



ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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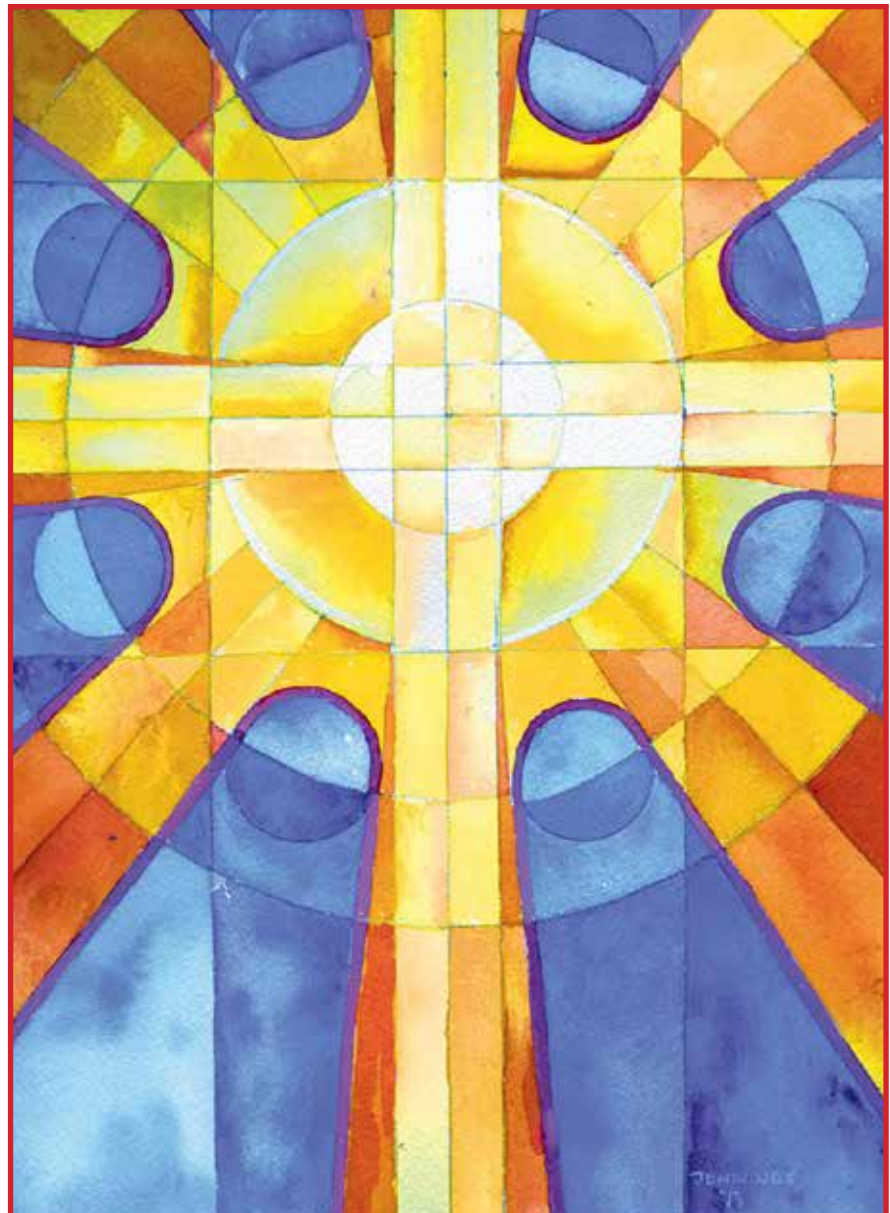
Wardens:
Susan Zint, Jim Millspaugh

Vestry:
Sarah Kettlewell, Don Kiva,
Sudi Johnson, Jill Polzin,
Butler Sharpe, Val Seilheimer

Pastoral Care Visitors:
Susie Dutcher, Fran Ingram,
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Vocalists:
Viki Rill, Kathryn Duncan,
Cameo Humes, Keanon Kyles

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 5, 2023 | 9:30am



St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
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www.StGsChurch.org

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Welcome to St Gregory's

If you are visiting, we invite you to take a Welcome Card from the pew holder, and if you are willing, fill it out and put it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter so that we might thank you for worshipping with us. 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. Therefore, at St. Gregory's, we change our liturgy during each liturgical season to help us more fully embrace the theology and tone of the season.

