



**April 21, 2021  
6PM**

**[YouTube Channel](#)**

**St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church**

[www.stgregoryathens.org](http://www.stgregoryathens.org) | 706.546.7553 | [office@stgregoryathens.org](mailto:office@stgregoryathens.org)  
3195 Barnett Shoals Road, Athens, GA 30605

# AN ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EVENING : THIRD WEEK OF EASTER

Let us observe a moment of silence as we enter this sacred time and place.

Our service this evening begins on page 109 of the Book of Common Prayer or can be found in the online bulletin.

*Officiant:* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

And he carried me away in the Spirit, to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light and the rulers of the earth will bring their splendor into it. *Revelations 21:10, 22-24*

## Acclamation

*In God Alone my Soul*

1. Piano 2. Cantor 3. All

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a tempo marking of quarter note = 66. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "In God a-lone my soul can find rest and peace, in God my peace and joy. Mon â-me se re-pose en paix sur Dieu seul: de lui vient mon sa-lut." The second system continues the melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "On-ly in God my soul can find its rest, find its rest\_ and peace. In Oui, sur Dieu seul mon â-me se re-po-se, se re- pose en paix. Mon". The score ends with a "fine" marking. Chord symbols are provided above the staff: B, Em, C, G, D, Em, Am7, B, Em, C, D, G, Em, C, G, D, Em, Am7, B, Em, Am, B, Em, B.

## PRAYER FOR LIGHT

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

Eternal God, who led your ancient people into freedom by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we who walk in the light of your presence may rejoice in the liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 111

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

**Acclamation**

*Lord Jesus Christ*  
 1. Piano 2. Cantor 3. All

♩ = 72

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.  
 Jé - sus le Christ, lu - mière in - té - rieu - re,

Let not my doubts nor my dark-ness speak to me. Lord Je - sus Christ, your  
 ne lais - se pas mes té - nè - bres me par - ler. Jé - sus le Christ, lu -

light shines with - in us. Let my heart al - ways wel - come your love.  
 mière in - té - rieu - re, don - ne - moi d'ac - cueil - lir ton a - mour.

**O GRACIOUS LIGHT**

BCP 112

**O gracious light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed! Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

**SELECTION FROM THE PSALTER**

*Officiant:* O God, make speed to save us.

*People:* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*All:* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

**PSALM 119:25-48**

BCP 765-767

- 25 My soul cleaves to the dust; \* give me life according to your word.
- 26 I have confessed my ways, and you answered me; \* instruct me in your statutes.
- 27 Make me understand the way of your commandments, \* that I may meditate on your marvelous works.
- 28 My soul melts away for sorrow; \* strengthen me according to your word.
- 29 Take from me the way of lying; \* let me find grace through your law.
- 30 I have chosen the way of faithfulness; \* I have set your judgments before me.

- 31 I hold fast to your decrees; \* O LORD, let me not be put to shame.  
 32 I will run the way of your commandments, \* for you have set my heart at liberty.  
 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, \* and I shall keep it to the end.  
 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \* I shall keep it with all my heart.  
 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \* for that is my desire.  
 36 Incline my heart to your decrees \* and not to unjust gain.  
 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \* give me life in your ways.  
 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, \* which you make to those who fear you.  
 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \* because your judgments are good.  
 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; \* in your righteousness preserve my life.  
 41 Let your loving-kindness come to me, O LORD, \* and your salvation, according to your promise.  
 42 Then shall I have a word for those who taunt me, \* because I trust in your words.  
 43 Do not take the word of truth out of my mouth, \* for my hope is in your judgments.  
 44 I shall continue to keep your law; \* I shall keep it for ever and ever.  
 45 I will walk at liberty, \* because I study your commandments.  
 46 I will tell of your decrees before kings \* and will not be ashamed.  
 47 I delight in your commandments, \* which I have always loved.  
 48 I will lift up my hands to your commandments, \* and I will meditate on your statutes.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Response**

**PSALM 16: THE PATH OF LIFE**

Scott Soper

REFRAIN: *Slow and lyric* (♩ = ca. 66) All

tacet D G A/G F#m Bm Em7 F#m Bm G A/G

You will show me the path of life, \_\_\_ the de-lights that a-wait me in your pres-ence. \_

[A/G] D/F# G D E#7 C7 Bm D/A G A D (Fine)

With-out you there is noth-ing; no joy can be com-plete un - til at last I sit by your side.

