

Christ the King

Sunday, November 23, 2025

8:00 AM (spoken) & 10:15 AM (with music)

Also Live Streaming at

<https://www.facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>

VOLUNTARY

Partita on “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Charles Callahan

(The people stand)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Bulletin Page 16

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God:  Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

GLORIA (8:00 service)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE (10:15 service)

Festival Eucharist, Craig Phillips

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Glo - - - ry. glo - - - ria,". The bottom staff is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "ry to God in the high - - - est. ria a Dios en el cie - - - lo." The music includes various note values (eighth and sixteenth notes) and rests.

Choir: and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: Have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: Receive our prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Refrain

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(The people are seated)

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23.1-6

Lector A Reading from Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

PSALM 46

Setting: David York

The choir sings the refrain once and the congregation repeats. The cantor sings the Psalm verses. The choir and congregation then sing the refrain following each section of verses.



The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our strong-hold.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea.
Though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. **Antiphon**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day. **Antiphon**

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks and the earth melts away.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. **Antiphon**

SECOND READING

Colossians 1.11-20

Lector A Reading from the Letter to the Colossians.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

(The people stand)

SEQUENCE HYMN

The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

Bulletin Page 18

(Congregation sings vv. 1—3, the Gospel is read, then vv. 4—6 are sung)

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 23.33-43

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

(The people are seated)

SERMON

The Rev. Michael K. Fincher

(Silent reflection)

NICENE CREED (*Please stand*)

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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

As we prepare to bring our gifts to the altar, let us raise our voices in prayer and praise, thanking God for the opportunity to tell out our souls in joy.

I ask your prayers for the Church, God's greatest gift to us. For all who worship and serve this day. For the wisdom and teaching of our bishops, priests, deacons, and laypeople.

Tell Out my Soul,

The Greatness of our House of Prayer.

I bid your prayers for our Nation and for all nations; for all refugees, for an end to terror and war, for a spirit of Goodwill. We pray for our national institutions that they will work together in justice.

Tell Out my Soul,

The Greatness of the Promise of Liberty.

I ask your prayers for our neighbors, for the mission of our church and the ways we change the world with our gifts.

Tell Out my Soul,

The Greatness of our Love.

I invite your prayers for those who are sick, who are isolated, who are in despair. We pray for caregivers and healers who care for those we love. We pray for those in need, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Tell Out my Soul,

The Greatness of our Compassion.

I ask your prayers for the dead and the dying, and for those who mourn. We pray for those who have died, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Tell Out my Soul,

The Greatness of our stories.

I invite your celebrations, remembrances, and the naming of our many blessings, innumerable and filled with Grace. May we be inspired to share our wealth, works, and wisdom with our neighbors and our Church as we Tell out our Soul,

The Greatness of the Lord.

Presider Hear the prayers of your people, O God, and inspire us with gratitude and abundance as we share our many gifts with You and the world You have made.

Amen.

CONFESSON OF SIN

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

Silence may be kept.

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

Presider 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

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

(Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL BLESSINGS

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer: Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

King of Glory, King Peace

Eric Thiman

King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art,
I will sing thee;
and the cream of all my heart,
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is in this poor sort
to enroll thee;
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee. (George Herbert)

PRESENTATION HYMN

As Those of Old their First Fruits Brought

Forest Green

A world in need now summons us to la-bor, love, and give; to make our life an of-fer-ing to God that all may live; the Church of Christ is call-ing us to make the dream come true: a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves of music. The first staff shows the Celebrant's part: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff shows the People's part: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff shows the Celebrant's part: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff shows the People's part: "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

At the 8:00 Service:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

At the 10:15 Service:

St. Anne's Mass, James MacMillan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly_ Lord,
God of_ power and_ might._ Heav'n and earth_ are_ full_ of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na in_ the_ high - est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is_ he, who
comes in the name_ of the_ Lord._ Ho - san - na in_ the_
high - est, ho - san - na_ in_ the_ high - est.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with [] and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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

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

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

(A period of silence is kept after the Presider breaks the host)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM

David York

Jordan Tickner, cantor

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Refrain sung first by the cantor, then repeated by all

Verse: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Refrain: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Presider says the following invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this Altar. Holy Communion will be distributed from a single Communion Station at the foot of the chancel steps. The Ushers will release people by row to receive Communion. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those who are participating in the live streamed service and therefore not able to receive communion may wish to say the following prayer in recognition that the desire to receive communion carries the same spiritual benefits of actually consuming the consecrated elements.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love, which we remember now as we hear your words again: "This is my body; this is my blood — given for you." Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet at your table again. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Ride On, King Jesus