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:

(v) Bowing one's head at Jesus' name reminds us that Jesus is the King of Kings, ruling from a place of humility.

(+) 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 most to God.

A Note about the Season after the Epiphany

The season after Epiphany joins the Advent/Christmas seasons with the Lent/Easter seasons. It is a period of unfolding knowledge of who Jesus is to us. Week after week, we explore a new facet of Jesus' presence in our lives on earth, and how he calls us to respond. This season helps us to know Jesus so we can make him known in the world. The image used throughout this season is one of increasing light along with our increasing understanding of Christ. It is a season both of joy and of action, so our liturgy includes facets of both.



THE WORD OF GOD

We begin our worship by observing a period of quiet (begun and ended with the ringing of a bell) to slow ourselves and rest in God's presence.

The people stand, as they are able.

ENTRANCE HYMN

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come
 2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the
 5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let

1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
 2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
 5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

All are invited to speak the bolded text aloud.

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

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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. **(v) Amen.**

We begin our worship by gathering together as the body of Christ, and acknowledging our participation together in the Body of Christ. The Presider invites us to praise God together.



SONG OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to you, Lord God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;
 glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to you for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will
 praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. Glo - ry to you in the splendor of your
 tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to you,
 seat - ed be - tween the che - ru - bim; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for - ev - er.
 Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the
 Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of heav - en,
 high vault of heav - en. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and
 glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly
 Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will high - ly ex - alt you, glo - ry to you!
 Spi - rit; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; (v) who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

We are invited to pray, and then the collect collects our prayers together in a single concluding prayer tailored toward the church season.



FIRST READING

ISAIAH 58:1-9

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.

Shout out, do not hold back!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.
"Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



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.

PSALM 112

- 1 Hallelujah!
Happy are they who fear the Sovereign One and have great delight in their commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is right; they put their trust in the Sovereign One.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.

The Second Lesson is usually a reading 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

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



The people stand, as they are able. Children are invited to join the procession in the aisle for the reading of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 5:13-20

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

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

The people sit.

SERMON

Max Smith, Deacon

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

A period of quiet (begun and ended with the ringing of a bell) is observed to slow ourselves and rest in God's presence.

NICENE CREED

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.

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, (v) 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

You who by the leading of a star, guided the Magi to the brightness of the Holy Child of Bethlehem, lead us to the light of revelation, that we may value and honor the varied gifts of our sisters and brothers. **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

You who framed the brightness of the first light in creation, dispel the arrogance, animosity, and anger that shatter the unity of your holy Church. Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth. **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise, set us free from enslavement to division, disunity, and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision. **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

You who patterned the stars and called the sun into being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos, pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender, and ethnicity may be recreated into one common humanity. (prayers of joy and gratitude) **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost, and the least, shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful, and the suffering. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world (prayers for the sick, sad, lonely, and afraid). **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity those who have died, welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare, and strife. Shine the light of hope (prayers for the dead and dying). **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

You who delight in the complexity and splendor of creation, help us to delight in the diversity of this earth, our island home. Inspire your people to care for all you have made. **Silence will be kept.** Christ, be our light.

Shine in our hearts.

May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth, and the wellspring of hope. **Amen.**



Almighty God, You who called the universe into being, You who formed our inmost being and called us to be your people: assist us in living hopefully into the future. In the face of change, help us to set fears aside and to recognize our potential for creative response because we are made in your image. Help us to guard against our own defensiveness when confronted by changes and challenges, and instead listen to your still, small voice, and to lean toward your hope. Be with us as we remember and celebrate former times, and keep us from unreasonable yearning for them, which takes us from the work you have set before us in this time. All this we ask in the name of your Child, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **(v) Amen.**

In the confession we admit the ways we have not lived as we were created to live, both individually, and corporately, and ask for forgiveness. The priest declares to us the wonderful grace of God's promise of forgiveness, reconciliation, and the absolute remission of guilt.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins to God.

