



ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

radiates God's grace, equipping all people to change the world.



christmas day 12.25.23 | 10am



Welcome to St. Gregory's

If this is your first Sunday here, we invite you to take a Welcome Card from the pew holder, fill it out and put it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter. All are truly welcome to participate in worship, and we believe our community is made stronger by your unique presence as we join in prayer and communion.

Our Worship

In the Episcopal Church, we often say that praying shapes believing, so how we worship in word and action shapes how we believe and respond to God. We are physical creatures made in God's image, and the physical nature of our worship helps us to connect more fully to God.

Our sacred time of worship includes several different activities: singing, listening, praying, and feasting. This liturgy is enriched by the participation of everyone in the room. **All are invited to speak the bolded text aloud.** Some people choose to manifest prayers in physical ways to center their hearts and minds on God's presence in their lives and in the worship – we call these actions "manual acts," which are listed as follows throughout the bulletin:

(+) There are several points during the liturgy, where many people cross themselves by touching their head, chest, and each shoulder (left then right) to remind themselves that God is in their head, heart, and in all of their actions in the world.

(+++) At the declaration of the Gospel, many people make the sign of the cross with their thumb on their forehead, lips, and heart as the Gospel is announced. This action is a prayer asking God's word to be in our minds, our words, and in our hearts.

Generally speaking, we stand to pray, kneel to confess, and sit to hear. Regardless of what others are doing, how you physically worship is up to you and how you experience God. Your presence and participation is what matters.

Cover art: "Let Us Adore Him" by Jen Norton

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Vestry:
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Sudi Johnson, Jill Polzin,
Butler Sharpe, Val Seilheimer

Pastoral Care Visitors:
Susie Dutcher, Fran Ingram,
Sudi Johnson, Marjie Koons,
Val Seilheimer, Cissy Singleton



Christmas offerings given to the glory of God by

Curtis & Louisa Baddeley
in thanks for all of our many blessings,
especially our children Kat and Grace and good health

Cyndi & Jim Millspaugh
in thanks for family, friends, and community

Lyle & Sybil TenEyck
in thanks for family and friends

Dan Puchalla
in thanks for the amazing people of St. Gregory's

Sharon Gramer
in thanks for my family

Debbie Kinjo
in thanks for Viki, Kathryn, Cameo, and Keanon's
beautiful music each week

Stacy Sharpe
in thanks for Butler

Sudi Johnson
in thanks for the Kent and Wesson families

Sally & Peter Holtz
in thanks for many, many blessings

Nancy Buller

the Calub family

Matt Geiger
in memory of Donna Geiger

Dan Puchalla
in memory of Christopher Puchalla Sr.

Cyndi & Jim Millspaugh
in memory of Georgia, Woody, Phil and Pat

the Regalado family
in memory of Elisabeth & Robert Shawl,
and Gregory Regalado

Karen Nicholas
in memory of Jim Nicholas & Phyllis Widemark

Curtis & Louisa Baddeley
in memory of Jean & Jeff Baddeley

Nana & Megan Agyeman
in memory of Akosua Agyeman

Butler Sharpe
in memory of Yvonne J. Sharpe and Rev. Butler &
Catherine Sharpe, and in thanks for their
wonderful lives of service and love

Sudi Johnson
in memory of Roger Johnson

Catherine Martin
in loving memory of my parents,
Betsy & Bill Stover, and my brother, John

the Seilheimer family
in memory of Jean & Bud Nicholas, Otto Widemark,
and Pat Seilheimer

Susan Koy
in memory of Robert Koy

Sharon Gramer
in memory of my parents, brother,
and many friends and family

Susan Hitch-Zint
in memory of Andrew Zint

Jeff & Cissy Singleton
in memory of Ernest & Irene Singleton
and Edward & Jessie Vlack

Marilyn Knilans
in memory of William Knilans, Ruth & Willard Thiel,
and Willard Thiel Jr.

