



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, February 8, 2026

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

Also Live Streaming at

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

VOLUNTARY

Winter Light

Ola Gjeilo

George Bullock, cello

(Please stand)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ, Be Our Light

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.

GLORIA (10:15 Service)

Mass for Grace, Carl Haywood

Glo-ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly Name. —

All: *Refrain*

Choir: 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.

All: *Refrain*

Choir: 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 the Father.

All: *Refrain*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

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

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58.1-9a

Lector A Reading from Isaiah

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

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

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

PSALM 112.1-9

Setting: David York

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



Light shines in the dark - ness for the up - right.

Praise the Lord!

Happy are they who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in his commandments!
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed. **Antiphon**

Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.
They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. **Antiphon**

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.
For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever. **Antiphon**

They are not afraid of any evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look with triumph on their foes.
They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures for ever;
their horn is exalted in honor. **Antiphon**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2.1-12

Lector A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

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

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden,

which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

(Please stand)

SEQUENCE HYMN

Christ is the World's True Light

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(Congregation sings vv. 1 & 2, the Gospel is read, then v. 3 is sung)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5.13-20

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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

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

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

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

The Rev. Michael K. Fincher

(*Silent reflection*)

NICENE CREED (All standing)

**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 (*Please remain standing or kneel*)

Beloved in Christ, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Let us pray, "Open our ears, O God, that we may hear your call."

Establish your Holy Spirit to shine through us and our deeds, all for your glory and the welfare of your people.

Silence

Open our ears, O God,
that we may hear your call.

Righteous God, you delight in justice and mercy: Loose the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Raise up leaders who care for the poor and the marginalized.

Silence

Open our ears, O God,
that we may hear your call.

We thank you, O God, for the gift of light. By it you cause plants to grow; by it you generate warmth; by it you open our eyes to see the beauty of all you have made. I invite you to add your own prayers of thanksgivings, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

Silence

Open our ears, O God,
that we may hear your call.

In our own city, Great God, be the restorer of streets. Rebuild our ruined places. May all the people of this community live in security and peace.

Silence

Open our ears, O God,
that we may hear your call.

Be present to all those who cry for help, O Holy One. We pray your healing will spring up quickly for those in need. I invite you to add your own prayers of intercession, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

Silence

Open our ears, O God,
that we may hear your call.

We give thanks for the blessing and love that you show us through one another. Be with those who mourn and welcome those who have died to the heavenly country. I invite you to add your own prayers for the departed, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

Silence

Open our ears, O God,
that we may hear your call.

The Presider says the concluding collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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 Risen 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

True Light

Keith Hampton

Brianna Zuker, Andrea Hilliard, soloists

This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine. Almighty God is light. He lives in us as True Light. In the beginning, out of darkness God created True Light. He lives in us as True Light.

Don't let the light that you've given me die, And don't desert my mind. But let the one who serves you, praise you again and again. He lives in us as True Light.

You are the one who judges right from wrong, Your glory excites no envy. But let the one who serves you, praise you again and again. He lives in us as True Light.

PRESENTATION HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

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(Verses 1 & 2)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves of music. The first staff is for the Celebrant, starting with a B-flat clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the People, starting with a B-flat clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, starting with a B-flat clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, starting with a B-flat clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

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:

Missa Simplex, Peter Hallock

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed _____, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

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



The musical notation consists of six staves of music in common time and G major. The lyrics of the Lord's Prayer are written below each staff. The music features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some grace notes and rests. The lyrics are as follows:

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 Celebrant breaks the host)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM – S169

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -

deed, says the Lord. *All* My Lord. Those who eat my

Cantor or Choir

flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. *All* My

flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

The Presider says the following or a similar 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 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 as 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

Meditation on "Adoro te Devote"

George Bullock, cello

Charles Callahan

COMMUNION HYMN

Humbly I Adore Thee, Verity Unseen

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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 God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, ☧ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSATIONAL HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Bulletin Page 20

DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune in C Major

Michael McCabe

*If you choose 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 & Preacher	Fr. Michael Fincher	Fr. Michael Fincher
Organist	—	David York
Crucifer	—	David Luebben-Morrill
Lector	Kris Brooks	Sally Curry
Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)	Dana Lindsay David Luebben-Morrill	Lizz Spencer 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

Christ, Be Our Light

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 542

Christ is the World's True Light

St. Joan

(Congregation sings vv. 1 & 2, the Gospel is read, then v. 3 is sung)

1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,
 2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an- cient feuds for - get - ting,
 3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;

the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;
 the whole round world com - plete, from sun-rise to its set - ting:
 cast out our pride and shame that hin-der to en - throne thee;

new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:
 when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,
 the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;

free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.
 to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.
 to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

PRESENTATION HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

This Joy

(Verses 1 & 2)

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

Text: African American spiritual
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935

Music: THIS IS I, African American Spiritual, arr. H. Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

COMMUNION HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 314

Humbly I Adore Thee, Verity Unseen

Adoro devote

1 Hum - bly I a - dore thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,
 2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;
 3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;
 4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,

who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;
 faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.
 liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,
 what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:

lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,
 I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;
 grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,
 face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,

tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.
 what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.
 to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.
 in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

RECESSATIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 490

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to follow Je-sus.
 I want to look at Je-sus.
 I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and we
 When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.
 show me the way to the Fa-ther.
 shall know the joy of Je-sus.

