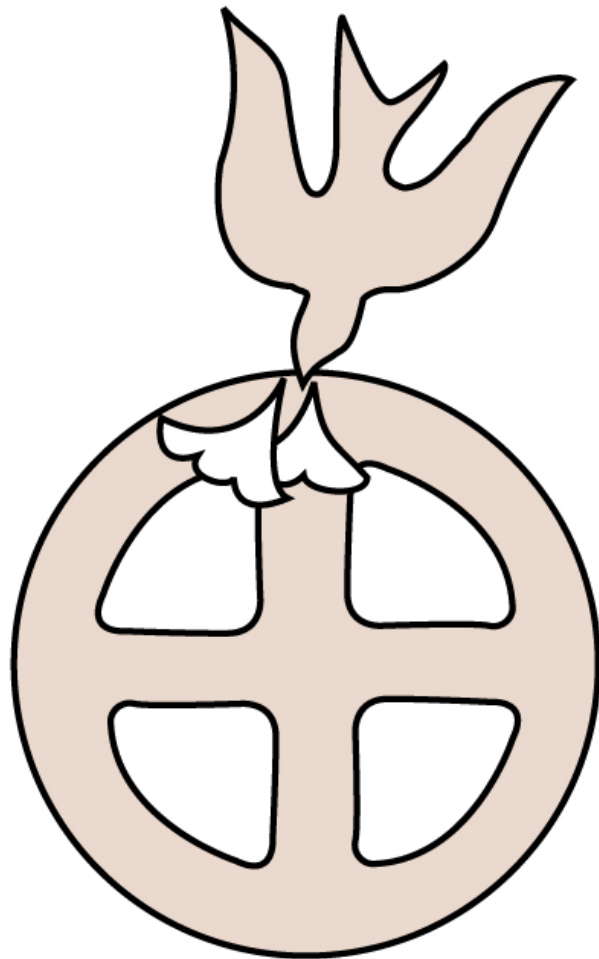


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



NOVEMBER 26, 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 Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

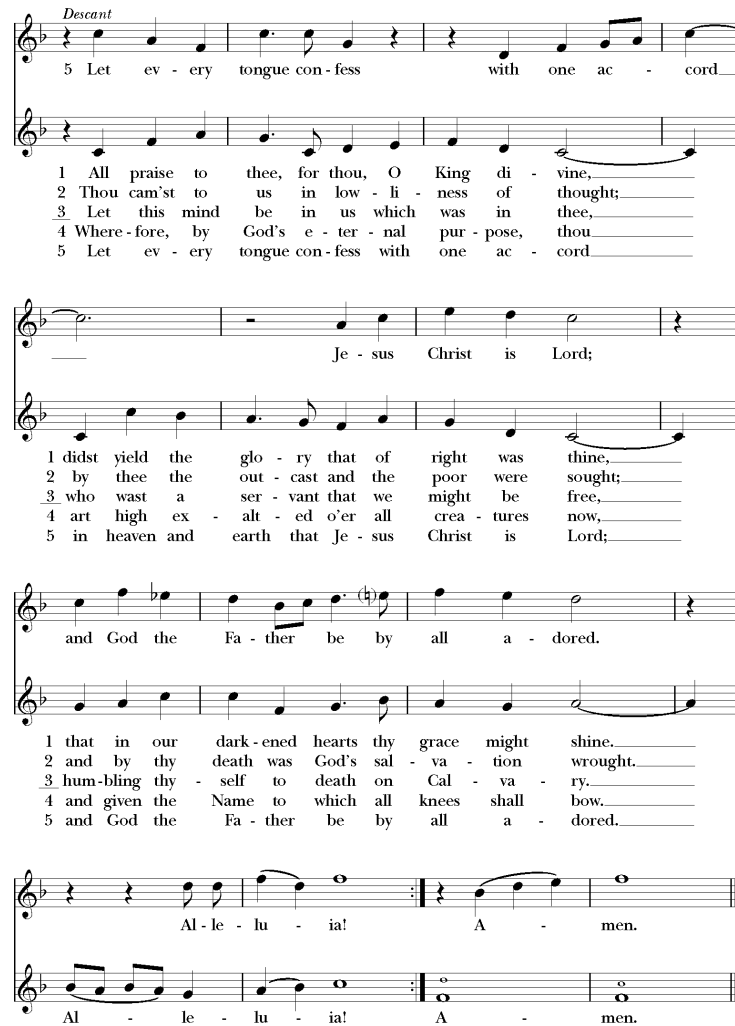
Prelude

Processional 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 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, 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. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you / lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a / song.
- 2 Know this: The Lord himself is / God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his / pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with / praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his / Name.
- 4 For the Lord is good; his mercy is ever-/lasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to / age.