Suzann Sladcik
in memory of Lucille Sladcik, William Sladcik,
and Katherine Brosnahan

Mary Keller and family
in loving memory of Curt Keller

John Welker
in memory of Debbie Welker

Kathryn Kinjo Duncan
in memory of my dear Chris,
who would have turned 41 today

Stacy Sharpe
in memory of Yvonne Sharpe

the Reichenbach family
in loving memory of our parents and grandparents,
Ralph & Lin Reichenbach



LITURGY OF THE WORD

We begin our worship with the ringing of a bell. The people stand, as they are able.

PROCESSIONAL

1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle-men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
 2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,
 re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same;
 and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;
 to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
 this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.

Refrain
 O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and
 joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed is the King who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

SONG OF PRAISE

The first No - el, the an - gels did say was to cer - tain poor
 Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es
 shep - herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep - ing their
 to our heav - 'nly Lord that hath made heav'n and earth of
 sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No - el, No -
 nought, and with his blood man - kind hath bought. No - el, No -
 el, No - el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 52:7-10

We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a Lectionary. These are lessons being heard in congregations from many denominations throughout the world on this day. The first reading is from the Hebrew Scriptures, which tell us the story of God's love and faithfulness to God's people from the beginning of time to just before Christ.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

Chanted by the cantor.

*Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things.
With their right hand have they won the victory.
God has made known their victory in the sight of the nations.
God remembers their mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel.*

*All you lands; lift your voice to God, rejoice, and sing.
With the harp and voice and trumpets shout before God.
Let the sea and lands and all therein ring out with joy.
God shall judge the world and the peoples with equity.*

The Psalm is a hymn or poem. The psalms cover the whole range of the relationship between God and God's people. The Book of Psalms, while a "book" of the Bible, consists of 150 hymns intended to be sung.



The second reading is usually from one of the New Testament Epistles (or letters), though occasionally from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. They teach us about the formation of the church and instruct us on how to live into our role as followers of Christ.

THE EPISTLE

HEBREWS 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, as they are able.

During the Holy Eucharist, there is always a reading from a Gospel. We stand to indicate the importance we place on Jesus' words and actions. Usually the deacon or priest proclaims the Gospel in the midst of the people to represent the Good News that Jesus has come among us, and we all turn toward it.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
(+++) **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

The people sit.

SERMON

The Rev. Dan Puchalla, Priest-in-Charge

The sermon is meant to help us make the Word of God a living and transforming reality of our lives today.



In the Nicene Creed, we respond to the proclamation of God's Word by affirming the historic faith of the Church. We "believe" (from the Latin credere, literally "to put one's heart into") because we offer our trust in the story of God's creating, redeeming, and remaining with the world. "We" believe because the church as a whole, the Body of Christ, carries and strengthens the faith of each individual. Also note that when it is not capitalized, the word "catholic" is defined as universal or inclusive.

NICENE CREED

The people stand, as they are able.

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: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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. who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

The Prayers of the People are always responsive, because everyone gives voice to the supplications. We include prayers for others throughout the world, in our diocese, and those connected to our congregation. This is the part of the liturgy where it is most evident that we would be noticeably less without the contributions of each person present. We voice prayers from our parish prayer list, as well as requests from the onsite and online worshippers.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Paula, our Bishop; for Dan, our Priest-in-Charge, and Max, our deacon; for our Better Together clergy, Kristin, Bryan, and Adam; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. (*prayers of joy and gratitude*) Pray for justice and peace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. (*prayers of intercession*) Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Lord, hear our prayer.

I ask for your prayers for all who seek a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found.

Lord, hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the dead, witnesses of God's shining splendor. (*prayers for the dead or the dying*) Pray for those we love, but see no longer.

Lord, hear our prayer.



The Presider offers the concluding collect.

O God who sent our Savior Jesus Christ, whose years never fail and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass the coming year strengthened by a joyful and vibrant faith; through the one who is the beginning and the end, your Son, Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Peace has been exchanged at the Eucharist since the time of the first Christians. It is a profound act to offer the miraculous peace of God to one another before we join in communion with God and each other.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The congregation greets each other in the peace of Christ.

The people sit.

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND TRAVELS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Offertory is when we bring our gifts of bread, wine, money, and our very selves to present to the Lord as our initial act of thanksgiving. This collection is a visible reminder that our whole lives are God's, and a part of what God has given us we give back in thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are. You can use this QR code to give to StGs online.



