

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)

Sunday, October 11, 2026

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

Also Live Streaming at

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

VOLUNTARY

Andante with Variations

Felix Mendelssohn

(Please stand)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table

Bulletin Page 17

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

Glo - - - - ry. glo - - -
Glo - - - - ria, glo - - -

- - ry to God in the high - - - - est.
- - ria a Dios en el cie - - - - lo.

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.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25.1-9

Lector A Reading from Isaiah.

O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.
It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

PSALM 23

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.



The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters. **Antiphon**

He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **Antiphon**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. **Antiphon**

SECOND READING

Philippians 4.1-9

Lector A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

SEQUENCE HYMN

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Bulletin Page 18

(The congregation sings vv. 1 & 2, the Gospel is read, then vv. 3 & 4 are sung)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22.1-14

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

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

(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 *(Please remain standing or kneel)*

Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.

Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds within this congregation, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless our stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Presider Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Silence may be kept.

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

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.

“PLENTY GOOD ROOM” STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Weekly stewardship handout can be found on Bulletin Page 27

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rejoice in the Lord Alway

George Rathbone

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, rejoice. Be careful for nothing; but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Philippians 4: 4,6,7)

PRESENTATION HYMN

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

African American Spiritual



- 1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,

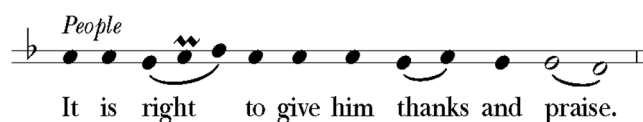
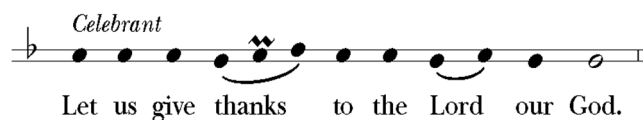
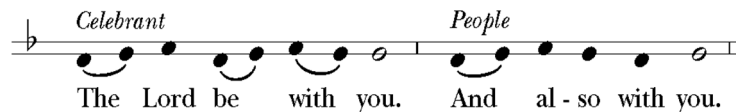


- Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



- sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation 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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