African American Spiritual, arr. William Cutter

Brianna Zucker, soloist

COMMUNION HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Bulletin Page 19

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

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

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSATIONAL HYMN

Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

Bulletin Page 20

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Tell Out, My Soul

Robert J. Powell

*If you wish to leave during the Voluntary, please do so quietly,
out of courtesy for those staying to listen.*

FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

**Please join us in Francis Hall for refreshments and fellowship
following the worship service**

(Francis Hall is out the main church doors and to the left)

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	8:00 SERVICE	10:15 SERVICE
Presider and Preacher	Fr. Michael Fincher	Fr. Michael Fincher
Music Director	—	David York
Crucifer	—	David Luebben-Morrill
Lector	Kris Brooks	Susan Mora
Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)	Dana Lindsay Tamera Benedict	Beth Eldon Fran Luebben-Morgan

Texts of Sunday sermons are available on our parish website, at
<http://stgregoryschurch.com/sermons-archive/>

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PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 494

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Diademata

Descant

5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned a - bove;

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

crown him to whom is given the won-drous name of Love.

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran-somed sin - ners slain, now
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won-drous name of Love. Crown

Crown him with man-y crowns, as thrones be-fore him

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu-man breast, and
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

fall, crown him, ye kings, for he is King of all.

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

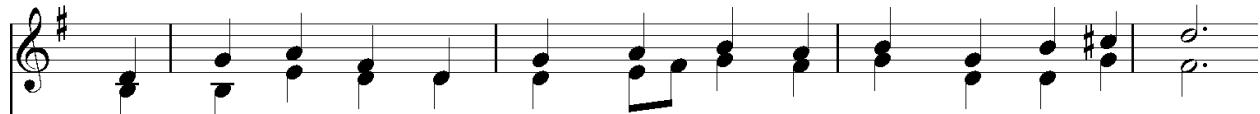
SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 483

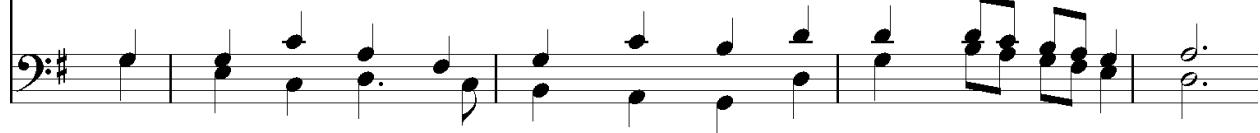
The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

St. Magnus

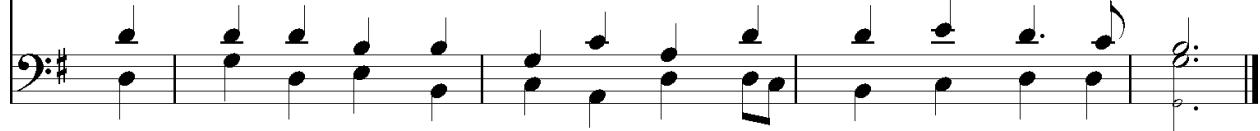
(Congregation sings vv. 1—3, the Gospel is read, then vv. 4—6 are sung)



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
 2 The high - est place that heaven af - fords is his, is his by right,
 3 the joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low,
 4 To them the cross with all its shame, with all its grace is given;
 5 They suf - fer with their Lord be - low, they reign with him a - bove,



1 a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
 2 the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's e - ter - nal Light;
 3 to whom he man - i - fests his love and grants his name to know.
 4 their name, an ev - er - last - ing name; their joy, the joy of heaven.
 5 their prof - it and their joy to know the mys - tery of his love.



6 The cross he bore is life and health,
 though shame and death to him:
 his people's hope, his people's wealth,
 their everlasting theme.

COMMUNION HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 324

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Picardy

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of Light de -
 sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may va - nish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu ia!"

our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the dark - ness clears a way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

RECESSATIONAL HYMN

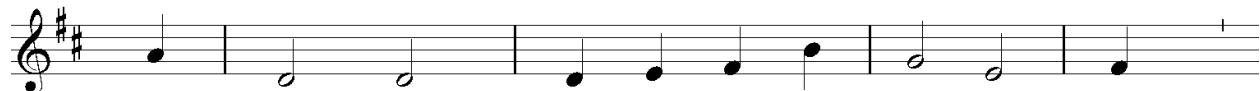
Hymnal 1982, Hymn 438

Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

Woodlands



1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
his ho - ly Name - the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S

Tuesday, November 25

Centering Prayer at **6:30 PM** on Zoom. Contact Fr. Michael for access information.

Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist (spoken) at **8:00 AM** in the Church.

Sunday School

Seniors (ages 11 to 18) at **9:30 AM** in the Youth Room.

Juniors (ages 8 to 10) at **10:15 AM** in the Youth Room.

Beginners (ages 5 to 7) at **10:15 AM** in the Youth Room.

