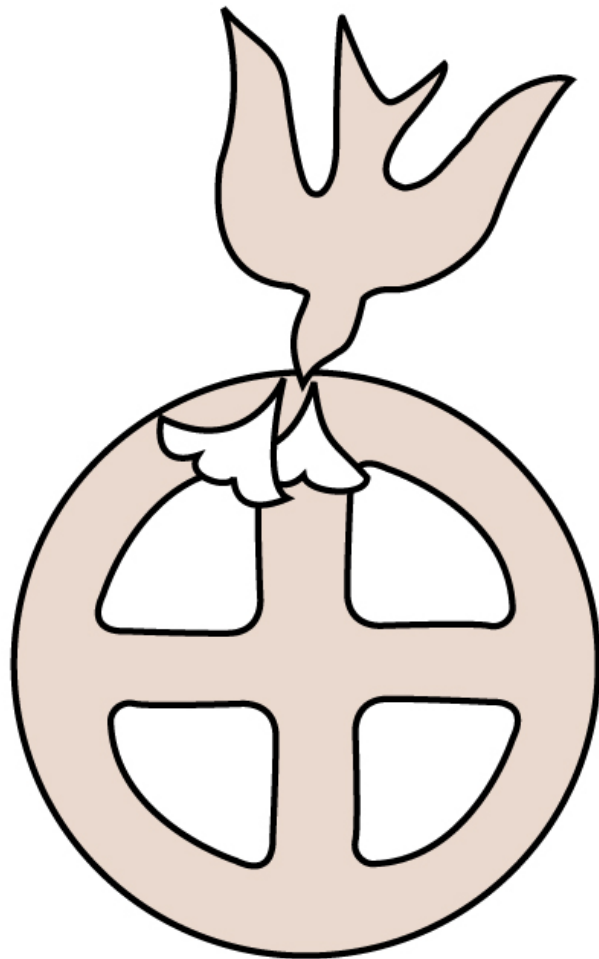


# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



NOVEMBER 12, 2023  
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 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 27

---

**THE WORD OF GOD**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Prelude**

*Dundee*

arr. Healey Willan

**Processional Hymn 8**

*Morning has broken*

**BUNESSAN**

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass. \_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play! \_\_\_\_\_

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! \_\_\_\_\_  
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. \_\_\_\_\_  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! \_\_\_\_\_

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system includes three numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system continues the lyrics. The fourth system concludes the lyrics. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 351

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, hea-ven-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

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

***Thanks be to God.***

## Psalm 78:1-7



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

- 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.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for / Israel, \*  
which he commanded them to teach their / children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet un-/born; \*  
that they in their turn might tell it to their / children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in / God, \*  
and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his com-/mandments;

## THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

***Thanks be to God.***

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de-scend-ing, once for our sal -  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful  
 3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e -

va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 ma - jes - ty; those who set at nought and sold him,  
 bo - dy bears, cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
 ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry;

swell the tri - umph of his train: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers; with what rap - ture,  
 claim the king - dom for thine own: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - ri - ous scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

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

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

*The Gospel of the Lord.****Praise to you, O Christ.***

THE SERMON: Ron Balthazor

## 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.

#### 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.**

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form IV

BCP 388

*The congregational response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer."*

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

#### THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### Offertory Anthem

*Teach Me, O Lord*

Thomas Atwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;  
and I shall keep it unto the end.

#### Presentation Hymn 380 v. 3

*Doxology*

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

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

#### 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 is 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. 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.

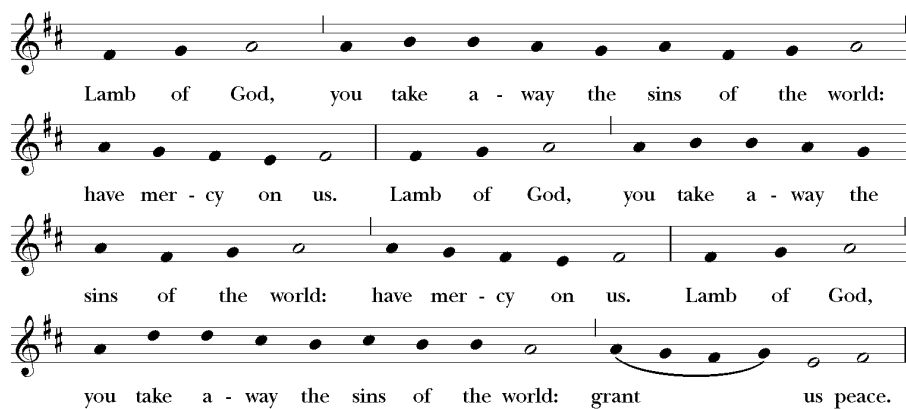
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

