

Praise the Spirit in creation

FINNIAN



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 and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 Joel 2:23-32

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen

1 You are to be praised, O God, in / Zion; *

to you shall vows be performed in Je-/rusalem.

2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh / come, *

because of their trans-/gressions.

3 Our sins are stronger than / we are, *

but you will blot them / out.

4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to / dwell there! *

they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your / temple.

5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,O God of our sal-/vation, *

O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far a-/way.

6 You make fast the mountains by your / power; *

they are girded about with / might.

7 You still the roaring of the / seas, *

the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the / peoples.

8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous / signs; *

you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for / joy.

let them shout for joy and sing.



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very / plenteous; *

the river of God is full of / water.

10 You prepare the / grain, *

for so you provide for the / earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the / ridges; *

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its / increase.

12 You crown the year with your / goodness, *

and your paths overflow with / plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for / grazing, *

and the hills be clothed with / joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with / grain; * let them shout for joy and / sing.

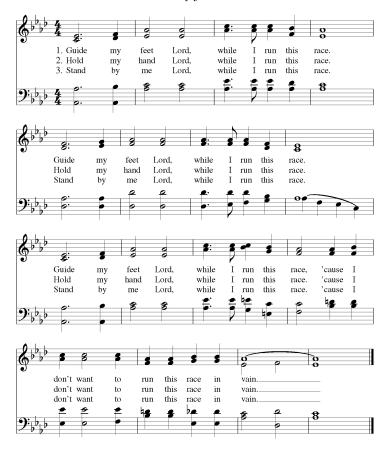
THE SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL Luke 18:9-14

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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.

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

O Magnify the Lord with Me

arr. George Lynn

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. Hallelujah, Amen.

Presentation Hymn 400

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia! praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. O praise him, O praise him. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thomas Pavlechko

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

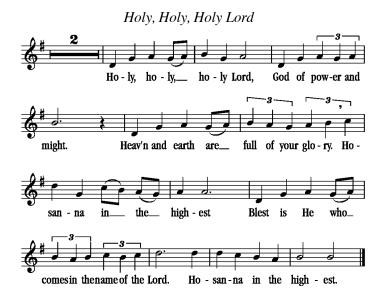
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 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.

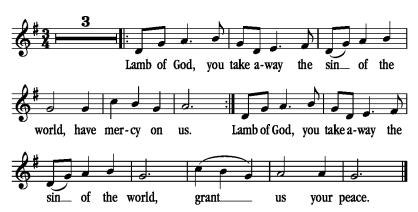
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

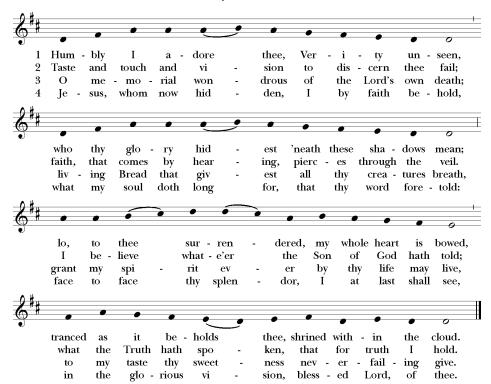


THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE



Humbly I adore thee

ADORO DEVOTE





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 Susanne Burton to the honor and glory of God, and in thanksgiving for her buddy, Rhonda Packer, and all the new buddies at St. Gregory's!

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Pat MacKinnon, Dick MacKinnon, Ali Elyaman, Ben Barkdoll, Don Downie, Olivia Carlisle, Angie Defalco, Stephanie Gamble, Ken Packer, Kay, Ben, Mobley, Scott, Lynn, and Pete.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Warren Lamm, Aiden Lamm, Jason Vogt, Dolores Holt, Bruce Bowman, Carole Zavitz, Raymond Hoover, Barbara Dean, Deborah Miller, Dona Conway, and Amanda Aycock; and for those celebrating anniversaries: Scott & Beth Thornton.

The people listed here are prayed for by name at each Sunday service. To request prayer for yourself or someone else, please call the office (706-546-7553). If at the beginning of the next month the person needs to remain on the list, please call and give the office an update.

THIS WEEK

NEEDED: CHILDREN'S CLOTHES | NOW - NOV. 6

One of St. Gregory's annual Outreach projects is sponsoring the parish-wide clothes drive to support our neighbor, Barnett Shoals Elementary. Your donations will replenish the following prioritized items most needed for the school's clothes closet.

- boys' pants/sweatpants/shorts all sizes, from youth XS through L
- girls' pants/shorts/leggings all sizes, from youth XS through L
- boys' and girls' underwear youth sizes XS (4-5), S (5-6), and M (7-8)
- boys' and girls' shirts youth sizes XS M (can include t-shirts that come in multi-packs, not necessarily gendered)

Donations will be collected through **Sunday, November 6**, in the box located in the lobby of Parish Hall. If you have questions, contact Rhonda Packer in person or @ packer.rhonda@gmail.com.

THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION for FOOD BANK | NOW - NOV. 13

Please take a paper grocery bag with a shopping list attached, fill it with the items requested by the Food Bank for their clients' Thanksgiving dinners, and return it to St. Gregory's any weekday or Sunday through November 13th. We have missed doing this the last few years due to Covid; but we have an opportunity once again to support this important ministry in our community. If you need assistance with shopping or pick up of your purchases, call Marge Massey, 706-255-2145. Thank you. "If you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight." Isaiah 58:10 MSG Bible

BLINDSPOT SMALL GROUP | THURSDAY, OCT. 27 @ 7PM

The Blindspot (those in their 20-30s) Small Group continues the program entitled "The Way of Love." There will be no prep work needed, so just grab a friend and show up! Whether you've been attending St. Gregory's for years or you've never even been to a service, all are welcome! Dinner will be provided, so please text Wade, or send a message in the group chat, with any dietary restrictions. We'll sit down to eat at 6:30pm in the education building and begin the session at 7pm. If you have any questions just send them in the group chat or text Wade. 770-624-4837

ALTAR OF REMEMBRANCE & MEMORIAL GARDEN | OCT. 24 - NOV. 5/6

Rest eternal, grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

All Saint's Day is the time in the liturgical year when we pause to celebrate the lives of those saints who have gone before us; loved ones who made us who we are today. All parish families are invited to place the names their departed loved ones, small photos, and other mementos on this altar, which will be in Parish Hall. Candles will be available for prayerful lighting.

Lane Norton will also place votive candles in our Memorial Garden, They will be there 10/23-11/6 for anyone who may like to come and light a candle in memory of someone. There are matches provided in a ziplock bag for you to use. Please remember to extinguish the candle(s) before you leave.

NEXT WEEK

INGATHERING SUNDAY | OCT. 30

You should have received your pledge letter and pledge card in the mail. Next Sunday, October 30, is Ingathering Day for our pledges! We will joyfully and thankfully give to our church to do God's work with the gifts He has provided. Remember to bring your pledge cards to place in the basket at the altar. If you can't make it to church next week, you can mail in your pledge card or pledge online here: https://onrealm.org/stgregoryathens/-/form/pledge/generalpledges2023

TRUNK -or- TREAT & HALLOWEENIE ROAST | SUNDAY, OCT. 30

We need trunks for October Trunk or Treating! We want to be sure and have enough "stops" around the parking lot (either side of the church) for our October 30 "Trunk or Treating and Halloweenie Roast." After supper, we will dismiss those who are distributing goodies from their "trunks" in order to set-up. When everyone is ready, we will unleash the kids.

If you can bring your goodies and a vehicle to distribute them from, please let Doug Adkins know by Sunday, October 23 – either in person at church, or via email at dadkins@bexleyseabury.edu. Remember: no peanut products/products that have processed near peanuts.

Three other things to remember:

- 1. We encourage all ages to get into the spirit by dressing up in a Halloween costume/attire.
- 2. The church will supply hot dogs, buns, condiments, and drinks. Please bring a side dish of choice to share.
- 3. Everyone is invited to bring a carved or painted pumpkin to display for our "Carved/Painted Pumpkin Contest."

LABYRINTH | OCT. 31 - NOV. 5

You are invited to walk St. Gregory's Labyrinth in the parish hall Monday, October 31 through Saturday November 5 in honor and remembrance of All Saint's Day and All Soul's Day. The labyrinth offers you the opportunity to "put feet on your prayers." Experience a walking meditation that connects your mind, body and spirit.

COMING UP ...

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS | SUNDAY, NOV. 6

Sunday, November 6, we will celebrate the Holy Eucharist and Feast of All Saints at both services, with a baptism at the 10:30AM service.

BROWN BAG LECTURE | MONDAY, NOV. 7

Managing the Aging Journey

Presented by Robin Lacrimosa, Life Care Coordinator. This session is for those who are determining how they will manage their elder care journey or for those who are supporting others in making these decisions. Topics include: home health care, aging in place, assisted living, long-term care, veteran's pension benefits, Medicare, and Medicaid. Monday, November 7th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm. Parish Hall. Bring a bag lunch, if you'd like!

NOTES

THE ALTAR GUILD NEEDS YOU!

The altar guild is looking for new volunteers! You will be trained! Please contact Barbara Dean at 706-354-4269 or bdean70020@gmail.com.

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: Blaine Everson Readers: Carolyn Abney (8AM) Annette Bates (10:30AM)

EMs: David Stooksbury & Karen Hankins

Crucifer: Ethan Vogt

Torches: Maggie Reinberger & Roger Schwenke

Flowers: Lane Norton

Altar Guild: David Lowe & Berni McCranie Ushers: Mark Richardson & Anna Hiers Counters: Stacie Court & Angela Greene

Livestream: Alec Nelson

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

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 www.cglamery@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

Terri Tillman WebMaster *ttillman@gmail.com*

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

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

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: Blaine Everson doceverson@gmail.com