The people kneel as they are able. Silence will be kept.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, **(v)** strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **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.

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND TRAVELS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“This Little Light of Mine”
African American spiritual, arr. Mark Patterson

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Shine, shine, shine - take this little light! Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. I'm gonna let it shine 'til Jesus comes.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. Shine, shine, shine - take this little light!*



HOLY COMMUNION FROM THE RESERVED SACRAMENT

The people stand, as they are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here be - low;
 Praise God a - bove ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE LITANY OF CONSECRATED GIFTS

We give thanks to you, O God, for all things good and beneficial to our bodies and souls.

We thank you, O God.

For the Body and Blood of Christ, set here before us;

We thank you, O God.

That you have brought us together in this place;

We thank you, O God.

That your eternal Word was made flesh for us;

We thank you, O God.

For Christ's life and ministry, death and resurrection;

We thank you, O God.

That you fill our lives with grace and grant us a pledge of our eternal inheritance;

We thank you, O God.

We pray, therefore, in the words our Savior Christ has taught us...

**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 Gifts of God, for the People of God.

INVITATION

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to receive Holy Communion. Gluten-free bread is available; please ask the deacon. Receiving the bread only is full communion in the body of Christ, so if you choose to not receive the wine, you may cross your arms over your chest as you pass the Eucharistic Minister, or take a cup of consecrated juice.

To receive communion, hold out your hands and you will be given the bread. Then take a cup of wine or juice from the Eucharistic Minister, move to the next tray, consume the bread and wine there, put the empty cup in the tray, and replace your mask before returning to your seat.

Anyone who has not been baptized, or for other reasons desires to receive a blessing instead of Communion is invited to come forward, and cross your arms over your chest to indicate your desire for a blessing. If you seek a deeper relationship with Christ through baptism, please speak with a priest after the service.

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.



When the service of a priest cannot be obtained, the bishop may authorize a deacon to distribute Holy Communion to the congregation from the reserved Sacrament.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus gave to his followers when they asked him to teach them to pray. It links our daily bread to the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist.



COMMUNION HYMN

1 O Light of Light, Love giv - en birth;
 2 Two pro - phets, who had faith to see,
 3 May all who seek to praise a - right

Je - sus, Re - deem - er of the earth:
 with your e - lect found com - pan - y;
 through pur - er lives show forth your light.

more bright than day your face did show,
 the heavens a - bove your glo - ry named,
 To you, the King of glo - ry, now

your rai - ment whit - er than the snow.
 your Fa - ther's voice his Son pro - claimed.
 all faith - ful hearts a - dor - ing bow.

COMMUNION HYMN

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.



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, **(v)** 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.

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS *(when appropriate)*

We send you out to share Communion this week.
May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.

May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ. **(v) Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.
**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you, as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The people sit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The people stand, as they are able.

BLESSING

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens, fill this house and illuminate your hearts;
And the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit **(+)** be with us now and
always. **Amen.**



EXIT HYMN

1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name
4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;

who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.
his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.

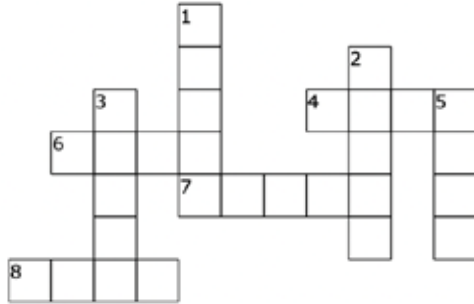
The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:
Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name

the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!
who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

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 Deacon dismisses the people, and the people respond,

Thanks be to God!