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.**





Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Voluntary

Meditation on "Picardy"

arr. Frederick Small

Communion Hymn 324

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

PICARDY

our full hom - age to de - mand.  
his own self for heaven - ly food.  
as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"' data-bbox="263 390 730 748"/>

1 Let all mo - rtal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and  
 2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on  
 3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard  
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with  
 trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -  
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man  
 on the way, as the Light of Light de -  
 sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the  
 mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
 ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood  
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,  
 Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,  
 Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,  
 he will give to all the faith - ful  
 that the powers of hell may va - nish  
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 our full hom - age to de - mand.  
 his own self for heaven - ly food.  
 as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

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

### Closing Hymn 436

*Lift up your heads*

TRURO

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the  
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
\*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to  
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is  
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner  
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.  
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!  
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.  
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

## THE DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**



---

### *About Today's Music...*

*If you turn to the author index of any good hymnal and scan for the largest number of hymns contributed by any one person you will find Charles Wesley (1707-1788) near the top. He is credited with more than 6,500 hymns, including "Hark! The herald angels sing", "Christ the Lord is risen today" and our sequence hymn, "Lo! He comes with clouds descending" (#58).*

*Wesley was responding to a wave of evangelism in his own day, when traveling preachers gathered small groups wherever they were found and strove to win their hearts to Christ. These preachers needed hymns with words that stirred the emotions. Wesley wrote such words, but with an eye and ear to style and nuance that elevated his hymns beyond utilitarian needs to true art. This text was inspired by the vision of the second coming in Revelation 1:7, "Behold he cometh with clouds."*

*The Tune "St. Thomas" was composed by John Francis Wade (1711-1786) who also composed the music "Adeste fideles".*

---

## Prayers of the People

**In our Parish** we pray for Eddie Bennett, Jim Klippel, Jackie Dorsey, Denise Glynn, Cecil Hudson, Peter Rice, Jean Estes, Elmer Clark, Nancy Carter, Randy Harrelson, Teri Bouknecht, Kara Russe, Ellen Kappel, Susan Dunn & family, David Kirshenblatt, Cayden Mitchell, Bill Alworth, Stephen Morris, Barbara Johnson, Sue Bush, Janice Rusk, Jennifer Polzin, Susan Williams, Pat MacKinnon, Shelby Welch, Don Downie, Angie Defalco, Ken Packer, Michael, Rachel, Christy, Rosina, Eliot, Patricia, Ben, Scott, and Lynn.

**In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week:** Mariel Sanford, Vicky Tavernier, Mary Laing, Jean Estes, Lydia Peck, Jeff Welch, Marlaine Barnes, Sue Alford, and Isaiah Camoston.

---

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

---

### TODAY

#### **THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE | LAST DAY**

St. Gregory's is holding a special Thanksgiving food drive for the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank during the week of November 5-12. Please bring donations on any time during the week or on either of the 2 Sundays. Donations brought during the week/Sat. may be left in the entryway hall of the office building. The following foods have been suggested:

Canned pumpkin	Turkey Gravy
Cranberry Sauce	Chicken Broth
Fresh or Canned Sweet Potatoes	French Fried Onions
Stuffing Mix	Mushroom Soup
	Salty, Savory Snack Foods

### THIS WEEK

#### **FAMILY PROMISE | NOV. 12-18**

Our last week to participate in Family Promise this year is this coming week, November 12-18. The meal preparer slots are all filled, many thanks to those of you who are preparing meals! **We do need day time hosts on Saturday, November 18 at these times: 8-10:30AM, 10:30AM-2PM, and 5-8PM.** As a host, you are just available at Milledge Avenue Baptist Church if anyone needs anything; it's normally very quiet. This is a way we can share God's love in the world. Here's the signup link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-2022#/> For questions, please contact Annette Bates at [bateskannette@gmail.com](mailto:bateskannette@gmail.com) or 706-255-2539.

