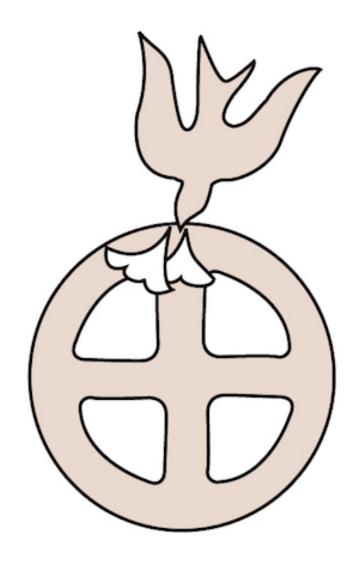
St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



JUNE 26, 2022 Live Streamed on <u>YouTube</u>

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 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 3rd Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 8

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

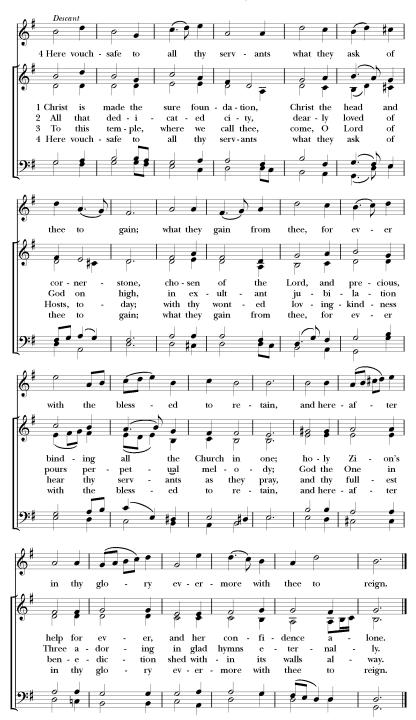
Prelude Day by Day Arthur Henry Biggs

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 518

Christ is made the sure foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

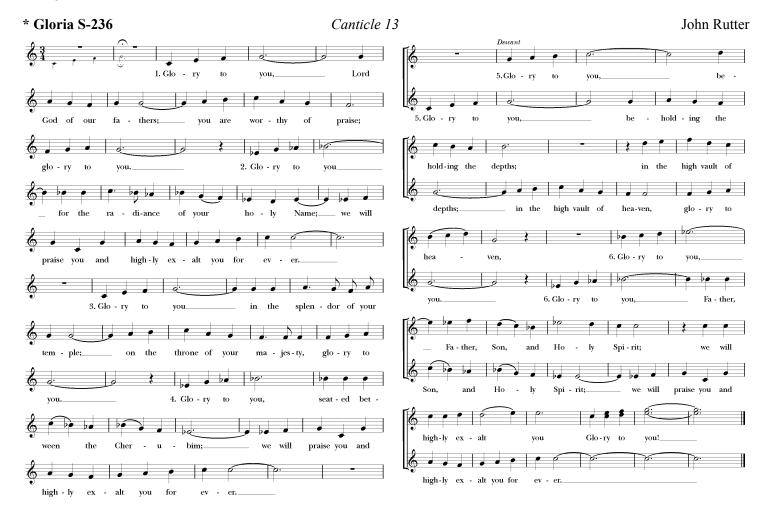


Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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 God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; 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 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and

horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

1 I will cry aloud to / God; *

I will cry aloud, and he will / hear me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought the / Lord; *

my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire; I refused to be / comforted.

11 I will remember the works of the / Lord, *

and call to mind your wonders of / old time.

12 I will meditate on all your / acts *

and ponder your mighty / deeds.

13 Your way, O God, is / holy; *

who is so great a god as our / God?

14 You are the God who works / wonders *

and have declared your power among the / peoples.

15 By your strength you have redeemed your / people, *

the children of Jacob and / Joseph.

16 The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and / trembled; *

the very depths were / shaken.

17 The clouds poured out water; the skies / thundered; *

your arrows flashed to and / fro;

18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the / world; *

the earth trembled and / shook.

19 Your way was in the sea, and your paths in the great / waters, *

yet your footsteps were not / seen.

20 You led your people like a / flock *

by the hand of Moses and / Aaron.

