



ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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Pastoral Care Visitors:
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Val Seilheimer, Cissy Singleton

Vocalists:
Viki Rill, Kathryn Duncan,
Cameo Humes, Keanon Kyles

The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Christ January 8, 2023 | 9:30am



St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
815 Wilmot Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

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

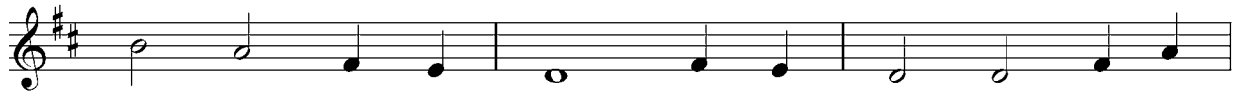
We begin our worship by observing a period of quiet (begun and ended with the ringing of a bell) to slow ourselves and rest in God's presence.

The people stand, as they are able.

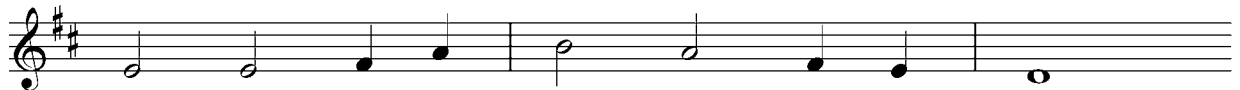
ENTRANCE HYMN



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



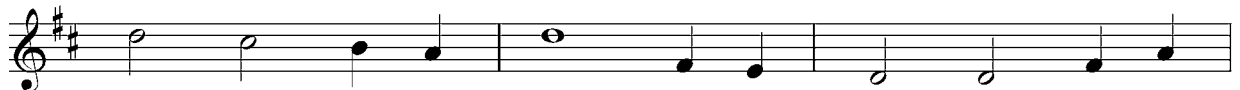
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



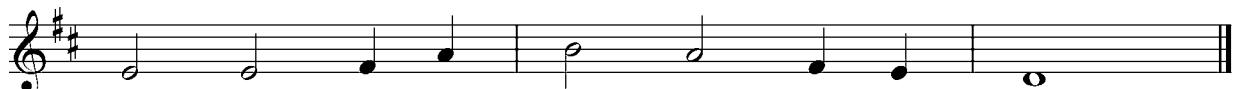
ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.



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.

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.**

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.



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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; **(v)** who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people sit.

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.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

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 29

- 1 Ascribe to God, you gods,
ascribe to God glory and strength.
- 2 **Ascribe to God the glory due God's Name;
worship God in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of God is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
God is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 **The voice of God is a powerful voice;
the voice of God is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of God breaks the cedar trees;
God breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 **God makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of God splits the flames of fire;
the voice of God shakes the wilderness;
God shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 **The voice of God makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of God
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 **God sits enthroned above the flood;
God sits enthroned as Ruler for evermore.**
- 11 God shall give strength to God's people;
God shall give God's people the blessing of peace.

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

ACTS 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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.



SEQUENCE HYMN (verse 1-2)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

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 GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:13-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, (v) according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ. (+++)

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SEQUENCE HYMN (verse 3)

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. Anne B. Jolly, Rector

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

INVITATION TO THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Dear People of God: In Holy Baptism we follow the pattern of our Lord Jesus Christ. **(v)** As he came up from the water he was anointed by the Spirit of God and designated as God's Son. So we also are anointed by that same Spirit; we are reborn and adopted as sons and daughters with whom God is well pleased. As we celebrate the feast of our Lord's Baptism, let us renew our own baptismal covenant.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Now bless this water, we pray you, that it may be a sign to us of our Baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE RENEWAL

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

The Book of Common Prayer reminds us that "The bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble." The rite of Baptism not only immerses us in the Body of Christ; in it we make extensive promises about behavior and action. On the feasts of Pentecost, All Saints' Day, Easter Vigil, and Baptism of Jesus, worshipping communities renew their Baptismal Vows if there are no candidates for Baptism. In renewing these vows, we open our hearts again to the promises we make, and the way we commit to living our lives as Christians who are filled with the grace given in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ.



Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The sprinkling of the holy water of Baptism is a tactile reminder of our own baptism, and reminds us of the importance of the vows we just renewed.

ASPERGING RITE

As the congregation is asperged, all echo each phrase sung by the cantor at an interval of one measure.

