

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 21, 2026

8:00 AM

THE REVEREND ANDREW J. SHERMAN, *CELEBRANT*

THE VERY REVEREND DR. MARY ELLEN CASSINI, *PREACHER*

Welcome to Saint Gregory's! We invite you to join us in active participation in the worship of God.
This leaflet contains the congregational portions of the liturgy taken from the Book of Common Prayer.
The service of worship begins with the music of the organ.
Through its power and brilliance, may you feel God's majesty and glory—in its quietness, God's peace.

Please silence all cell phones.

Please refrain from bringing food or drink into the sanctuary.

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

The Bells peal. All stand, as able, as the Procession enters and remain standing for

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

CELEBRANT Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
PEOPLE ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. AMEN.***

The Celebrant continues

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.***

THE GLORIA *Said by all.*

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.
PEOPLE ***And also with you.***
CELEBRANT Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***AMEN.***

The Word Of God

The People are seated for

A Reading from the Book of Genesis *[21:8-21]*

Betsy Wenzel, Lector.

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

LECTOR The Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God.***

The Psalm *Recited by all in unison by whole verse.* *[86:1-10, 16-17]*

1 Bow down your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and in misery.
2 Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful;
save your servant who puts his trust in you.

3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;
I call upon you all the day long.
4 Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

5 For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,
and attend to the voice of my supplications.

7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you,
for you will answer me.
8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
nor anything like your works.

9 All nations you have made will come and worship you,
O Lord,
and glorify your Name.
10 For you are great;
you do wondrous things;
and you alone are God.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans *[6:1-11]*

Maria Provost, Lector.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

LECTOR The Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God.***

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew *[10:24-39]*

PEOPLE ***Glory to You, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

GOSPELLER The Gospel of the Lord.
PEOPLE ***Praise to You, Lord Christ.***

The People are seated for

The Sermon *The Very Reverend Dr. Mary Ellen Cassini*

Silence is kept.

The People stand for

The Nicene Creed

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Led by Joanne Stanley.*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth; so that, in your good time, every people and nation may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Out of the darkness we cry to you, O God. Enable us to find in Christ the faith to trust your care even in the midst of pain. Assure us that we do not walk alone through the valley of the shadow, but that your light is leading us into life.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O God, call us into a deeper relationship to be your church for the sake of the world. Help us to see with new eyes the injustices within church and society. Call us to have a loving heart that respects and uplifts the humanity and dignity of every person; open our ears to listen to and learn from the experiences of people of color. Open our mouths to speak up and about injustices. Join us with others to work for an end to racism, bigotry and hatred, and inclusion for all people in God's beloved community.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds the concluding collect.

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***AMEN.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS *FROM ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP*

Deacon or Celebrant

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is 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.

The Celebrant stands and says,

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

The Peace

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.
PEOPLE ***And also with you.***

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.
All are welcomed formally as announcements, birthday, and anniversary blessings are made.

The Holy Communion

An offering will be collected at this time. To make an electronic offering via your phone, simply scan this QR Code with your camera application, and follow the prompts, or text SGEgive to: 833-672-4095. Your gifts make a meaningful difference. Thank you for walking in love and responding in faith.

The Great Thanksgiving

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2, FROM ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP

The People stand as the gifts are brought forward. The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.
PEOPLE ***And also with you.***
CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE ***We lift them to the Lord.***
CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
PEOPLE ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant proceeds

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 proclaim the hymn:

The Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit

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.

The People stand, sit, or kneel as able. The Celebrant continues

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 to 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Gregory, 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,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CELEBRANT Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
PEOPLE ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Facing the People, the Celebrant says

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.

In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. In Jesus' name, all are welcome! At the time of Holy Communion, please follow the direction of the ushers. Both the Host (the blessed wafer) and the Chalice (wine) will be offered. If you prefer to receive only the Host, it is full communion. We also provide gluten-free Hosts. Please indicate your preference for a gluten-free Host to the Eucharistic Minister at the altar. Should you not wish to receive Holy Communion, you are still invited to come to the altar for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate your preference for a blessing.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the People stand as able the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. AMEN.

THE BLESSING

May the Spirit,
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,
breathe into you the life he gives. ***AMEN.***

May the Spirit,
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,
make you joyful in the service of the Lord. ***AMEN.***

May the Spirit,
Who set the church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.
AMEN.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. ***AMEN.***

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

The Trumpets shall sound.

The Organ Postlude

Happy Father's Day!