#### **SWEENEY TODD | NOV. 16-19 (ALMOST SOLD OUT)**

Athens Creative Theatre (ACT) presents Sweeney Todd at the Morton Theatre in downtown Athens Thursday, November 16 through Sunday, November 19. (*Melinda Jones & Kendall Kookogey and the rest of the Bono gang are performing!*) Sweeney Todd (with Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Hugh Wheeler), is the unsettling tale of a Victorian-era barber who returns home to London after fifteen years of exile to take revenge on the corrupt judge who ruined his life. Show times are Thursday-Saturday at 7:30pm and Sunday at 3:00pm. Tickets are now on sale online at [www.mortontheatre.com](http://www.mortontheatre.com), by phone at 706-613-3771, or in person at the Morton Theatre Box Office located at 195 W. Washington Street Mondays through Fridays from 12n-4pm.

### NEXT WEEK

#### **NURSERY CLOSURE**

The nursery will be closed due to limited staff on November 19th & November 26th.

### COMING UP ...

#### **BAND OF BELIEVERS | BEGINS SUNDAY, NOV. 26**

Band of Believers! Mark your calendars. We start practicing for the Christmas pageant on Sunday, Nov. 26 from 9:45-10:30AM in the Children's Chapel. We accept all folks who have ever played an instrument. All means all! If you want to play with the Band of Believers let me know at [vtavernier@aol.com](mailto:vtavernier@aol.com). We're excited to start up again! Let the baby be born! *Vicky and Mark Tavernier*

## **MERIDIAN WOMEN'S CHORUS CONCERT | SAT., DEC. 2**

Meridian Women's Chorus presents their annual Tapestry Holiday Concert Saturday, December 2 at 3:00 pm at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on West Lake Drive. This free concert includes performances by Meridian as well as three other local ensembles. A reception and Holiday Market follow the concert. For more information contact Director Stacie Court at [stacie.court@gmail.com](mailto:stacie.court@gmail.com).

## **2023 HOLIDAY BENEVOLENCE MARKET | SUNDAY, DEC. 3**

**When:** Sunday, December 3, 2023, 12 noon -3PM

**Where:** Covenant Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1065 Gaines School Road, Athens, GA 30605

### **What is the Holiday Benevolence Market?**

This is the 29th year of this symbolic gift-giving opportunity and First Presbyterian Church and Covenant Presbyterian Church are partnering to host the market on the East Side of Athens. Our hope is to flood the Market with families from all the Athens congregations to join us in supporting our local non-profits! There will be more than 30 local Athens non-profit organizations sharing about their service to our community...to give them a chance to share about how they serve our neighbors most in need, to connect with new possible volunteers and to collect donations for their work.

## **CONFIRMATION CLASSES | DECEMBER - JANUARY**

Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, December 3, immediately following the 10:30AM service, in the Parish Hall. If you're interested in being confirmed, reaffirmed, received, an adult wishing to be baptized, or you'd just like to learn more about the Episcopal Church, please come! We'll meet on the following dates, leading up to confirmation during the Bishop's visit in February: Dec. 3, 10, 17 and Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28.

## **ONGOING**

### **HOLY EUCHARIST & HEALING SERVICE | WEDNESDAYS**

Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6PM in the sanctuary for eucharist and prayers for healing.

### **BLINDSPOT GROUP | THURSDAYS**

Our 20s and 30s group meets on the last Thursday of each month at 6:30PM for dinner and a small group study (usually off-site of the church). We also meet at least once a month for game nights, dinner and drinks, movie nights, and more. Newcomers are always welcome! Contact Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837 for more information.

## **NOTES**

### **THANK YOU! CLOTHING DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS!!**

Once again, St. Gregory's parishioners have come through for students in need. Whether it's backpacks, cleaning supplies, after-school care or clothes, when the need is identified, our family steps up to fill it. Thanks to the help of Jane Sheridan, the Outreach Committee delivered approximately 400 pounds of clothes to help fill six Clothes Closets at Barnett Shoals Elementary School! Your caring and generosity have made a big difference to a large number of students - again!! Thank you.