I saw wa-ters flow-ing, flow-ing from the tem-ple,
 flow-ing from the right side, Al-le-lu-ia!
 All to whom the wa-ters came, they were saved and shall pro-claim,
 Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!



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

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.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

*O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.
O Joy that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.
O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
And in Thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be -
That morn shall tearless be.*

"O Love"
by Elaine Hagenberg

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.





THE HOLY COMMUNION

The people stand, as they are able.

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN

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

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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.

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 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.



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 to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, **(v)** the Word made flesh.

For in these last days you sent Jesus 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 stand 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 Savior Jesus Christ **(v)** 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O God,

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, **(v)** through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. **(+)** In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Gregory, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, **(v)** in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for 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.**

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.



The Fraction recalls Jesus breaking the bread at the Last Supper to share with the disciples, and reminds us that Jesus' body was broken on the cross for us to be shared with the world. Therefore we keep a moment of silence for prayers of awe and gratitude.

THE FRACTION

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia.

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 clergy. 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Please sing along!

**As I went down in the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way
and who shall wear the starry crown. Good Lord, show me the way.
O sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
O sisters, let's go down, down in the river to pray.**

vs. 2: O brothers...

vs. 3: O fathers...

vs. 4: O mothers...



COMMUNION ANTHEM

"It Is Well With My Soul"

Text from Romans 8:28 and written by Horatio Spafford

Music arr. David Schwoebel

*All things work together for good for those who love God
 And are called according to his purpose.
 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
 Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well with my soul."
 It is well (all things work) with my soul (work for good),
 It is well, it is well with my soul.
 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
 That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 All things work together for those who love God
 And are called according to his purpose.
 My sin - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought: my sin, not in part, but the whole,
 Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul!
 It is well with my soul.
 All things work together for good for those who love God
 And are called according to his purpose.
 And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
 The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul!
 It is well (all things work) with my soul (work for good).
 It is well, it is well with my soul.
 All things work together for good for those who love God
 And are called according to his purpose.*

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.**

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.



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.

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. (v) Amen.

The people sit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The people stand, as they are able.

LEAVETAKING LITURGY

The Rev. Andrea Mysen, Director of Ministries, will speak on behalf of Bishop Paula Clark.

Anne: Beloved: I began my ministry among you in August of 2016 and was installed as your rector by Bishop Jeff Lee on the 19th of December, 2016. I have, with God's help and to the best of my abilities, exercised this trust: accepting its privileges and responsibilities and sharing with you in your joys and your sorrows, in times of challenge and in times of hope.

After prayer and careful consideration, I now believe I am called to leave this charge and ministry. I do so with thanksgiving for all of the blessings we have shared during my time as your rector, and in particular for the blessing of all of you, without whom my ministry would not have been possible.

Before God and before you, I publicly state that my tenure as rector of St. Gregory's ends this day.

Andrea: Do you, the people of St. Gregory's, recognize and accept the conclusion of this pastoral relationship?

We do.

Andrea: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the Prayers?

We will, with God's help.

At this time, The Rev. Andrea Mysen will read a pastoral letter to St. Gregory's from Bishop Paula Clark.



Anne: Let us pray.

O God, you have bound us together for a time as pastor and people to work for the advancement of your kingdom in this place: We give you humble and hearty thanks for the ministry which we have shared in these years now past.

Silence will be kept.

We thank you for your patience with us despite our blindness and slowness of heart. We thank you for your forgiveness and mercy in the face of our many failures.

Silence will be kept.

Especially we thank you for your never-failing presence with us through these years, and for the deeper knowledge of you and of each other which we have attained.

Silence will be kept.

We thank you for those who have been joined to this part of Christ's family through baptism. We thank you for opening our hearts and minds again and again to your Word, and for feeding us abundantly with the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of your Son. **(v)**

Silence will be kept.

Now, we pray, be with those who leave and with us who stay; and grant that all of us, by drawing ever nearer to you, may always be close to each other in the communion of your saints. All this we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **(v) Amen.**

The congregation will gather in the center of the room to lay hands on Anne and her family. Please sing along with the musical blessing.



May the Lord bless you and keep you, a - - men.



May the Lord bless you and keep you, a - - men.

BLESSING

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, **(+)** be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

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!