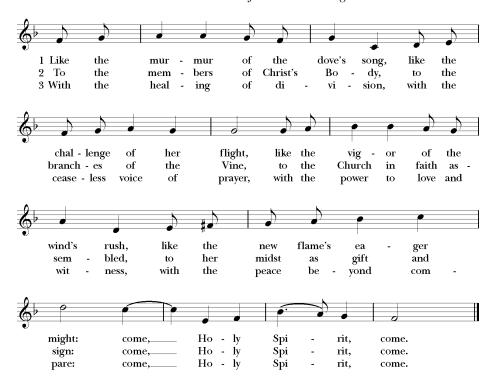
THE SECOND READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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

Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL Luke 9:51-62

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Carol Schwenke

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, and deacons, especially Nikki and Christina;

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.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you. Celebrant:

People: And also with you.

A LITANY OF FAREWELL

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Come, O Come, Our Voices Raise

Sondra K. Tucker

Come, O come, our voices raise, sounding God Almighty's praise; hither bring in one consent heart, and voice, and instrument.

Alleluia!

Sound the trumpet, touch the lute, let no tongue nor string be mute, nor a voiceless creature found, that has neither note nor sound. Alleluia!

Gather all before God's face, in this chorus take your place; and amid the mortal throng, be you masters of the song. Alleluia!

Let, in praise of God, the sound run a never-ending round, that our songs of praise may be everlasting, as is he,

Alleluia!

So this huge wide orb we see shall one choir, one temple be; where in such a praiseful tone we will sing what God has done.

Alleluia!

Thus our song shall over-climb all the bounds of space and time; come, then, come, our voices raise, sounding God Almighty's praise. Alleluia!

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.

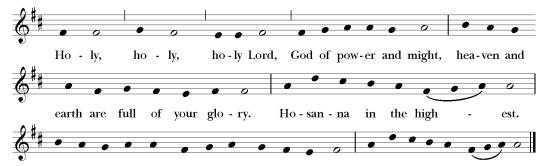
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface may be said)

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 S-124

Holy, holy, holy Lord

David Hurd



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high -

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.

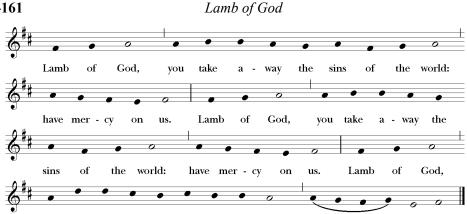
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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-161



THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

you take

Communion Hymn 655

O Jesus, I have promised

the

way

sins

the world:

grant

us peace.

NYLAND

David Hurd



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.

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.



Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Ann Darby, Mack Thurmond, Nigel Hall, Dan Nolen, Jr., Ann Worley, Jamaica Miller, Becky Thomas, Carol Whitson, Tom Sturgis, Diane Miller, John Granrose, Heather Kleiner, Martha Beach, Tammy Bowman, Rose Ann Pace, Cameron Steele, Nathan Parrish, Ed Spivey, Hannah Bennett, Anna Thornton, Sheryl King, James Morris, Tom Hiers, Jane Bowen, Pat Irby, Pat Titus, Stephanie Gamble, Stephen Morris, Shelby Welch, Roger Swagler, Stanley Armour, Cindy Beagle, Bill Beagle, Sally Stuckey, Diane Holcomb, Stephen Corn, Ken Packer, Christina K., Will, Melissa, Karyna, Ben, Byron, Andi, Jennie, Benedict, Robby, Cecil, Brooke, Jim, Peter, Jason, Lynn, Pete, Sophia, Samantha, Jennifer, Buddy, Mike, and Margaret.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Marge Massey, Robert Scott, Gretchen Koch, Simon Majsztrik, Catherine Drewry, Carol Schwenke, Mikaella Rollie, Martha Kyker, and Donna Solberg; and for those celebrating anniversaries: Mark & Katie Hein, and David & Karen Radde.

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

NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation class will not meet today.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

There will be a Pastoral Care Committee meeting right after the 10:30AM service today.

THIS WEEK

VBS VOLUNTEERS MEETING | TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Everyone who is interested in assisting with Bible School (whether you have communicated with Doug or not) is asked to join us for a discussion/planning meeting Tuesday, June 28, 6:45 PM in the Christian Education building. Please communicate with Doug if you have a conflict and are unable to attend.

YOUTH GAME NIGHT | SATURDAY, JULY 2

All youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to a monthly game night in the youth room at 6pm on the first Saturday of each month! The next one is this Saturday, July 2! Come, bring your friends and a favorite snack!