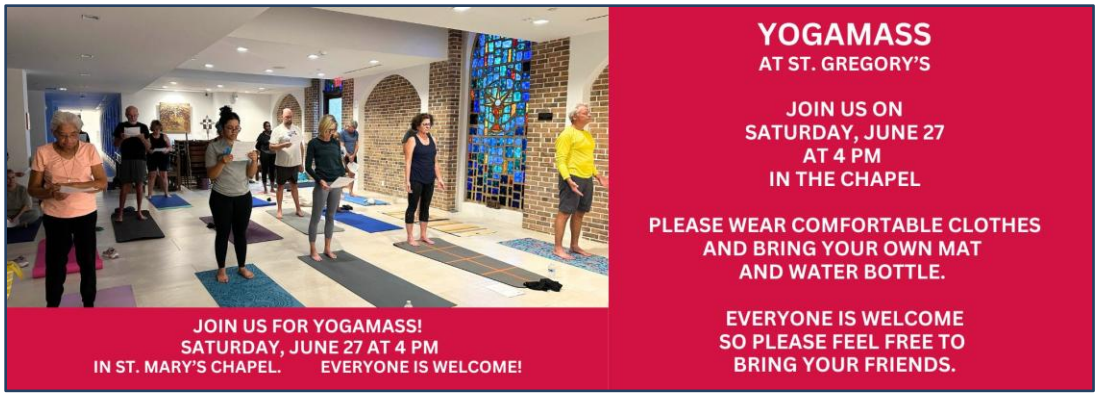
We welcome you to this service of worship! is our fervent prayer that you will find God's love and peace in this holy place. We invite you to explore life at St. Gregory's by speaking with one of the clergy. Please scan the QR code and fill out the form provided to be sent information about all the opportunities and ministries offered at St. Gregory's!

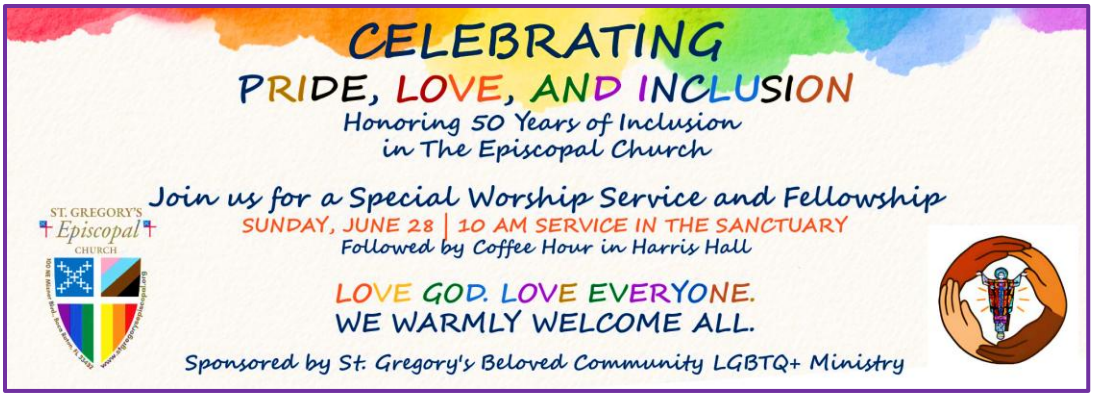
A History of Juneteenth

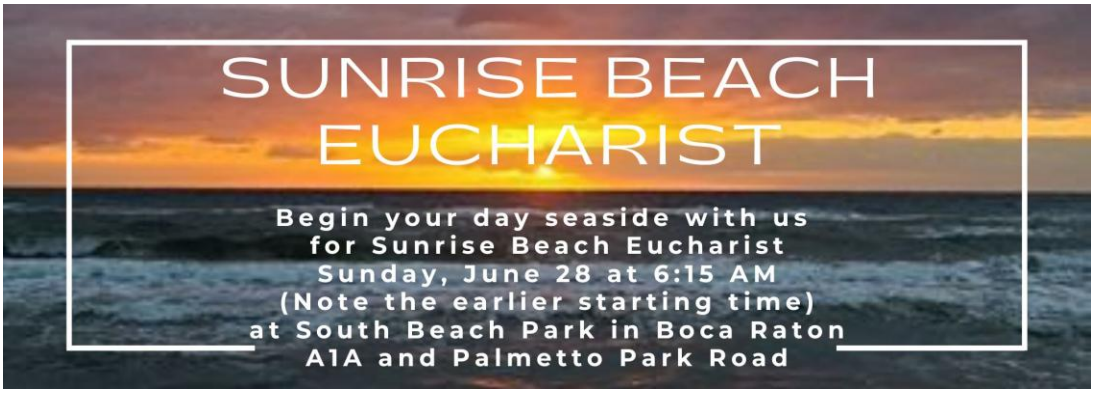
Also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day,
Juneteenth is a holiday celebrating the emancipation of those
who had been enslaved in the United States.
It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas
heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln
had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863.
Slavery continued in those two states for more than two years
after the proclamation was signed
because the news had yet to travel there.

Texas and Louisiana finally announced
to all people the news on June 19, 1865.
Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration.
These were dangerous times.
Even in the face of resistance and threat,
the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice
to the wide range of thoughts and emotions
at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery
in the United States of America.









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