*"In the Beginning"
by Kyle Pederson
recorded by the StGs quartet,
created by Kathryn Kinjo Duncan
feat. Tobin Schindler, cello*

In the beginning God moved. And then God spoke: God spoke creation into being. And of the new creation, God declared it good. Good were the earth and the waters, good were the evening and the day, Good were all living things that first drew breath, And good were the creatures made in God's image. And in the beginning was the Word, The Word would become flesh, the Word would dwell among us. In him was light, in him was life, the light was given for us, it overcame the darkness. In him was grace and truth, and we have seen his glory: Emmanuel. In the beginning: God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The people stand, as they are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN

All glo - ry be to God on high and on the earth be peace;
good - will hence-forth from heav'n to men be - gin and nev - er cease.



The Eucharist, or Communion, is the act of offering, breaking bread, and sharing in Christ's life, death, and resurrection. It also reminds us that we are Christ's body in our world today. As Episcopalians, the Eucharist is the principal act of worship, in which we always have a full proclamation of the heart of the Gospel. Celebrating Eucharist is something we do together, so we all take part in the prayers.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth; Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel's children to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to gather before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."



The Great Amen is the only word in our Book of Common Prayer that is in all capital letters. It emphasizes that we all join together in asking Jesus to be present in the bread and wine, in boldly affirming our desire to receive God. It is appropriate to say this with enthusiasm!

Therefore, in joyful obedience to his command:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being (+) sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, bring all things into the reign of your Christ, and bring us into that heavenly country where, with Blessed Gregory and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Christ our pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us,
there-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

General: Please join the line to receive Communion. When you get to the front, hold out your hands to receive bread. Then step to either side to receive wine or juice in an individual cup.

Gluten-free option: Please ask for a gluten-free wafer from the priest when you come forward.

Non-alcoholic option: Please ask for juice from the minister holding the tray of cups. You also have the option to take only the bread to receive Communion.

Not receiving: If you will not be receiving Communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please join the line and cross your arms over your chest when you get to the front.



COMMUNION HYMN

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim thron - ed the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.



The Prayer for Spiritual Communion articulates a hunger for unity with Jesus Christ when you cannot physically receive the Body and Blood of Christ. This prayer connects the one(s) praying with the reception of Holy Communion. Those worshipping online are invited to say this prayer as those onsite receive Communion.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for those worshipping remotely)

In union, gracious God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, O Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

The people stand, as they are able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent the Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the shadows of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of God's holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **(+) Amen.**

After Communion, we give thanks for being part of the communion of God's life and for being fed so that we may go out to feed and serve others in our world.

One of the roles of the priest is to declare the eternal truth of God's ever-present blessing to God's people.



EXIT HYMN

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that

Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their
2 The shep - herds feared and
3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang -
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain

hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Having heard the Gospel and having been fed at communion, the final act of our common worship is the Dismissal. It is not an afterthought, but an integral part of the service. Jesus' final action on earth was to send his followers into the world to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey all he had commanded.

And so we are sent out into the world to proclaim the Good News and be Christ's hands and feet on earth.