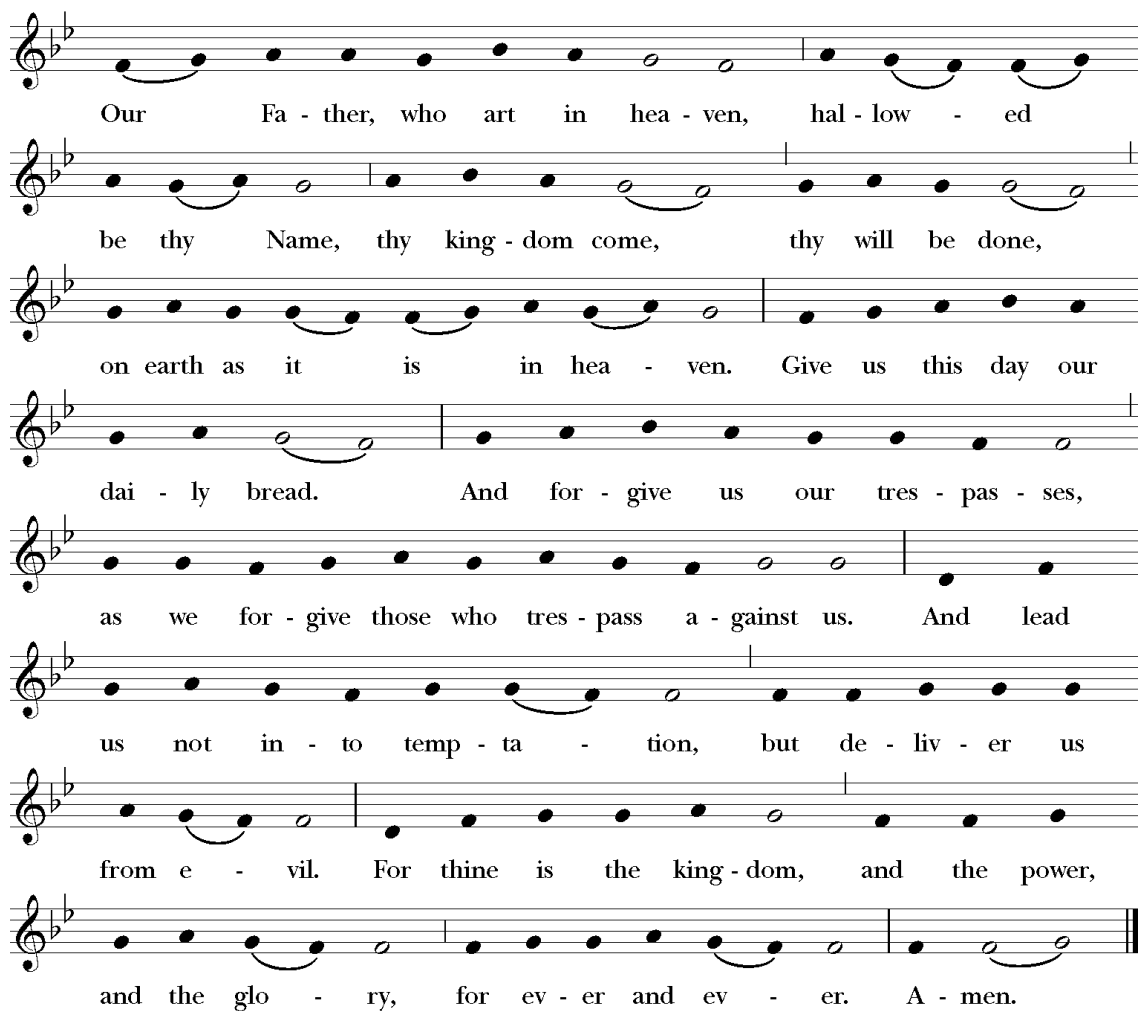
Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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:



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

At the 8:00 Service:

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM (10:15 Service)

David York



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

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Felix Mendelssohn

Brianna Zucker, Mary Mac Cullity, soloists

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

(Psalm 23, paraphrase by Henry Baker)

COMMUNION HYMN

I've Got Peace Like a River

Bulletin Page 19

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Bulletin Page 20

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Emma Lou Diemer

FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

and

**by Jan and Ray Rosson
in honor of our 50th Wedding Anniversary**

**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	Dave DeMent
Lay Eucharistic	Holly Graham	Cheryl Rodi
Ministers (LEMs)	Elizabeth Spencer	Beth Eldon

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

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PROCESSIONAL HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table

In Babilone



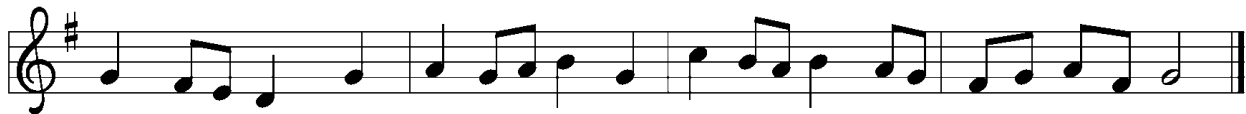
- 1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
- 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
- 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-ph-ant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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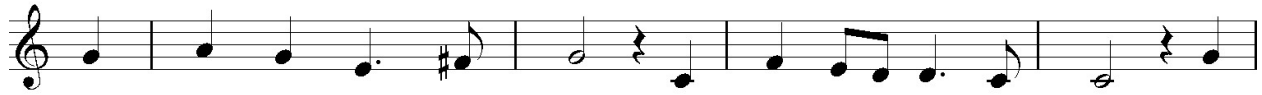
SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 481

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Gospel

(The congregation sings vv. 1 & 2, the Gospel is read, then vv. 3 & 4 are sung)



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore! Mor -
 2 The Lord the Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love: when
 3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the
 4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, and