**FIRST READING**

1 John 5:1-12

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

**SECOND READING**

Luke 4:38-44

After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them. As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. Demons also came out of many, shouting, 'You are the Son of God!' But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah. At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowds were looking for him; and when they reached him, they wanted to prevent him from leaving them. But he said to them, 'I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.' So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.

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

gently F Gm7 Am7 Gm7 F

We can - not mea - sure how\_ you heal\_ or ans - wer

B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 C F Gm7

ev - ery suff - 'rer's prayer, yet\_ we be - lieve\_ your

Am7 Gm7 F B<sup>b</sup> Gm7

grace\_ res - ponds\_ where faith\_ and doubt\_ u - nite\_ to

F Am7 Dm7 Gm7 C7 F

care. Your hands, though blood - ied on the cross, sur - vive\_ to

Am7 B<sup>b</sup> C7 F Cm/E<sup>b</sup>

hold\_ and heal\_ and\_ warn,\_ to\_ car - ry all\_ through

D7 Gm F B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 F

death to life\_ and cra - dle child - ren yet\_ un - born.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer, yet we believe your grace responds where faith and doubt unite to care. Your hands, though bloodied on the cross, survive to hold and heal and warn, to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn.' The score includes various chords such as F, Gm7, Am7, Bb, C, Dm7, C7, and Cm/Eb.

2. So some have come who need your help  
 and some have come to make amends,  
 as hands which shaped and saved the world  
 are present in the touch of friends.  
 Lord, let your Spirit meet us here  
 to mend the body, mind and soul,  
 to disentangle peace from pain  
 and make your broken people whole.

## CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

*Let us quietly reflect as the Divine Spirit leads.*

## THE PRAYERS

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## PRAYERS FOR JUSTICE and RECONCILIATION (Dismantling Racism)

For your household with its blessed diversity of races and ethnicities,

**We give thanks, O God.**

For your presence with those who suffer the pain of oppression because of racism,

**We pray, O God.**

For the courage and commitment of those who challenge injustice,

**We give thanks, O God.**

For your forgiveness for our denial and apathy when we have cooperated with powers of dominance and discrimination,

**We pray, O God.**

For ears to hear stereotyping in the church and community, and the courage to name it,

**We pray, O God.**

For eyes to see exclusion in our lives and churches and for resolve to confront it,

**We pray, O God.**

For minds to address what the conscience know,

**We pray, O God.**

For hearts freed from cynicism and despair and renewed with hope,

**We pray, O God.**

For faith that acts on the certainty of your love for us and on your desire that we honor our differences and live in harmony.

**We pray, O God.**

**We pray in fellowship with those from this time and beyond time who have witnessed to your call to community. We covenant with you and each other to be instruments of justice and reconciliation in this time and in this place. In the name of Christ, who is loving, just and forgiving, we offer our prayer. Amen.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 224

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of the bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR MISSION

BCP 124

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR EARTH DAY (Conservation of Natural Resources)

BCP 827

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

quietly ♩ = 80

Now that eve - ning falls, gen - tly fades the light.

Moon re - pla - ces sun and day takes leave of night.

2. Gratitude we raise  
for the day that's gone  
and for love that stays  
till dusk is kissed by dawn.
3. To the Maker's care  
we in faith commend  
all we love and long for,  
all we still intend.
4. Glory be to God,  
glory to the Son,  
glory to the Spirit,  
ever three in one.

## FINAL BENEDICTION

*Officiant:* Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those you make the journey with us.

So...be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us,  
and who travels with us be with us now and forever. AMEN.

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*About Taizé...*

*Taizé (pronounced "teh-ZAY") is not a musical form but rather a worship style made popular through the work of the ecumenical Christian community in Taizé, France. The retreat center there (founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz) is visited every year by thousands of visitors, and services are held in many languages. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a primary focus on youth. The music of Taizé emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture repeated and sometimes sung in canon. Ecumenical services based on this model and music are held in many churches throughout the world.*



The Rev. Nikki Mathis, Rector  
The Rev. Christina Dondero, Deacon  
RuthElizabeth Conine-Nakano, Officiant  
Daniel Nakano, Assistant Officiant  
Annette Bates, Piano  
Stacie Court, Cantor  
David Stooksbury, Reader  
Terri Tillman & Dallas Bono, Virtual Ministers  
Jonathan Klein, Organist & Director of Music  
Joseph Napoli, Choir Director  
Catherine Drewry, Director of Children's Ministries  
Kendall M. Kookogey, Parish Administrator  
Mark Hein, Buildings & Grounds  
Allena Armour, Sexton