



ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



The First Sunday After Christmas

December 31, 2023 | 9:30am

www.StGsChurch.org



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: "In the Stable" by Jorge Cocco Santangelo

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

PROCESSIONAL

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain
 now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

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

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come,
 Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing, Whom an - gels greet with
 peas - ant, king, to own him. The King of kings sal -
 an - thems sweet While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.
 This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The people sit.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

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.



For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
 and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
 until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
 and her salvation like a burning torch.
 The nations shall see your vindication,
 and all the kings your glory;
 and you shall be called by a new name
 that the mouth of the Lord will give.
 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
 and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147

Chanted by the cantor.

*Jerusalem and Zion, worship and praise your God;
 For God has strengthened the bars of your gates;
 God has blessed your children within you.
 They established peace on your borders and satisfied you with finest wheat.*

*God sends out their command to the earth, and their word runs swiftly.
 God gives snow like wool; and scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
 Who can stand against God's cold?
 God sends forth their word and melts them.*

*For God declares their word to Jacob,
 God's statutes and judgments to Israel.
 God has not done so to any other nation;
 to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!*

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. Children are invited to join the procession in the aisle for the reading of the Gospel.

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.



SEQUENCE HYMN

1 It came up - on days the mid - night clear, that
 4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by
 glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -
 near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,
 "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its
 heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give
 still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.



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 1:1-18

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people sit.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Max Smith, deacon

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.

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.



When it is not capitalized, the word "catholic" is defined as universal or inclusive.

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.

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

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

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 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



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.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Wexford Carol"
arr. David Downes

Good people all, this Christmastime, consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done in sending His beloved Son.
With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn there was a blessed Messiah born.
Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Arise and go," the angels said, "to Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find this happy morn a princely babe, sweet Jesus born."
With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went, that babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid, and by His side the virgin maid,
As long foretold upon that morn there was a blessed Messiah born.

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 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:



The Sanctus (holy, holy, holy) recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, overwhelmed by the presence of God in the sanctuary, and these words were sung by the people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The Sanctus reminds us that this is an offering of the whole creation, which joins in singing these praises.

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."

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.**

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!



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.

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

Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, day by day like us He grew,
And our eyes at last shall see Him through His own re - deem - ing love,
Where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for His bed;
And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and smiles like us He knew,
For that Child, so dear and gen - tle, is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
Ma - ry was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
With the poor, the mean, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.
And he feel - eth all our sad - ness, and He shar - eth all our glad - ness.
And he leads His chil - dren on to that place where He is gone.



COMMUNION HYMN

Unison or harmony

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!



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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

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.

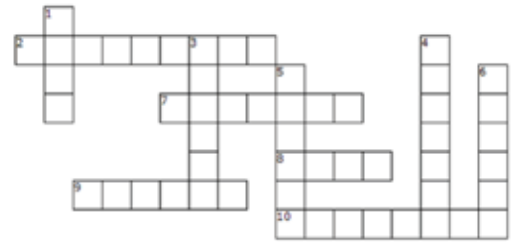
***The Priest dismisses the people, and the people respond,
 Thanks be to God.***





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

SPIRIT	RIGHTEOUS	PRAISED	COURTS	TEMPLE
CHILD	DEVOUT	LIGHT	JOSEPH	JESUS
PARENTS	SALVATION	ISRAEL	REVEALED	PIGEONS
SIMEON	PROMISED	DOVES	SACRIFICE	MARY



ACROSS

- Deliverance from the penalty of sin
- Something you said that you would do
- The organs for seeing in the faces of humans and animals
- A building dedicated to religious ceremonies or worship
- The town where Mary, Joseph, and Jesus lived

DOWN

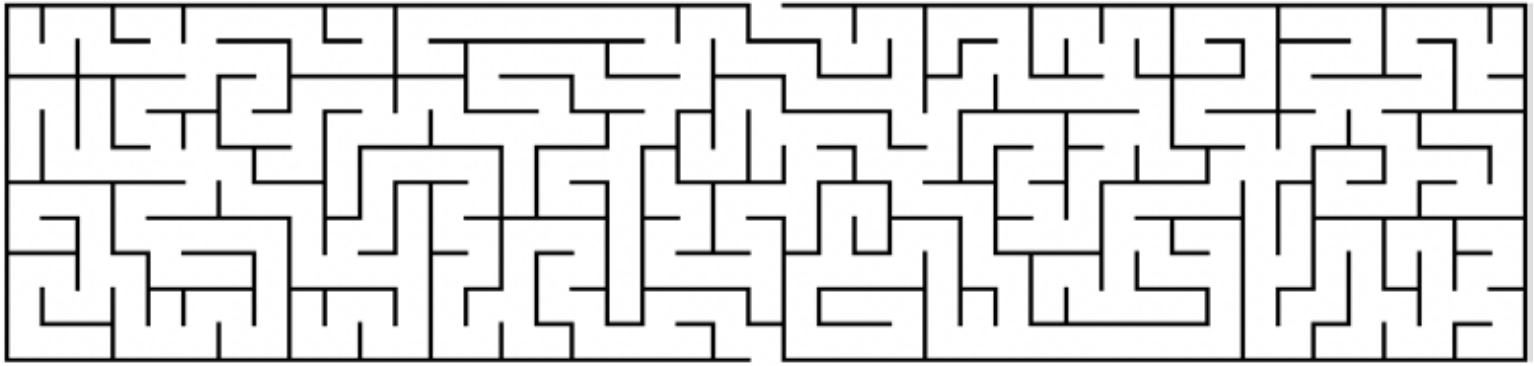
- The mother of Jesus
- The homeland of the Jewish people
- A person who is not Jewish
- The man who was promised he would not die until he had seen the Messiah
- The earthly father of Jesus

V	C	Y	U	K	S	N	Z	W	O	X	R	H	M	G	D	I	Q	T	P	J	F	L	B	A	E
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 21-26-6-4-6 _____
- 21-10-6-26-20-13 _____
- 14-25-12-3 _____
- 6-17-14-26-10-7 _____
- 16-26-1-10-4-19 _____
- 19-26-14-20-23-26 _____
- 2-13-17-23-16 _____
- 20-12-10-14-17-6-26-16 _____

Christmas Eve at StGs!





COMING UP..

Tech Gremlins: Please Stand By!



We identified and banished most of the tech gremlins just in time for Christmas (woohoo!), but a few final tweaks and long-term upgrades are still in progress. One temporary casualty is the StGsGuest wifi network, which we plan to have accessible once again early in January. Thank you for your patience and understanding! 🤖 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 save the date now!



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

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? _____