Holy Eucharist (with music) at **10:15 AM** in the Church and live streamed on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

Nursery Care is available on Sundays, starting at 7:45 AM, in the Nursery (Room 3)

Daily Offices (Tuesday through Thursday)

Daily Morning Prayer: Tuesday through Thursday at **9:00 AM** on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

Daily Evening Prayer: Tuesday through Thursday at **5:00 PM** on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

For the Daily Offices, you will need either a Book of Common Prayer or you can download the Morning and Evening Prayer liturgies and the Psalms for the week from the St. Gregory's website (www.stgregoryschurch.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 14 – A Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent

This traditional service of readings and music is inspired by services held at King's College, Cambridge for over 100 years. Stories from biblical prophecies foretelling the birth of Christ are interspersed with familiar Advent hymns and carols. St. Gregory's Choir sings music by G.F. Handel, John Gardner, and Richard Shephard. **Note that on this day we only have one service at 10:15 AM.**

Sunday, December 21 – Music at Four: International Christmas Celebration 2.0

Carols and stories from near and far will be sung by St. Gregory's choir, soloists and instrumentalists. Join us for a parish Christmas dinner following the concert.

Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Christmas Carols and Anthems at 6:30 PM

Choral Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist at 7:00 PM.

Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 AM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Up Close and Classical Concert: Up Close and Classical presents string quartets by Haydn, Schubert, and Stravinsky on Sunday, November 30th at 4:00 PM at St. Gregory's. Free Admission. More information is available at <https://upcloseandclassical.org>.

United Thank Offering (UTO) Ingathering: November is a month of sharing our abundance with others such as family, friends and our community as we begin our UTO ingathering this month, please remember that UTO grants often focus on urgent human needs meaning your individual gratitude gift helps racial reconciliation efforts, to end poverty and so much more. The ingathering will continue until **Sunday, December 7th**. Please give generously.

Christmas Flower Donations: Christmas is just around the corner! If you would like to make a donation to help offset the cost of the wreaths and poinsettias, you can do so by sending a check to the church with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. Or you can go through the parish website or the Vanco app and use the Other Designated Gift category (just be sure to put Christmas Flowers in the adjacent box). And if you would like to make your donation in Memory of, in Thanksgiving of, or in Honor of someone, you can call the parish office or send an email to info@stgregoryschurch.com with the appropriate information. We need dedications no later

than **Tuesday, December 16th** to get information into the Christmas Eve bulletin. Poinsettias will be available for pick-up after Christmas. More on that down the road.

Christmas Music Donations: A lot of special music is planned for the upcoming weeks leading up to Christmas. If you would like to help offset the expenses for the wonderful musicians that will be joining us for the season, please send a check to St. Gregory's with "Christmas Music" as the memo line. You can also donate on our website using the Vanco app. Click the "Other Designated Gift" category, putting "Christmas Music" in the adjacent box. We thank you for your support of our wonderful music ministry!

Stitches of Faith: Are you looking for a space to share your creativity, enjoy fellowship, and be inspired? Stitches of Faith is a gathering for anyone who loves to craft—or wants to learn! Whether you knit, crochet, quilt, paint, or want to try your hand at another craft, this group is open to all skill levels, including beginners eager to discover something new. We meet on Sundays from 1:00–3:30 PM in the Conference Room. Each week, we will enjoy time for projects, encouragement, and conversation in a relaxed, faith-filled environment. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring your supplies, your curiosity, and your kind spirit. Come create, connect, and grow in community with us!

Lend a Hand: Like any older building, St. Gregory's constantly needs maintenance and touching up. Fred Cornett has made up a list of things to do in the near future: Cleaning and arranging the janitor's closet and the storage areas, cleaning the trash cans, etc. Many hands make light work, and most of the jobs won't take much time if two or three people join in. There is a signup sheet in the narthex, and Fred is always available for consultation or questions: (562) 308-6955. Thanks, Fred, for getting the projects going!

Altar Flower Donations: Need a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one or friend? Make a flower donation. There is a flower donation chart located on the Narthex wall that you can use to sign up for special dates to donate altar flowers. Simply fill out a donation form attached to the bottom of the chart and return the form to the Parish Office. Payment for flowers can be made by check or online at <https://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2>. Make sure you specify your donation is for Altar Flowers. The Altar Guild thanks you.

Episcopal News Updates: The Diocese provides weekly email updates to help you keep informed about what's happening all over our six-county diocese. If you want to receive the Episcopal News, visit <https://diocesela.org/episcopal-news/contact/> and enter your email address in the box provided.

Feed My Lambs and Food Bank: THANK YOU for your generosity and your donations. Here's the latest news on our parish feeding programs.

