# St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



JUNE 12, 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 First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday

## THE WORD OF GOD

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Prelude**

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.



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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

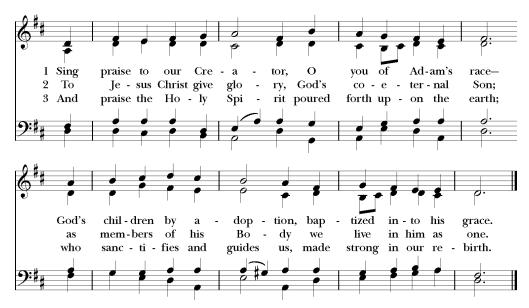
COLLECT FOR PURITY BCP 355

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.

#### Song of Praise 295

# Sing praise to our Creator

CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN



#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth— when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race."

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

Thanks be to God.





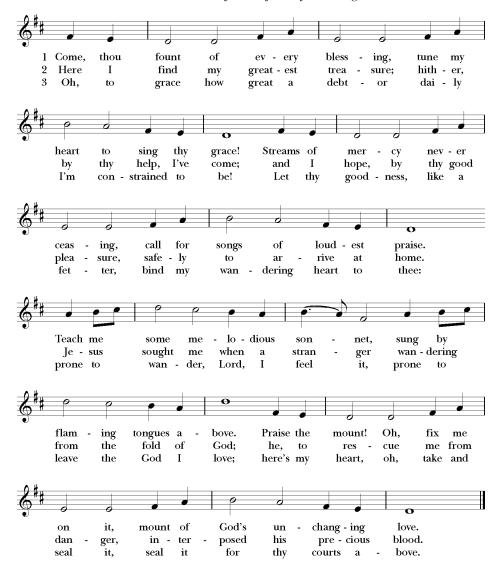


THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-5

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

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



THE GOSPEL John 16:12-15

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

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

THE SERMON: The Rev. Nikki Mathis

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form III

BCP 383

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, especially Michael, Rob, and Don, and all priests and deacons, especially Nikki and Christina;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. ...

We give special thanks for ...

The Celebrant adds a Collect.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Anthem** 

O Trinity, Most Blessed Light

C. Kenneth Turner

O Trinity, most blessed light, O Unity of sov'reign might!
As now the fiery sun departs, Shed thou thy beams within our hearts.
To Thee our morning song of praise, To thee our evening prayer we raise,
Thee may our souls forever more In lowly reverence adore.
All praise to God the Father be, All praise, Eternal Son, to thee,
Whom with the Spirit we adore, For ever and for ever more.
Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

**BCP 361** 

*The Lord be with you.* 

The Bord 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.

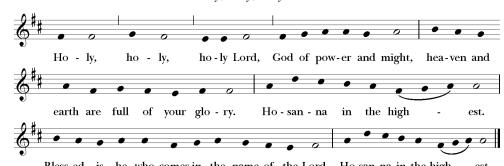
For with your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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



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 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.

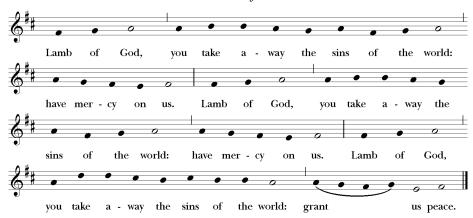
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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.



#### THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE





MENDON



## 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

## **Recessional Hymn 362**

Holy, holy, holy!

NICAEA



## THE DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**



## Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for The Balthazor Family, Mack Thurmond, Nigel Hall, Dan Nolen, Jr., Jamaica Miller, Becky Thomas, Carol Whitson, Tom Sturgis, Diane Miller, John Granrose, Heather Kleiner, Martha Beach, Tammy Bowman, Rose Ann Pace, John Gay, 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: Simone Coppins, Jane Armistead, Jeffery Ross, Cindy Vail, Lewis Heald, Angela Lankford, Caley Ross, Alice McNiff, Jennie Sturgis, Denise Everson, Jud Davis, Jenifer Marquardt, and Pat Irby; and for those celebrating anniversaries: John & Linda Barrett.

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.

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMM. MEETING | 12PM

The Spiritual Formation Committee will meet today after the 10:30 am service in the small conference room in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to join.

## ATHENS PRIDE | 2:30-6PM

This afternoon, St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church will have a booth at the Athens Pride Community Resource Festival 2:30-6:00 pm at Thomas Lay Park (297 Hoyt St). All are welcome. If you would like to help welcome visitors please contact Alice Mohor at <a href="mailto:alicemohor@windstream.net">alicemohor@windstream.net</a>

## FAITH AND NATURE | 7PM

Please join us for a Spiritual Formation series on the intersection of faith and nature. The series will have different presenters on an array of topics over 5 weeks on Sunday afternoons/evenings. Remaining sessions:

# 6/12: 7pm, Hildegard and Teilhard, the Green Mystics, Lee Ann Pingel (@ St. G's)

6/19: TBA, Creation Care, Jason Roberts

Each session will be about an hour (plus travel time if the session is not at the church) and will include a presentation, some meditative practice in nature, some group conversation/reflection on the program, and some communal liturgy.

The fourth session today will be led by Lee Ann Pingel and will focus on Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179). Hildegard was an abbess, mystic, visionary, composer, and healer. In this session, we will learn about Hildegard's experience of the Divine, including her conception of veriditas, the "greening" work of the Holy Spirit. We will spend some time listening to her extraordinary music as we meditate with common medicinal herbs. We will conclude with a brief liturgy drawn from Hildegard's writings. We will meet at the church at 7:00 pm.

Contact Ron Balthazor (ron.balthazor@gmail.com) for more information.

## THIS WEEK

#### MOVIE NIGHT! | FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Join us as we bring back the monthly parish movie night! Our next movie night will be June 17th and we will be showing *Black Panther* (2018)! Soda and popcorn will be provided.

# **COMING UP...**

## FAMILY PROMISE | JULY 3-10

St. Gregory's Family Promise (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network) week is July 3-10 (we help 3 weeks a year). We belong to this organization of churches in Athens which provides temporarily homeless families with a place to stay for up to several

months, giving them and their children stability. The breadwinners in the family get rides to work if needed. Those who don't have a job have the support to find one. Meals are provided. Family Promise also works to prevent homelessness by helping families who might need a rent payment or a utility payment to be able to continue living in their home. They have helped some families find and purchase a used vehicle. 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.

# **BLINDSPOT GAME NIGHT | JULY 9**

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

# **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL | JULY 18-21**

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

We are about six 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 20's or 30's 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: <a href="mailto:aldhiers@gmail.com">aldhiers@gmail.com</a>, 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: John Bray

Readers: Ron Balthazor (8AM) LeeAnne Krause (10:30AM)

EMs: Barbara Kuhn & David Stooksbury Crucifers: Mariel Sanford & Grayson Krause Torches: Audry Davis & Claudia Cook Flowers: Mary Ann Cox

Altar Guild: Susanne Burton & Carol Schwenke Counters: Maggie Reinberger & Anna Hiers

Livestream: Pete Nicholls

## 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 www.cglamery@gmail.com | 770-624-4837

**Jude Red-Bear** Nursery Director *juderedbear@icloud.com* | 706-614-0008

**Mark Hein** Buildings/Grounds *markehein@gmail.com* | 706-549-3239

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: John Bray JohnPatrickBray@gmail.com