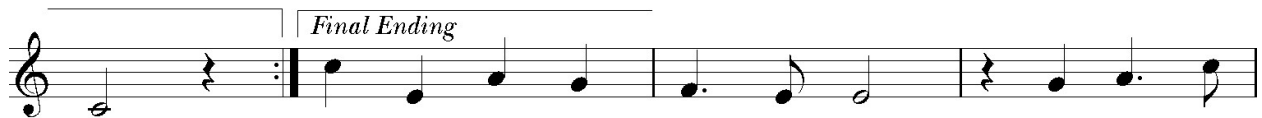
Refrain



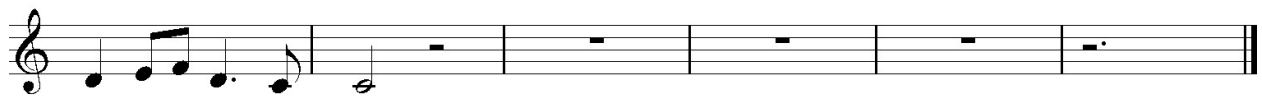
tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.
 he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove. Lift
 keys of death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.
 take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joice! a - gain I say, re -



joice! up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joice! a -



gain I say, re - joice!

COMMUNION HYMN

I've Got Peace Like a River

Peace Like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain,
 3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,

I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul;
 I've got joy like a foun-tain in my soul;
 I've got love like an o - cean in my soul;

I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,
 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain,
 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,

I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul.
 I've got joy like a foun-tain in my soul.
 I've got love like an o - cean in my soul.

Text: traditional

Music: PEACE LIKE A RIVER, African American spiritual

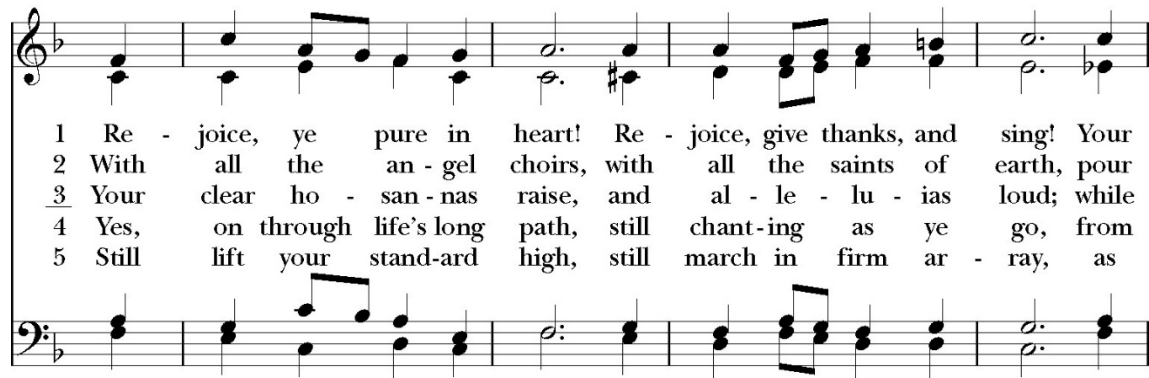
RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 556

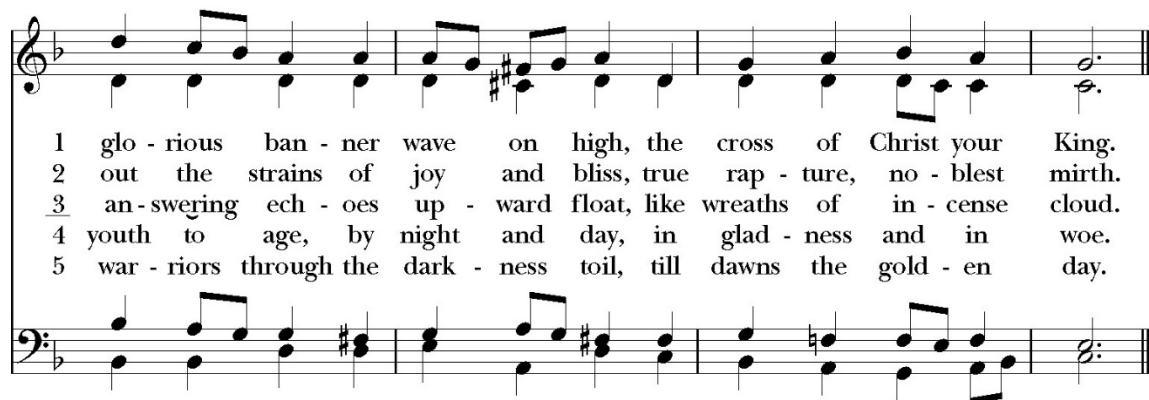
Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Marion