Refrain

Musical score for the first part of the refrain. The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The music consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "In him there is no dark - ness at all. The".

Musical score for the second part of the refrain. The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The music consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "night and the day are both a - like. The".

Musical score for the third part of the refrain. The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The music consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God." A ritardando (rit.) is indicated at the end of this section.

Musical score for the final part of the refrain. The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The music consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus." The tempo is marked as *a tempo*.

THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S

Tuesday, February 10

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

Thursday, February 12

Holy Eucharist and Healing Service at 10:00 AM in the Chapel.

Bible Study at 11:00 AM in the Fireside Room.

Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 PM in the Choir Room. Contact David York for more information.

Sunday, February 15 – Last Sunday after the Epiphany

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)

Evening Prayer (Tuesday through Thursday)

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 17 – Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Supper from 5:00 to 8:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday, February 18 – Ash Wednesday

Services of Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes will be held at 8:00 AM (spoken service) and 7:00 PM (choral service).

Sunday, February 22 – Music at Four

Lenten Evensong at 4:00 PM in the Church. Start your Lenten journey with this service of choral music presented by St. Gregory's Choir and oboist Dave Champagne. Through readings, prayers and music we explore the themes of Lent. Music by Adrian Batten, Maurice Greene and Robert Hobby.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Soles 4 Souls Returns to St. Gregory's: We are again offering an outreach option for a Soles 4 Souls Shoe Drive during the month of February. You may bring gently used or new shoes to church any Sunday from February 1st through March 1st, and leave them in the boxes labeled Soles 4 Souls. If they have laces, please tie them together. Your old shoes provide new opportunities in our area, as well as in poverty-stricken areas of the United States, Africa, Haiti and other nations. Your gently used or new shoes will help those in need walk towards a brighter future. Give Hope.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: Join us in the Parish Hall on February 17 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM as we prepare for the Lenten season. There will be pancakes with all the trimmings and sausages, all cooked by the Men's Fellowship Ministry. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please see Diane Kela or Lizz Spencer. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lenten Soup Suppers: We will begin our annual Lenten soup and salad suppers on February 26 at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. We will have suppers on the following Thursdays: February 26, March 5, March 12, March 19, and March 26. This year we are asking for members of the parish to sign up and bring their favorite soups, enough to feed 20 people. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please see Diane Kela or Lizz Spencer.

Lenten Program: Rule of Life: Following on our study of the Rule of Benedict last summer, our Lenten program this year will be on the development of a personal Rule of Life. Since the early Church, we have lived by a Rule of Life. God lovingly invites us to pursue our shared calling as a Christian community and our unique vocation as individual disciples. In living a Rule, we are being intentional about the personal rhythms that shape our days. It is our way of partnering with God for the transformation only God can bring about. The Rule is a guide that supports our

heart's desire to grow in loving God and others. Before creating a rule, we spend serious time reflecting on the whole of our lives, listening to God with attentive, responsive, discerning hearts. Join us as we learn, reflect, discern, and create our individual rules. Bring a journal or notebook. Sessions will be held on the following Thursday evenings: February 26, March 5, March 12, March 19, and March 26, starting about 6:45 PM.

Pledge Numbers and Envelopes: Please be advised that the Envelope Number and Pledge Number that you currently have will be remain the same for 2026 (unless you are a new pledge). A list is provided in the Narthex with your pledge number. Envelopes are also available for those who requested them. We ask that when you find your assigned envelopes, please initial on the Envelope Number summary so we know that they went to the right home. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office or email info@stgregoryschurch.com.

American Sewing Guild: Starting on Sunday, January 11, the American Sewing Guild (ASG) Long Beach neighborhood group will be meeting monthly at St. Gregory's in the Parish Hall Conference Room at the same time (1:00 - 3:30) as the Stitches of Faith group. The ASG is a national non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the sewing arts through education and community engagement. ASG aims to preserve and advance sewing as an art and life skill. Members of St. Gregory's, as well as interested people from the community, are welcomed to join us at a meeting. The group is very excited to have a regular meeting home at St. Gregory's and cannot wait to demonstrate their ability to help and promote sewing skills to all levels of sewists who attend. For questions or more information, contact Susan Mora.

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. In addition to your support, we are pleased to announce that St. Gregory's has been awarded \$1,000 from the Long Beach Food Access Fund in support of our feeding programs. We have also received 170 prepackaged boxes of nonperishable food from the Los Angeles Area Food Bank.

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 the Parish Office 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, 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, Sean Wood, Marina Tesla, Nancy Luebben, Diane Duacsek, Michele Morrill, Kira Dirghalli, Edith Finney, Paige Hardin, Marty Wong, Miriam Edwards, Charles H. Parks, Perry Nelson, Nellie Bell, Ernie and Vickie Morrison, Alison and Mick, Phyllis Comiskey, Brett W., Adan Murillo, Val Kela, Michael Hipsman, Trisha Cookmeyer, Sally Blevins, Sue Davis, Jack Alt, Shizuka Yoda, Linda Elliott, Ron Dixon, Darryl Takaki, Paul Meyer, Juhani Palomaki, Lisa Christensen, Gloria Neal

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