ACROSS

- 4. A dish that is used for holding fruit or liquids or for serving food
6. An elevated area of land smaller than a mountain
7. The performance of good acts
8. A large urban area where many people live

DOWN

- 1. All of the living human inhabitants of the earth
2. A place where families live
3. Any device serving as a source of illumination
5. A piece of furniture holding one or more electric light bulbs

Table with 4 columns: DEEDS BOWL, HILL CITY, LIGHT LAMP, WORLD HOUSE

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

- 1. 18-2-2-11
2. 21-2-22-24-14
3. 11-14-14-11-24
4. 13-25-18-21-8
5. 10-2-9-13
6. 13-20-15-12
7. 9-2-19-13-11
8. 24-21-25-3-14

LAMP WORLD GOOD
WORLD PRAISE HIDDEN
PRAISE LIGHT HILL
LIGHT CITY DEEDS
CITY HOUSE SHINE
HOUSE BOWL STAND
BOWL FATHER MEN

LAMP SHINE DEEDS BOWL
LIGHT HOUSE GOOD WORLD



Better Together:

Adult Formation continues every Wednesday

Every Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom, Bryan Cones of Trinity leads the next round of our adult formation program, "Exploring Our Common Prayer." We are discussing why and how the assembly—the gathering or meeting—is so important in Christianity. We are exploring the Sunday liturgy we all celebrate together; so come with your questions about our prayer and we can find new answers together!

Confirmation/Intergenerational Formation

Our next Confirmation and Intergenerational Formation will take place Saturday, February 11 from 4:30-6:00pm at St. Lawrence (125 W Church St, Libertyville). Confirmation will be discussing church history and Intergenerational Formation will be looking at the lectionary. In order for us to plan for the appropriate amount of food, please RSVP to shelley@stgregoryschurch.org.



ANNUAL MEETING: February 12

Immediately following the service on February 12, we will hold our Annual Meeting to celebrate the joys of 2022 and look forward to a bright future. As always, come ready to win prizes for Annual Meeting Bingo!

Joyful Noise Sunday is February 19

To celebrate the last Sunday before Lent, we continue our tradition of having a service filled with gospel music! Join our quartet in singing old familiar spirituals and clap along to new ones too.



We're settling in... please be patient!

The leadership at StGs is very excited to plan new and fun ways for our congregation to move forward and come out of a Covid world. Please grant us some time to let the dust settle with all the changes that have happened this month. If you are interested in seeing a committee, program or event begin or resume, please send your thoughts - including a proposal - to Susan Zint, Warden (zintsh@comcast.net). Please include in your proposal:

- who will chair the event (2 people necessary),
- how often it will be held,
- if you will need funding from the church and how much,
- what staff support will be needed,
- and any other detail necessary for StGs to host a successful committee, event, club or meeting.

All proposals will be discussed and considered as we're hoping to start up some of the requests in April!

The Vestry wants to get to know you!

In the next 60 days, Sr. Warden Susan Zint will be reaching out to congregants of StGs to get to know you and discuss the future of the church. Please expect her call as Susan is looking forward to speaking with each and every one of you!



Ash Wednesday is February 22

StGs is holding two Ash Wednesday services this year:

- 8am online only - join our weekly Wednesday morning healing service for special Ash Wednesday worship
- 7pm onsite and online - full Ash Wednesday service with music and Eucharist

If you are unable to attend either of these or wish to receive your ashes earlier in the day, you may also choose one of the following options offered by our Better Together partners:

- 12 noon: St. Lawrence in Libertyville will do "ashes to go" from the steps of their church
- 12 noon: Trinity in Highland Park is holding a full service

If you would like consecrated ashes mailed to you, please fill out the form (link in the newsletter!) or contact Kathryn at kathryn@stgregoryschurch.org or (847)945-1678. Deadline is end of day February 15!

Community Meals: Sunday, Feb 26

Please plan to join us at Christ Church, Waukegan, on Sunday, February 26th, where we will prepare a meal for our guests. We also pack lunch bags with non-perishable food. We start at noon and are done by 3pm. Please let Barb Schaper know if you are planning to attend at bschaper7@aol.com or 847-948-8989. Thanks to the three people who have volunteered to bake cookies. Homemade cookies are much appreciated by our guests. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry to our community!