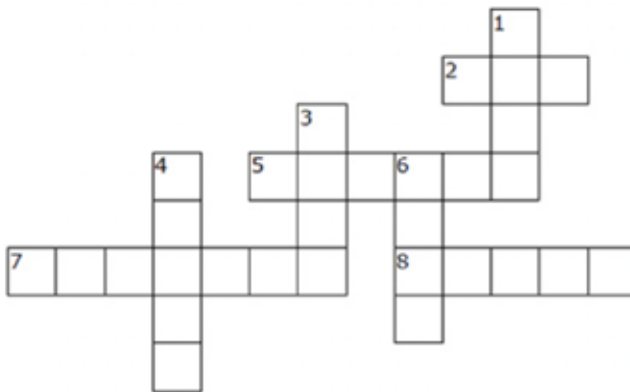


C	U	A	K	I	E	V	G	W	B	Z	F	X	Q	S	R	O	L	P	H	T	D	M	Y	J	N
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 10-3-19-21-5-11-6 _____
- 9-3-21-6-16 _____
- 22-17-7-6 _____
- 7-17-5-1-6 _____
- 20-6-3-7-6-26 _____
- 20-17-18-24 _____
- 15-17-26 _____
- 18-17-7-6 _____

SON	DOVE	BAPTIZE	HEAVEN
HOLY	LOVE	VOICE	WATER

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



GALILEE
JORDAN
DOVE
VOICE
FULFILL
PLEASED
JESUS
SPIRIT

OPENED
HEAVEN
WATER
JOHN
LOVE
BAPTIZED
SON

ACROSS

2. A male offspring
5. The river where Jesus was baptized
7. To cover briefly completely in water or pour water over a person's head
8. The sound produced by vibration of the human vocal cords

DOWN

1. The name of the man who baptized Jesus
3. A deep feeling of affection for a person
4. Clear, colorless, odorless, tasteless liquid; H2O
6. A bird often used as a symbol of peace

VOICE	LOVE	WATER	JORDAN
SON	DOVE	BAPTIZE	JOHN



Annual Giving 2023: it's not too late!

Our core values of sharing joy and hope, feeding people, and facilitating community through our God-given traits of adaptability, visibility, and vitality provide us depth and grace to continue on in a time of transition. The leadership team of StGs (Wardens, Vestry, and Staff) remain committed to using our gifts to engage more deeply in our Better Together partnership, serve and care for the marginalized, and continue to reach out to people in the community and online with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your support of StGs in 2022! We encourage you to prayerfully consider what you can give to God's work at StGs in 2023. Your financial commitment to our annual operating budget supports our daily parish life and enables us to continue to be God's hands in the world. Giving is an act of spiritual discipline, guided by our love of God and gratitude for the abundance that God gives us. When you let us know an amount you intend to give, it is both an act of commitment to your discipline, and also a courtesy to our financial team so that we can, in good faith, continue to plan how to serve.

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, please fill out your pledge card and return to the church. Alternatively, please fill out the pledge form online to let us know what financial commitment you can make to StGs in 2023. Without strong commitment from our StGs community, our budget will need to look very different in 2023. We appreciate your quick response as your pledge is instrumental to finalize the budget and plan.

Town Hall Meeting: Sunday, January 15 following the 9:30am service

The Wardens and Vestry invite all StGs community to a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, January 15th. After worship, we will take a very short transition break, and then gather in the worship space for our time together - the zoom link for those joining online is the same as our Sunday worship link. This question/answer time is meant to address our time of transition, make sure you know who the leadership is, and understand our plan for moving forward. As one of the leading mystics of the church, Julian of Norwich is famous for saying, "all shall be well"!

Community Meals: Sunday, Feb 26

St. Gregory's volunteers prepared and gave out a meal to our guests in Waukegan. Many thanks to Catherine, Sarah, Anne and Matthew Regalado, Janet and Bill Foltz and Barbara, Matthew and Scott Schaper. Thanks also to our cookie bakers, Sybil TenEyck, Sally Holz and Jocelyn Costlow. Thank you to the Faith in Action fund which covers the cost of the food we prepare and distribute to our guests.

Our next turn to serve will be Sunday, February 26th. We are in need of two bakers. Tina Caleb has already offered to bake. We meet at 12 noon to prepare a meal and are done by 3 pm. If you're interested in helping with this important ministry, please reach out to Barb Schaper at bschaper7@aol.com or (847)948-8989.