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Thanks be to God.

Crown him with man-y crowns, as thrones be-fore him

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu-man breast, and
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall,

Descant

5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned a - bove;

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

fall, crown him, ye kings, for he is King of all.

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King,
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

crown him to whom is given the won-drous name of Love.

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran-somed sin - ners slain, now
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won-drous name of Love. Crown

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

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

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

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.

CONFESSIO 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

Today's loose plate offering will be sent to Appleton Episcopal Ministries, whose mission is to promote the health, safety, education, and well-being of children and families by partnering with parishes in the Middle Georgia Convocation.

Offertory Anthem

King All Glorious

Charles Wesley
George M. Vail

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Mortals, give thanks, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.
The Lord is King! Rejoice!
Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love:
When He had purged, had purged our stains, He took His seat above.
Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice! The Lord is King!
King all-glorious, Lord of Hosts almighty,
Thou art revealed in victory, o'er all the world ascended.
Jesus, the Savior, reigns, your Lord and King adore.
King all-glorious! Hail ye the Lord and King!
Thou art revealed in victory! Jesus, the Savior, reigns! Your King adore.
King all-glorious, Lord of Hosts almighty!
Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
and hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
King all-glorious, reign!
Amen.

Presentation Hymn 380 v. 3

Doxology

OLD 100TH

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 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:

*** Sanctus S-130**

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. 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.

***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

Communion Solo

Steal Away to Heaven

arr. Mark Hayes

Nobody knows the trouble I've seen. Nobody knows but Jesus.
Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen. Glory hallelujah!
Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down. Oh yes, Lord.
Sometimes I'm almost to the ground. Oh yes, Lord.
Oh, nobody knows the trouble that I've seen. Nobody knows but my Jesus.
Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen. Glory hallelujah!
Sometimes I feel like a motherless child, a long way from home.
Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone, way up in the heav'nly land, Lord!
Way up in the heav'nly land, where I'll steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away home.
I ain't got long to say here.

Christina LaFontaine, soprano

Communion Hymn 555

Lead on, O King eternal

LANCASHIRE

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears;

hence - forth in fields of con - quest thy tents shall be our home:
 and ho - li - ness shall wis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er thy face ap - pears.

through days of prep - a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light:

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heaven - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

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

6 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros - trate
 2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar
 3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did
 * 4 Ye heirs of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the
 * 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the

crown him Lord of all! to him a -

1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al
 2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of
 3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,
 4 crown him Lord of all! hail him who saves you
 5 crown him Lord of all! go, spread your tro - phies

ball, to him a - scribe, and

1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
 2 call; praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and
 3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and
 4 fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and
 5 gall, go, spread your tro - phies at his feet, and

scribe, and crown him Lord of all!

1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
 3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!
 4 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 5 at his feet, and crown him Lord of all!

6 Let every kindred, every tribe,
 on this terrestrial ball,
 to him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all!

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Special thanks to Christina LaFontaine for her music today!

*The altar flowers this morning are dedicated by Stacie Court
 to the honor and glory of God
 and in thanksgiving for David Court, on his birthday.*

Today's Hymnformation

Coronation, the tune best known to this text, is the oldest American tune in our Hymnal. Written by Oliver Holden (1765-1844), it is an example of the early American hymn form called "fuguing tune". In this form, a short melodic phrase is repeated in two or more parts. Perhaps the most famous fuguing tune is "O come, all ye faithful" where the refrain starts with just the upper line, and the at each repetition of the text a similar melody is added in the lower parts. Holden was a carpenter, musician and a minster who was eventually elected to Congress.

Edward Perronet (1726-1792) was an Englishman who for some time was associated with the Wesleys. This text, which first appeared in Gospel Magazine in 1780, has undergone many revisions, and has been included in Episcopal hymnals since 1874. Perronet is one of the major figures in the separation of the "Methodist" from the Church of England.

Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Kyra Madden, 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: Ethan Mathis, Rebecca Baggett, Laura Ruffin, Annette Bates, Julia Sanford, and Tamara Bowman.

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

NURSERY CLOSURE

The nursery will be closed due to limited staff next Sunday, November 26.

BAND OF BELIEVERS | BEGINS TODAY!

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. We're excited to start up again! Let the baby be born! *Vicky and Mark Tavernier*

APPLETON EPISCOPAL MINISTRIES | LOOSE PLATE OFFERING

Serving the middle Georgia convocation of the Diocese of Atlanta, Appleton Episcopal Ministries works to share God's love by promoting the health, safety, education, and well-being of children, especially children in need. Their many ministries include free lunches for children under 18, free tutoring programs, a diaper ministry, a youth choir, a community garden, and many more vital and enriching activities. Appleton Ministries is not directly funded by the diocese. Instead, the diocese has requested that loose-plate offerings given on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend (November 26th this year) be donated to Appleton Ministries to fund their life-changing work with children of impoverished communities. If you give online and are not accustomed to making an offering at Sunday Eucharists, please consider bringing money or a check on November 26th so that our parish can contribute generously to Appleton's mission of love.

THIS WEEK/NEXT SUNDAY

FLOWER GUILD | THURSDAY, NOV. 30

The flower guild will be meeting to green the church for Advent on Thursday, Nov. 30 at 10AM. All are invited to join us and to bring evergreen branches!

MULTI-GENERATIONAL OPPORTUNITY | SATURDAY-SUNDAY, DEC. 2-3

Guest instructor Matt Rodgers will be hosting a workshop that anyone aged 11-100 should join us for. Together we will explore building sacred space as we construct our very own pocket altars. "Pocket altars are an old tradition that goes back hundreds of years- maybe thousands. Together we'll explore what it means to be a builder of sacred space and what it means to carry with you wherever you go. What's in your pocket?" This event will be hosted from 6:30-8:30PM on December 1 and will continue from 2-4PM on December 2.

ADULT FORMATION ADVENT PROGRAM | DEC. 3, 10, 17

On December 3, 10, and 17, from 2-5PM, the Adult Spiritual Formation committee will be hosting a Bibliodrama class, much like the one that we hosted during VBS 2022. Matt Rodgers will be returning to lead us as we use collaborative storytelling techniques and improvisation to explore Advent relevant themes found in Psalm for the Wild-Built by Becky Chambers. Though reading the book is not required, it is strongly encouraged for any who plan on participating. We will provide more details in the coming weeks for this program.

BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES | SUNDAY, DEC. 3

Conversations on Grieving: While many Gregorians experience the holidays with joy, others find the holidays a time of challenge, struggle, and sadness. Come join us as we learn more about the grieving process and ways to respond to it in ourselves and others, with Mother Nikki, Gina Defalco, and Rhonda Packer facilitating. This session will also be interpreted for the deaf. **Childcare can be available; please contact the church office no later than 12PM on Friday, Dec. 1 to request it!**

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.

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.

COMING UP...

YOUTH EYC EVENT | SUNDAY, DEC. 17

On December 17 at 7PM, our youth program will be hosting a "DnD Night!" If you already enjoy playing DnD, or if you have never played before, you should feel free to join us! Contact Wade (770-624-4837) if you plan on attending.

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

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. 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), Stacie Court (stacie.court@gmail.com), Gail Eilers (eilersgail@gmail.com), Angela Greene (angelagreene23@gmail.com), Katie Hein (khein@uga.edu), Jane Hudson (janeghudson@gmail.com), Alice Mohor (alicemohor@windstream.com), Katie Reinberger (kreinbe@gmail.com), and Maggie Reinberger (mmreinberger@gmail.com), any of whom are happy to answer your questions about counting. Contact Jane Hudson at 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, 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.

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: LeeAnne Krause
Reader: Lynn Hanna (8AM);
Karen Hankins (10:30AM)
EMs: Karen Hankins & David Stooksbury
Crucifers: Grayson Krause & Ethan Vogt
Torches: Mariel Sanford & Julia Sanford

Flowers: Mary Ann Cox
Altar Guild: Anna Thornton, David Lowe, Barbara Dean
Ushers: Mark & Ellen Richardson
Counters: Angela Greene & Katie Reinberger
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

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, Willem Swindler

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: LeeAnne Krause leeanne.krause@verizon.net

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