- **Feed My Lambs**
 - **Homemade cookies can be dropped off any time.** Please put your homemade cookies in Ziploc Bags and label them with the date and "FML" (this way we know they are for Feed My Lambs and not other purposes).
 - **Please do not bring hardboiled eggs.** Due to issues with eggs, we now have a dedicated team responsible for providing hardboiled egg.

- **Volunteers** – If you are interested in helping out Feed My Lambs, contact Tamera Benedict at (tlbenedict4@gmail.com, 562.301.6800).
- **Food Bank** The Food Bank relies on your financial support and appreciates all donations of funds or non-perishable food items. We also can use more volunteers at:
 - Bagging and distribution the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month from 8:30 to 11:00 AM
 - Any other time you may have available and could assist with assembling our bags (e.g. on Sunday before or after service, or any time the office is open for access)
 Please contact the Parish Office (info@stgregoryschurch.com, 562.420.1311) or Bill Eldon (billeldon@gmail.com, 562.234.9920) for more information about the Food Bank.

Your continued support of our feeding ministries, through product and monetary contributions, is greatly appreciated!

Gratitude for Your Support of the Parish: We continue to be humbled and so incredibly grateful for your generosity in supporting our parish and its ministries! While you may not be able to drop your donation in a real offering plate, there are still ways you can make sure your donation gets to the parish:

- You can mail your check to the parish office.
- Make donations through our online payment account, accessible through the parish website at <http://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2/>.
- Scan the QR code found in the Sunday bulletin.

And again, THANK YOU for your continued support!

Parish Directory: Our online parish directory is at <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/>. This is a secure site and can be accessed using the email address you had published in the parish directory. You can also download the “Instant Church Directory” on your smart phone. Versions are available for Android, iPhone, iPad, and Kindle.

One Body & One Spirit Annual Appeal: The Diocese has established an ongoing campaign focused on raising funds to assist congregations, schools, affiliated institutions, and their communities who are faced with unprecedented challenges. We are invited to prayerfully consider making a donation to help others in our Diocese who may have unmet needs. More information is available at <https://diocesela.org/annual-appeal/>.

Forward Day By Day: For those who use the Forward Day By Day booklet for personal devotions and need the newest edition mailed, please contact Kevin at 562-420-1311 or info@stgregoryschurch.com.

In Case of Emergency . . . Notify Your Priest! In the event of a hospital stay, illness, death in the family, or other pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Michael on his cell phone (909-373-6478). And PLEASE, no excuses about not wanting to bother me. That's why we are here – for YOU!

PRAYER LIST

Lydia Gibbs, Suzan Laverty, Martin Nemitz, Ferdinand Gonzalez, Patrick McDonough, Mike Laverty, Mother Beryl, Scott Morgan, Fran Luebben-Morgan, Harold Peacock, Rudy Revell, Jared Baker, Kimberly Bouzguenda, Shannon Romano, Ralph Tesla, Anne Cantrell, Matt Burger, Kathy Edwards, Darlene Feit-Pretzer, Keeley Gilmore, Betty Peacock, Maria White, Laura Mae Harper, Elizabeth Laursen, Eric Kela, Dodie Martin, Savannah Jimenez, Martha Wong, Joanne Paine, Jonah Culbert, Carlos Cruz, Alexis Cattivera and Family, Sean Wood, Marina Tesla, Jim Perreten, Nancy Luebben, Diane Duacsek, Michele Morrill, Kira Dirghalli, Edith Finney, Paige Hardin, Marty Wong, Dominic Ginder, Miriam Edwards, Charles H. Parks, Perry Nelson, Nellie Bell, Ernie and Vickie Morrison, Alison and Mick, Phyllis Comiskey, Marie Romer, Brett W., Roberto Villanueva, Adan Murillo, Val Kela, Michael Hipsman, Kelly

Note: Unless we are aware of on-going concerns, names only stay on the Parish Prayer List for a month. If names need to be re-added, please notify the Parish Office.



ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6201 E. WILLOW STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815
562-420-1311 WWW.STGREGORYSCHURCH.COM

WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

St. Gregory's is a warm and caring community of families and singles, young and old, committed to sharing the good news that Jesus is the Lord of all life. We are an Episcopal Church, having members from all backgrounds and religious traditions. Many of us had no church involvement before coming here. We want to offer to you the same welcome and friendship that were extended to us when we came to St. Gregory's.

ST. GREGORY'S MISSION STATEMENT

God has called us into Christian community and gifted us for ministry:

To worship and glorify God
To transform faith into action
To share the love of Jesus Christ

The Right Reverend John H. Taylor
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

The Reverend Michael K. Fincher, Rector
rector@stgregoryschurch.com

David York, Music Director & Organist
york1635@aol.com

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00pm, Tuesday – Thursday