### **CALL FOR ART FOR CARD MINISTRY 2024**

The Card Ministry needs new art for 2024 cards. The ministry sends cards for children and youth up to 18 years old, seniors 70 and over, get well and encouragement, and bereavement. If you have questions or would like to submit a work of art for a card please contact Jenifer Borg at [jeniferaborg@gmail.com](mailto:jeniferaborg@gmail.com). Please send pictures in jpeg format. A wide range of art is welcome. Images should not be specific to gender or race. *Thank you, Card Ministry*

### **COUNTER NEEDED**

Counters work together in pairs to tally a week's worth of contributions to St. Gregory the Great. When the tally is completed, either counter takes the contributions to deposit at Truist Bank on Gaines School Road. Counting takes about 30 minutes, the visit to the bank takes about 10 minutes, and counters work just once a month. Counting pairs determine a mutually convenient time during their counting week to meet in the copy room in the Parish Hall to tally checks and cash donated during the week. Lifetime commitment to counting isn't required or expected. Counting is an easy task and an opportunity to serve at St. Gregory the Great.

Currently, counters include Lois Alworth ([wilo59@charter.net](mailto:wilo59@charter.net)), Stacie Court ([stacie.court@gmail.com](mailto:stacie.court@gmail.com)), Gail Eilers ([eilersgail@gmail.com](mailto:eilersgail@gmail.com)), Angela Greene ([angelagreene23@gmail.com](mailto:angelagreene23@gmail.com)), Katie Hein ([khein@uga.edu](mailto:khein@uga.edu)), Jane Hudson ([janeghudson@gmail.com](mailto:janeghudson@gmail.com)), Alice Mohor ([alicemohor@windstream.com](mailto:alicemohor@windstream.com)), Katie Reinberger ([kreinbe@gmail.com](mailto:kreinbe@gmail.com)), and Maggie Reinberger ([mmreinberger@gmail.com](mailto:mmreinberger@gmail.com)), any of whom are happy to answer your questions about counting. Contact Jane Hudson at [janeghudson@gmail.com](mailto:janeghudson@gmail.com) to volunteer to count.

## **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS**

Community Christmas of Oglethorpe County is gearing up for their annual toy and clothing drive! But in addition to and prior to that, they are in need of funds in November to help qualifying families pay their bills in December so hopefully they have a bit left over for Christmas! Thanks to neighbors like you, in 2022 they provided Christmas gifts and assistance plus emergency funds throughout the year totaling \$93,552 to 412 children from 175 Oglethorpe County families. The amount of aid needed was up 16% from 2021, and the number served increased by 94 children. Financial donations can be made online at their website, [www.CommunityChristmasOglethorpe.org](http://www.CommunityChristmasOglethorpe.org), dropped off at The Commercial Bank in Crawford, or mailed to 143 Bowen Farm Road, Crawford, GA 30630. There are many more details on the webpage.

## **ONE MORE NURSERY WORKER NEEDED**

We found 11 but the nursery would still love 1 more weekly staff member. This person should be a responsible teenager or kind adult that would be interested in having a background check, completing a short Safeguarding training online, and are current with their CPR & First Aid. The hours are 9am - 12pm each Sunday. We could also have volunteers rotating if they take the training and pass the background check.

## **THE LITTLE RED WAGON**

The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank needs dried goods like pasta/rice, mac-and-cheese, snacks (sweet & salty), and saltines! Please help us fill the Little Red Wagon!

## Those Who Serve

Vestry: Stacie Court  
Reader: Stacie Court (8AM);  
George Krause (10:30AM)  
EMs: Anna Thornton & Roger Schwenke  
Crucifers: Gavin Avinger  
Torches: Rainsly Vogt

Flowers: Viviane Van Giesen  
Altar Guild: Nancy Watson & Barbara Dean  
Ushers: Bruce Zavitz & Gail Eilers  
Counters: Maggie Reinberger & Stacie Court  
Livestream: Pete Nicholls

## Clergy and Staff

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

**The Rev. Doug Adkins** Associate Rector & Director of Children's Ministries  
*jdouglasadkins@gmail.com* | 706-474-4784

**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

**Wade McGlamery** Youth Minister  
*wmcglamery@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

**Anthony Barkdoll** Livestream Coordinator  
*anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com*

**Terri Tillman** WebMaster/Social Media  
*ttillman@gmail.com*

**Danielle Vogt** Coffee Host  
*danielle1784@gmail.com*

**Peachy Green Clean Co-op** Sexton

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

**Vestry Members:** Kate Avinger, John Barrett; John Bray; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Anna Hiers; LeeAnne Krause, *Sr. Warden*; Lane Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson, *Jr. Warden*; Shelby Welch; Anna Thornton, *Clerk*; Les House, *Treasurer*

**Vestry Person of the Day/Week:** Stacie Court [stacie.court@gmail.com](mailto:stacie.court@gmail.com)