NEXT WEEK

FAMILY PROMISE | JULY 3-10

UPDATE: We've had a great response for dinner prep for our week! We do still need van drivers for the morning and evening and day and evening hosts. If you're able to help, please visit https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-2022 to sign up! We have this chance to put our faith into action, to walk by faith into a role we maybe haven't experienced yet, but which God is calling us to, like Mother Nikki told us in last week's sermon. To feed the hungry and house the homeless, to give hope to those who need it. Contact Annette Bates, bateskannette@gmail.com or 706-255-5839, to learn more.

COMING UP...

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT | FRIDAY, JULY 8

On July 8th at 7pm all 6th-12th graders are invited to see *Thor: Love and Thunder* at B&B Theaters. If your child would like to attend please let Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, know ASAP so that we can order the appropriate number of tickets.

BLINDSPOT GAME NIGHT | JULY 9

Calling all those in their 20s/30s- join us at the Rook and Pawn in Downtown Athens on Saturday, July 9th at 7pm for a night of games, drinks, and fellowship!

YOUTH PARENT INFORMATION MEETING | SUNDAY, JULY 10

If you have a child that will be in the 6th-12th grades as of August 2022, please come by our Parent Info meeting in the Parish Hall on July 10 at 1pm, immediately following Mother Nikki's confirmation class. Contact Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, if you have any questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL | JULY 18-21

Dates and Times: July 18-21, 5:30 - 7:45PM

We are about 3 weeks (July 18-21) from "Compassion Camp: Changing the World with Lovingkindness." We have extended the nightly sessions by 15 minutes, beginning with supper at 5:30 and concluding at 7:45. As is the case every year, in order to pull off a week of Bible School, we need several volunteers. Please notice the needs listed below, and contact Doug Adkins to let him know in which area you would like to serve.

Supper: We need a team of 5-6 people to organize the suppers each night. Nothing is set in stone as of yet, but we had discussed: Pizza Night; Spaghetti Night; Jason's Deli Sandwich Box Night; and a Food Truck Night (tacos and burritos?) Also each night we will have a "make your own salad" option.

Gathering & Music: We need someone to lead us in singing a couple theme songs each night for our gathering time. If you cannot be there each night, you can lead one or two nights. Doug has the music and scripts.

Below are the three rotations for each night. Volunteers will be doing the same lesson for three different groups of kids as they rotate through Compassion Camp.

Games & Movement: Alice Mohor will be leading this rotation, and will be recruiting her team. See Alice if you would like to assist.

Bible Story/Scripts: We need 5-7 people to assist with presenting the Bible story for each night.

Create/Crafts: We need 3-4 people to assist with this rotation.

Doug Adkins has the curriculum for each group. Please let him know as soon as you can regarding the area you can serve. How exciting it is to finally be back in person for a week of Bible School!

NOTES

ACOLYTES WANTED

We are in need of a few more acolytes to give a bit of relief to those in our current rotation. Never served before? That's fine - we will teach you! Acolyting is a great, low commitment, way to get involved in the life of the parish! Reach out to Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, if you would like to volunteer.

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.

USHERS NEEDED

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to usher! We still need 8 more volunteers to fill out the roster, so that we don't over-burden the group we have now! If you would like to volunteer, and/or coordinate, please contact Anna Hiers, vestry liaison to the Worship Committee, at Email: aldhiers@gmail.com, or 706-340-9799. Training will be provided.

COFFEE HOUR

Due to a lack of volunteers, there may or may not be coffee hour on any given Sunday. If you are able to host or bring a baked item for a future coffee hour, contact Melissa or Catrina to sign up. A sign up sheet will also be posted at the event. Melissa Hamlin- melmariehamlin@gmail.com - 8AM service Catrina King - Catrina.anirtac@gmail.com - 10:30AM service

Those Who Serve

Vestry: Anna Hiers

Readers: Stacie Court (8AM) Annette Bates (10:30AM)

EMs: June Ball & Karen Hankins Crucifers: Porter Welch & Anna Thornton

Torches: Audry Davis & Claudia Cook

Flowers: Kris Braman

Altar Guild: Barbara Dean, David Lowe, Carol

Schwenke

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

Terri Tillman WebMaster

ttillman@gmail.com

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

 $wwmcglamery@gmail.com \mid 770\text{-}624\text{-}4837$

Jude Red-Bear Nursery Director

juderedbear@icloud.com | 706-614-0008

Mark Hein Buildings/Grounds

markehein@gmail.com | 706-549-3239

Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Jude Red Bear

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator

anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

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: Anna Hiers aldhiers@gmail.com