(Verses 1—5)



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Your
 2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
 3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
 4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from
 5 Still lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar - ray, as



1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 3 an - swering ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

Refrain



Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks, and sing.
 re - joice, re - joice,

*6 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their Father's house,
 Jerusalem the blest.

Refrain

*7 Then on, ye pure in heart!
 Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
 Your glorious banner wave on high
 the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S

Tuesday, October 13

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

Thursday, October 15

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

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, October 18 – Pentecost 21 (Proper 24)

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

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/>).

Sunday School at **10:15 AM**, as follows:

Beginners Grades K to 2) in the Youth Room

Juniors (Grades 3 & 4) in the Youth Room

Seniors (Grades 5 & 6) in Room 7

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

Sunday, October 18 – Music at 4

Please join us next Sunday in the Sanctuary for our next Music at 4 event featuring organist Ty Woodward. Equally at home as a classical or theatre organist, Ty Woodward presents a program of music by J.S. Bach, Jehan Alain, Léon Böellmann and Dan Locklair. Ty serves as organist at First United Methodist Church in Santa Monica and at the El Capitán Theatre in Hollywood.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Outreach Gift Card Donation Drive: It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year! We are blessed with the honor of assisting families from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health to provide food, clothing, and gifts during the holiday season. By donating gift cards, the families are empowered to shop for themselves. Our shopping locations meet the needs of the people we serve, so make sure you purchase from Target, Walmart, Food for Less, Albertsons, and Smart & Final in denominations of \$25, \$50, and \$100. The cards may be sent to the church or placed in the collection plate. You may also make donations through the church website. Our drive runs from **October 4 through November 15**. As a frame of reference, a turkey or spiral-sliced ham dinner, serving up to 6 people, costs \$69.99 at Stater Brothers. Our gift cards will be distributed based on the needs of the people.

All Saints' Commemorations: On All Saints' Sunday (November 1st this year), we remember our departed loved ones. This year we will be doing something a little different. We will collect names ahead of time so they can be printed in the All Saints' Sunday bulletin. Cards to provide names will be available in the pew backs and in the Parish Hall. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate or returned to the Parish Office. You can also email names to the Office at info@stgregoryschurch.com. Please turn in names by Sunday, October 25th.

St. Thomas of Canterbury Holiday Bazaar: Our sister congregation of St. Thomas of Canterbury (5306 E. Arbor Road) is having their annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 21st. In the past, members from St. Gregory's have joined in to sell their items at the Holiday Bazaar. If anyone is interested in selling items this year, St. Thomas is offering a reduced rate of \$20 per table (normally \$35). For more information or to reserve your space, contact Shelley Arnold at shelleyarnold1@icloud.com ASAP so they can finalize their plans and generate promotional flyers.

Return of the Roamin' Gregorians: The Roamin' Gregorians are returning for an upcoming Roamin' Gregorians trip to the Nixon Library in late October and the Prince of Peace Walk on December 6. Contact Susan Mora (310) 894-0731 or sign up in the Narthex after church.

Air Conditioner Fund: We have recently replaced the heating and air conditioning (HVAC) system in the Sanctuary, to the tune of \$120,000. While we are able to cover the expense out of our reserves, this will greatly deplete those funds. We are asking that parishioners consider giving to help offset the cost of our new HVAC system. You can do so by writing a check to St. Gregory's with "HVAC" in the memo line. Or you can make a donation online through our parish website at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4WR/campaign/C-12C50> and put HVAC in the note box. Thank you for your generosity.