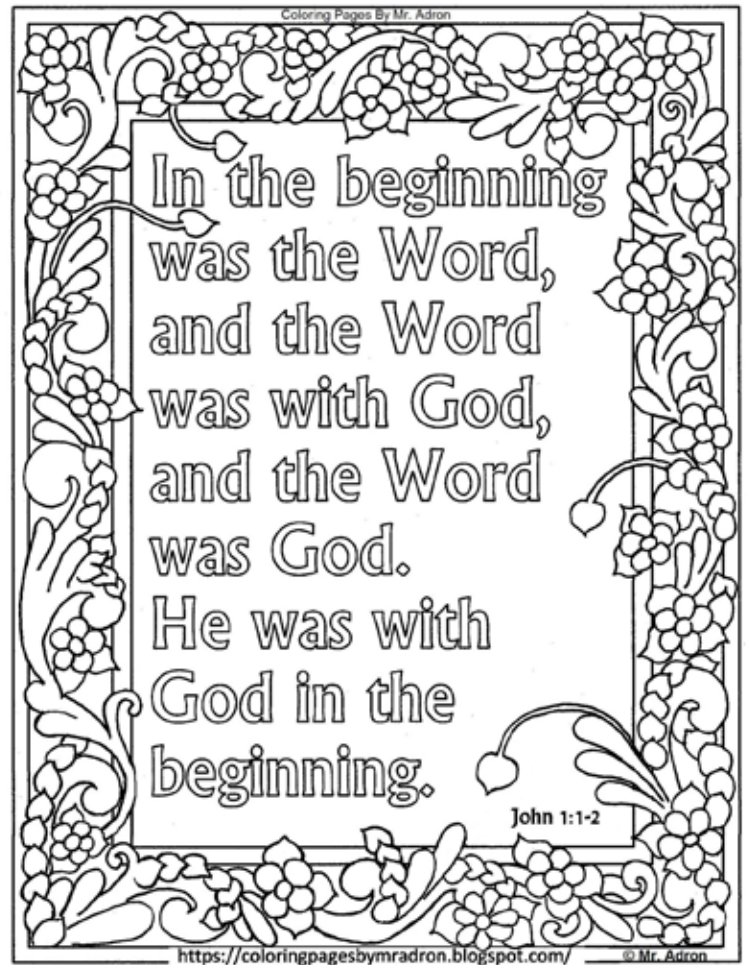
The Priest dismisses the people, and the people respond,

Thanks be to God.



M Q M W C P F E X C E B E D Y
W E T V V Y N J V C P Z F C B
X O W N W V L Z L H G W A H E
U E R O Q M H E L R P M J I L
U J H D R D Y K R I C K M L I
J P R T O L N I S S X I C D E
F L F G T X D R M T H U Y R V
Q X L U A D C F A T Q J K E E
Y R E C E I V E U X Z T O N G
L D S J E W G R A C E N N B R
X N H D E Q T J E S U S J G A
Y Z A M D W E L L I N G L L O
W B D M N E X R W H A C L O L
B Q G E E V W H X F C R B R L
T S B J L B L E S S I N G Y O

CHILDREN	BELIEVE	DWELLING	TRUTH	RECEIVE
GRACE	BLESSING	JESUS	WORD	GOD
GLORY	CHRIST	FLESH	WORLD	NAME



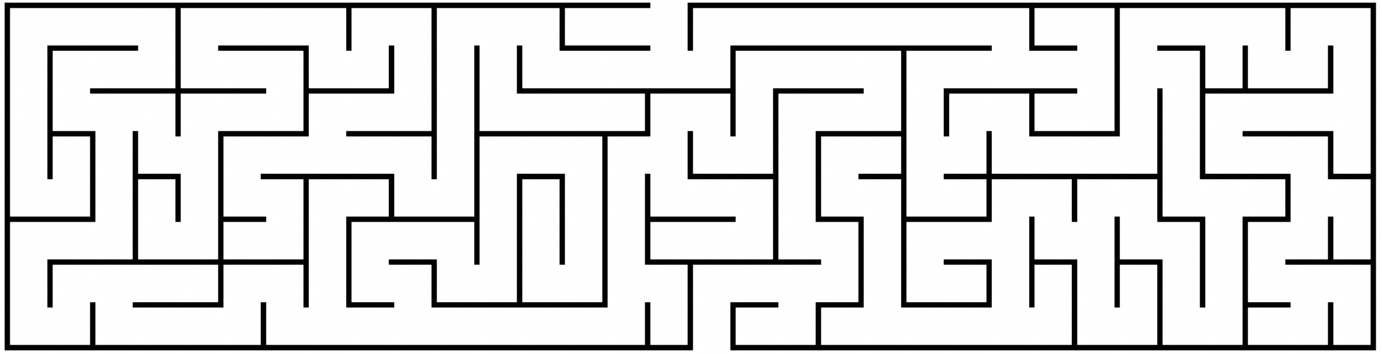
NICASA Donation Results!



Thank you so much to everyone who donated, shopped, wrapped, purchased, and organized all the gifts for the FORTY FAMILIES that StGs sponsored from Nicasa this year! Especially huge thanks to Janet Foltz who coordinated the entire effort and made it all possible.

