



ST. GREGORY'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Radiates God's Grace, Equipping All People to Change the World.

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The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord

January 9, 2022

9:30am



[Link to the Sunday Bulletin online.](#)



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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. 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". **Bowing one's head at the name of Jesus** reminds us that Jesus is the King of Kings, and he rules from a place of humility. This is indicated by (v). 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. These points in the liturgy are marked with this symbol (+). 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. This is indicated by the symbol. (+++) 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.

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 to slow ourselves and rest in God's presence.

The people stand, as they are able.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

"Christ, when for us you were baptized"

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,
 2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,
 3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.
 sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.
 free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.
 that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

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, and many people choose to cross themselves at the mention of the Trinity. The Collect for Purity allows us to acknowledge that the ability to celebrate the liturgy depends on God's grace.

OPENING ACCLAMATION p. 355, Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (+)
 People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Song of Praise: (this is USUALLY the Gloria, or Lord have mercy upon us...) The song of praise is an acclamation by all of us together in praise of God.

GLORIA S236

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 splen - dor 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;
 Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the
 in the high vault of heav - - en.
 high vault of heav - en, glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to
 Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit;
 you, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
 we will high - ly ex - alt you. Glo - ry to you!
 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. The opening collect is tailored toward the church season.

We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a Lectionary. These are the 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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people sit.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the
earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my
glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

People **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.

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.

PSALM 29

First cantor, then all:



A - scribe to the Lord all glo - ry and strength.

Cantor Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name;
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
The God of glory thunders.

All Ascribe to the Lord all glory and strength.

Cantor The voice of the Lord is a voice of power;
It breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
And Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

All Ascribe to the Lord all glory and strength.

Cantor The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
And strips the forest bare.

All Ascribe to the Lord all glory and strength.

Cantor In the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"
The Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to his people;
The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

All Ascribe to the Lord all glory and strength.

THE EPISTLE

Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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



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 towards it.

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

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.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

The people sit, and the children return to their seats.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Anne B. Jolly



A period of quiet is observed to slow ourselves and rest in God's presence.

The people stand, as they are able.

THE BLESSING OF WATER

Celebrant 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.



RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT

The people stand, as they are able.

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **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.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant 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 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 FOR EPIPHANY

Deacon or other leader

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



Cantor: Christ, be our light: **All: 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

Cantor
People

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

Cantor
People

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.

Silence

Cantor
People

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 [especially _____]. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world.

Silence

Cantor
People

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 [especially _____]. Shine the light of hope.

Silence

Cantor
People

Christ, be our light
Shine in our hearts.



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.

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 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 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

Cantor Christ, be our light
People **Shine in our hearts.**

Presider 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.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The people stand or kneel, as they are able.

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All **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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The congregation greets one another in the Peace of Christ. We encourage you to exchange the Peace with words and gestures, rather than touch, to protect the most vulnerable among us.

The people sit.

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND TRAVEL

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*"Down in the river to pray"
Traditional folk song*

*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.
Oh sisters (brothers, fathers, mothers, sinners, children),
Let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
Oh sisters (brothers, fathers, mothers, sinners, children),
Let's go down, down in the river to pray.*



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The people stand, as they are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Doxology

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B, Page 367, Book of Common Prayer)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth...

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 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 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 S125

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.

Celebrant 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.



Celebrant 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,

All **We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

Celebrant 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 (v), the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, 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,

People **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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

FRACTION

Antiphon
Cantor; then All

Who - ev - er eats this bread will live for ev - er.

Cantor

1. This is the true bread which comes down from hea - ven

Cantor

and gives life to the world. [Ant.] 2. Who - ev - er

believes in me shall not hun - ger or thirst, for the bread

which I give for the life of the world is my flesh. [Ant.]

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.



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)

All at home 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.**

COMMUNION CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

"O light of light"

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.

The people stand, as they are able.



SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (when appropriate)

Celebrant We send you out to share Communion this week.

People **May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

Celebrant May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSING

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.