Columbarium Niches: Many people do not realize we have a columbarium at St. Gregory's. Having your ashes placed in the columbarium is a less expensive option than burial at a cemetery and provides for your continued presence in a place that has been important to you during your life. For more information, contact the Parish Office.

Vestry Minutes and Reports: Following Vestry meetings, the approved minutes and reports are posted on our parish website (<https://stgregoryschurch.com/>). Click on the “About” tab and the last option under the dropdown menu is “Vestry Minutes & Reports.” Approved minutes (without reports) are also posted on the bulletin board outside the Fireside Room. In addition, anyone is free to review minutes and reports of previous meetings, available in the Parish Office.

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://tinyurl.com/ydxd2jn6> and enter your email address in the box provided.

Feed My Lambs — Here’s How You Can Help

- On the first Saturday of every month, Feed My Lambs serves our neighbors at St. Luke’s. There’s a lot that happens before Saturday morning—and we would love to have you join us!
- **We Need Hard-Boiled Eggs!** Every Feed My Lambs lunch includes a hard-boiled egg, and we need more egg donors! You do not have to commit every month—even an occasional contribution helps.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please clearly mark your egg carton “FML.” We share refrigerator space with other church ministries, and if the carton isn’t marked FML, we won’t know the eggs are ours to take early Saturday morning.

- **Bake Homemade Cookies:** Our guests love homemade cookies, and we can always use more! Please place your cookies in Ziploc bags and label them with the date and “FML.”
- **Dropping Off Eggs or Cookies:** Donations may be dropped off at the St. Gregory’s church office Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Because our office administrator occasionally needs to leave on church errands, please call ahead to make sure someone will be there to receive your donation.
- **Come Work With Us!** You don’t have to do everything—or even stay for the whole day. Pick the job and time that work for you:
 - Friday before Feed My Lambs
 - 11:00 a.m. — Cookie Bagging
 - 12:00 p.m. — Sandwich Building
 - 3:00 p.m. — Lunch Packing
 - First Saturday of the month
 - 6:00 a.m. — Load Out at St. Gregory’s
 - 7:00 a.m. — Set Up & Serve at St. Luke’s

Interested in volunteering or have questions? Contact Tamera Benedict at tlbenedict4@gmail.com or 562-301-6800.

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/>.

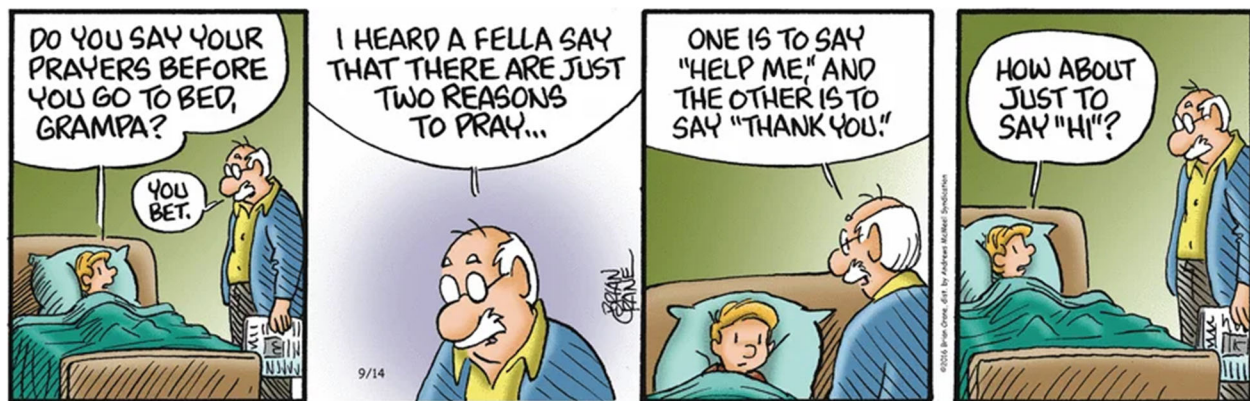
Forward Day By Day: For those who use the Forward Day By Day booklet for personal devotions and need the newest edition mailed, please contact the Parish Office at 562-420-1311 or info@stgregoryschurch.com.