We filled the whole front of the sanctuary to bless the gifts for our families (pictured below), and couldn't even fit everything in there - we also had an overflow room (pictured at left) that included 18 bicycles!





COMING UP...

Tech Gremlins: Please Stand By!



Two sneaky little technical gremlins have made an appearance the last few weeks in both our microphones and our internet. We just want you to know we are aware of both, and are actively pursuing solutions on all fronts. Your continued patience and understanding as we execute both short-term fixes and long-term upgrades is very deeply appreciated! One of the short-term solutions is to shut down the StGsGuest wifi network. This will only be temporary, and we hope to have it accessible again early in January.

🔍 Kathryn: kathryn@stgregoryschurch.org

Epiphany Compline & Pageant - Saturday, January 6

Join us for our annual Better Together Epiphany service online only on January 6 at 6pm! We'll premiere the pageant (featuring kids/youth from all the congregations!) and enjoy a short worship service together.



SAVE THE DATE

Town Hall: January 7

Stick around after the service for quick updates on the pledge campaign, the budget, building & grounds work, and more. You'll also have a chance to ask your questions! If you'd like to participate, make sure to join the service via Zoom and not Facebook (online attendees will be able to have their questions answered too).

Annual Meeting, January 28

The Annual Meeting will happen immediately following the 9:30am service! If you'd like to participate, make sure to join the service via Zoom and not Facebook (online attendees will be able to have their questions answered too). More details to come, but put it on your calendar now!

What's your favorite hymn? Between now and the end of 2023 Kathryn wants to hear **WHAT** your favorite hymn is, and **WHY!** Choose any song from the red 1982 Hymnal (or even one from another well-known hymnal), and write 2-3 sentences describing why it speaks to your heart. During 2024 Kathryn will use these on Sundays when they fit with the lectionary, and will include your name and reason for loving the hymn in the bulletin! Cut/tear out this page and give to Kathryn, or email her at kathryn@stgregoryschurch.org.

Your name: _____ Favorite hymn title and #: _____

Why is this your favorite? _____



St. Gregory's is Rebuilding and Radiating

Through the leadership and faithfulness of its wonderful people, St. Gregory's has passed through a time of many transitions over the past few years. The year ahead is bright. We will be working intensely and joyfully to rebuild excellent programs for children, pre-teens, teens, and adults.

The heart of our work is to accompany all people from all walks of life on a lifelong journey of spiritual growth. We couple this with deeper connection to one another, responsible stewardship of resources, collaboration with our wider community, and guided by the transcendent encounter with the divine in worship and prayer. Already, a new spirit is blowing through our hallways and a new light radiates in our conversations.

We hope you will be part of this exciting work in 2024. To get started, reach out to Dan, our Priest-in-Charge, at dan@stgregoryschurch.org or (847) 929-9986.

Ongoing connections...

Join us every Wednesday morning on Zoom for a short service of prayer



Anchor your week in prayer and fellowship from the convenience of home or work at 8am on Wednesday mornings. This rich online worship service includes prayers for healing of body, mind, heart, and soul. All are welcome!

Friday morning gentle/meditative yoga on Zoom



Join us at 8am on Friday mornings for a gentle/meditative yoga class to start your day grounded, invigorated and ready to go! Led by certified yoga instructor Mary Aulbach, this free online class is especially helpful for mobility and flexibility. No prior experience required, accessible to all physical abilities (whether you're 9 or 90!).

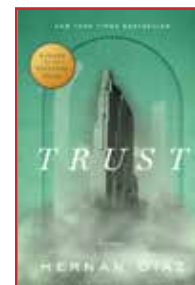


The StGs Book Club will resume in January




Upcoming dates: Jan 22, Feb 21, and Mar 20!

All are welcome to join this monthly book discussion! In January we'll discuss "Trust" by Hernan Diaz, and in February "The First Ladies" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Starting in February, the StGs Book Club will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month!



Community Meals - sign up for future dates!

We are once again so thankful to say that we have four cookie bakers and sufficient volunteers for our upcoming Community Meals on December 31! If you are interested in baking cookies or helping serve on future dates, please contact Barb to get on the schedule (Jan 28, Feb 25, or Mar 24).  Barb: bschaper7@aol.com or (847)948-8989