CONGREGATIONAL HYMN (Verses 1,2, & 4)

"Songs of thankfulness and praise"

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,

an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

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,

People **Thanks be to God.**

In response to the sharp and sustained rise in anti-Asian harassment, Advancing Justice Chicago is partnering with the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Chicago and Hollaback! to offer local interactive online bystander intervention trainings to help people identify hate incidents as they happen and take action safely and effectively.

Learn more about how you can protect yourself and play a part in fighting anti-Asian harassment.

The training is on Sunday, Jan. 16th, at 7:00PM CDT. Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/ReligiousLeadersUnited>

A separate Zoom link to attend will be in your email inbox.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS UNITED



In partnership with:



We offer these trainings to individuals of all backgrounds as well as community groups, congregations, organizations, and corporations. If you believe your affiliation is interested, please email antihate@advancingjustice-chicago.org.



Our website is: StGsChurch.org where you will find all the zoom information

COMMUNITY MEALS

St. Gregory's parishioners have the opportunity to volunteer at the Community Meals program in Waukegan on the following dates - Jan 23, Feb 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24, Sept 25, Oct 23, and Jan 1 2023. We are still making food and packing bags for pick up so could use some people to help out. Please contact Barb Schaper at bschaper7@aol.com or 948-8989 if you would like to help. We will have more information in January.

INTERNET AND PHONE UPGRADES AT THE CHURCH

We are in the process of upgrading our internet and phone system at StGs. This coming week, we will have periods when our phone lines are down and our messaging into the church may not work correctly. Please know we are doing our best to get everything installed and operational as soon as possible.

The best way to contact anyone from the church is via email. The general church email is parish@stgregoryschurch.org. If you have a pastoral emergency, you can reach Mother Anne at 847-943-9815 or Shelley at 847-943-9687. Thank you in advance for your patience.

STGS MOVIE CLUB - MONDAYS 7PM

Please contact Deacon Max Smith, (max@stgregoryschurch.org) if you are interesting in join the group or you have any questions. Movie suggestions are welcome and remember they should be available on Kanopy and Netflix.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SERVICE WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING – 8AM ON ZOOM

Join our Wednesday morning spiritual practice via Zoom that can anchor your week in Prayer. This worship service includes prayers for healing (of body, mind, heart and soul) which can be especially helpful. Please contact Charlene (parish@stgregoryschurch.org) for more information. All are invited.

STG'S BOOK CLUB – JANUARY 19 AT 7PM

All are welcome to join in the discussion. The book club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm, except for December. Please contact the church office at parish@stgregoryschurch.org with any questions you may have.

January 19 - 'The Splendid and the Vile' by Erik Larson. It is a story of survival and leadership in wartime England.

February 16 - 'State of Terror' by Louise Penny and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

PARABLES OF JESUS BIBLE STUDY – NEXT SESSION IS THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 7PM

We will not be convening Thursday, January 6, due to a scheduling conflict with St. Gregory's Epiphany pageant. Instead, our upcoming discussion about "The Pharisee and the Tax Collector," will be moved to 7 pm, January 20, via Zoom. Please read from your favorite Bible(s) the verses that relate directly to this discussion -- the Gospel of Luke 18:10-14 – and come join us for discussing this parable's meaning in First Century Judea.

Our gatherings are open to anyone and are held at 7 pm, every 1st and 3rd Thursday. If you have any questions, please contact the hosts -- Scott Hamilton (scalhamilton@sbcglobal.net) Elizabeth Hamilton (jericehamilton@sbcglobal.net) or Meredith Potter (meredithpotter@comcast.net).

GENTLE/MEDITATIVE YOGA, FRIDAYS AT 8AM

Join us for a gentle/meditative yoga class, and start your day grounded, invigorated and ready to go! Class is held on Friday morning VIA ZOOM and is free to all. Led by certified yoga instructor Mary Aulbach, this class will be a great way to start your day regardless of your experience level. No prior yoga experience necessary. Email Charlene at parish@stgregoryschurch.org with any questions. Don't forget to invite your neighbors and friends!

Our Annual Meeting will be TBA. More details to come.



The Baptism of Jesus

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. Luke 3:21 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NIV).



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

Spirit	John	voice	Christ	fire
opened	Jesus	dove	powerful	water
people	praying	heaven	Holy	baptize