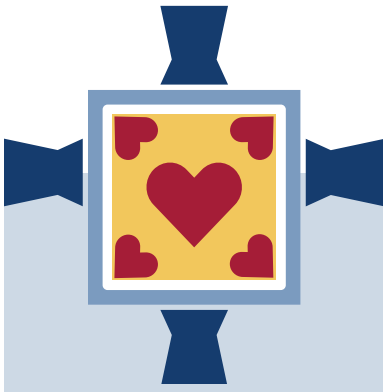
In Case of Emergency . . . Notify Your Priest! In the event of a hospital stay, illness, death in the family, or other pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Michael on his cell phone (909-373-6478). And PLEASE, no excuses about not wanting to bother me. That's why we are here – for YOU!

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, Laura Mae Harper, Elizabeth Laursen, Eric Kela, Dodie Martin, Savannah Jimenez, Martha Wong, Carlos Cruz, Sean Wood, Marina Tesla, Nancy Luebben, Diane Duacsek, Michelle 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, Trisha Cookmeyer, Sally Blevins, Sue Davis, Jack Alt, Linda Elliott, Ron Dixon, Daryl Takaki, Paul Meyer, Juhani Palomaki, Jerry Simundson, Meg Wagner, Annette Ffrench, Barbara Barton, Rosan Curtis, Nick Playter, Mary Playter, Holly Smigelsky, Dennis Smigelsky, David Caffrey, Brigitta Spinocchia Freund, Casey Ramsdell, Maria Cortez, Gloria Smith, Lynda Hartman, Gary Laursen, Vivian Anaya-Outler, Lori Toups, Greg Highstand, Keith Johnson, JR Amos, Loretta Scott, Jim Moody, Ruth Contreras, Holly Cardone, Danya Kinkade, Laurie Baker

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.





Plenty Good Room

Invitation to Thrive

Questions for Reflection:

What is something risky that you have undertaken that has paid off in the long run?



The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons is rector of Trinity Church, Seattle and serves as

Treasurer on the board of TENS.

It's 7:45AM on a Saturday morning in May. I join 45 people gathered on a dirt lot around a table made of plywood laid over sawhorses. We sip from cups of hot coffee and someone offers a prayer. I grab workgloves from a bin and follow the sheetrock team.

The sheetrock team includes: Amelia, the future homeowner who will live here with her three children; Charlie, a retired history professor; Cameron, a pastor from another denomination. Together, we learned a new skill that day - to hang and mud sheetrock.

I kept going back to that worksite one Saturday a month until the house was built. It was a testament to community, overlapping human stories, joy, generosity, building God's kingdom on South Holly St.

Our congregations thrive because the people who sit in the pews volunteer to learn new skills and share experiences of creating a vibrant community. We know the power of having a common purpose to deepen our faith. When we open ourselves to volunteering, sharing our stories and skills, our ministry reaches far beyond what we can imagine or accomplish alone.

Will you join me in the adventure of trying something new? Meeting new people who share our core values, seeing our work build on itself and God's kingdom flourish? Would you commit to volunteer one hour a week (beyond worship time) for your church?

Yes, it's risky. It might require us to share our stories and find connections. The work we do might not be perfect by the world's standards (have you ever seen how many crooked nails are in a Habitat for Humanity house?). If we work together to create justice, make peace, spread joy to our neighbors, stand with the outcasts, the kingdom of God - where there is plenty good room for all people - will thrive. tens.org



THE EPISCOPAL
NETWORK FOR
STEWARDSHIP



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 Rev. Dr. Antonio José Gallardo Lucena
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

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

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

David Sachs, Parish Administrator
info@stgregoryschurch.com

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00pm, Monday – Friday
www.stgregoryschurch.com