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St. Gregory's Episcopal Church  
**THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II**  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
“RISE AND SHINE”

SERVICE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
HARRIS HALL

DECEMBER 7, 2025

10:00 AM

THE REVEREND DR. ROBYN M. NEVILLE, CELEBRANT & 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.  
**Please silence all cell phones.***

*All stand as the procession enters.*

THE OPENING HYMN: “THIS IS THE DAY”

***This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made!  
Let us rejoice, let us rejoice  
And be glad in it, and be glad in it!  
This is the day that the Lord has made!  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!  
This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made!***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

CELEBRANT Let us join together in the lighting of the Advent Wreath.

LEADER The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
PEOPLE ***Those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.***  
LEADER We join with sisters and brothers around the world, lighting candles to mark our steps in this Advent journey.  
PEOPLE ***Today, we light the candle of Peace.***  
LEADER Even though the world seems dark and cold, we know that the light of Christ is coming. The face of our Lord will shine, and we shall be saved.  
PEOPLE ***Testifying against all suffering and darkness, we kindle this light. Together, we proclaim to the world that in Christ, we have Peace.***

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

CELEBRANT Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
PEOPLE ***And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

*The Celebrant continues*

**A**lmighty 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 TRISAGION *Said by All three times.*

***Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.***

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT We're going to pray to God now. So let's take a deep breath in, a deep breath out, let our bodies be still, and bow our heads. The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE ***And also with you.***

CELEBRANT Let us pray.

**D**ear God, you sent your messengers, the prophets, to tell us that Jesus is on his way, and to help us to prepare our hearts for his arrival at the end of this holy season of Advent: Give us grace to listen to them and turn away from our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*The People are seated for*

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

[11:1-9]

*(International Children's Bible)*

READER A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 11, verses 1-9.

**A** branch will grow  
from a stump of a tree that was cut down.  
So a new leader will come  
from the family of Jesse.  
The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon that leader.  
The Spirit gives him wisdom, understanding, guidance and power.  
And the Spirit teaches him to know and respect the Lord.  
This leader will be glad to obey the Lord.  
He will not judge by the way things look.  
He will not judge by what people say.  
He will judge the poor honestly.  
He will be fair in his decisions for the poor people of the land.  
At his command evil people will be punished.  
By his words the wicked will be put to death.  
Goodness and fairness will give him strength.  
They will be like a belt around his waist.  
Then wolves will live in peace with lambs.  
And leopards will lie down to rest with goats.  
Calves, lions and young bulls will eat together.  
And a little child will lead them.  
Cows and bears will eat together in peace.  
Their young will lie down together.  
Lions will eat hay as oxen do.  
A baby will be able to play near the opening of a cobra's nest.  
A child will be able to put his hand into the nest of a poisonous snake.  
They will not hurt or destroy each other  
on all my holy mountain.  
The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord,  
as the sea is full of water.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God.***

## A READING FROM PSALM 72

[72:1-7]  
(International Children's Bible)

READER      A reading from Psalm 72.

### “A Prayer for the King of Solomon”

**G**od, give the king your good judgment  
and the king's Son your goodness.  
Help him to judge your people fairly.

Help him to decide what is right for the poor.

Let there be peace on the mountains  
and goodness on the hills.

Help him to do what is right for the poor.

Help him to save the needy  
and punish those who hurt them.

Help him to live as long as the sun shines.

Help him to rule as long as the moon glows.

Let him be king from now on!

Let him be like rain on the grass,  
like showers that water the earth.

Let goodness be plentiful while he lives.

Let peace continue as long as there is a moon.

## A READING FROM THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS

[15:4-13]  
(International Children's Bible)

READER      A reading from the Epistle to the Romans, chapter 15:4-13.

**E**verything that was written down in the past was written to teach us, so that by the encouragement of the Scriptures we can have hope. That hope comes from the patience and encouragement that the Scriptures give us. Patience and encouragement come from God. And I pray that God will help you all agree with each other and live in harmony the way Jesus wants. Then you will all be joined together, and you will give glory to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ welcomed and accepted you, so you should welcome and accept each other. This will bring glory to God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant of the Jews. This was to show that God's promises to the Jewish ancestors are true. And he also did this so that the non-Jews could give glory to God for the mercy he gives to them. It is written in the Scriptures:

“So I will praise you even among the non-Jewish people.  
I will sing praises to your name.” (*Psalms 18:49*)

The Scripture also says,

“Be happy, you who are not Jewish, together with God's people.” (*Deuteronomy 32:43*)

Again the Scripture says,

“All you who are not Jewish, praise the Lord.  
All you people, sing praises to him.” (*Psalms 117:1*)

And Isaiah says,

“A new leader will come from Jesse’s family.

He will come to rule over the non-Jews;  
and even those who are not Jewish will have hope because of him.” (*Isaiah 11:10*)

I pray that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace while you trust in him. Then your hope will overflow by the power of the Holy Spirit.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God.***

*The People stand for*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

[3:1-12]

(*International Children’s Bible*)

**“John the Baptist tells people to get ready for the arrival of Jesus.”**

**R**ight about that time, John the Baptist came and began preaching in the desert area of Judea. John said, “Change your hearts and lives because the kingdom of heaven is coming soon.” John the Baptist is the one Isaiah the prophet was talking about. Isaiah said:

“This is a voice of a man

who calls out in the desert:

‘Prepare the way for the Lord.

Make the road straight for him.’” (*Isaiah 40:3*)

John’s clothes were made from camel hair. He wore a leather belt around his waist. For food, he ate locusts and wild honey. Many people went to hear John preach. They came from Jerusalem and all Judea and all the area around the Jordan River. They asked for the sins they had done to be forgiven, and John baptized them in the Jordan River.

Many of the Pharisees and Sadducees came to the place where John was baptizing people. When John saw them, he said: “You big group of snakes! Who warned you to run away from God’s anger that is coming? You must do the things that show that you have really changed your hearts and lives. And don’t think that you can just say to yourselves, ‘Abraham is our father, so we’re good.’ I tell you that God could make children for Abraham from these rocks here. You should be warned: the ax is now ready to cut down the trees. Every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water to show that your hearts and lives have changed. But there is one coming later who is greater than I am. I am not good enough to even carry his sandals.

GOSPELER The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE ***Glory to you Lord Christ.***

*The People are seated.*

THE SERMON THE REVEREND DR. ROBYN M. NEVILLE, PH. D., SENIOR ASSOCIATE RECTOR

*The People stand for*

THE CHILDREN’S CREED SONG / SONG OF FAITH / “I BELIEVE”

***I believe in the Father,  
I believe in Jesus,  
And the Holy Spirit,  
And the Holy Church. (sung two times)  
Lord, prepare me  
To be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy,  
Right and true.***

***With thanksgiving  
I’ll be a living  
Sanctuary,  
Lord, for you.  
I believe in the Father,  
I believe in Jesus,  
And the Holy Spirit,  
And the Holy Church. (sung two times)***

*The People shall stand for*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *The Leader and People pray together, the People answering **Lord, hear our prayer.***

*The Leader says,*

As the family of God, let us now pray for all God's children, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for our teachers, coaches, and clergy, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the Church, the family of God and the Body of Christ, that we may faithfully serve others and care for the needs of all God's people, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our nation and leaders, and for the earth, for the environment, for endangered species and all the animals, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those in need, including the homeless, the hungry, those without clean water, those who are sick, and all who look to you for help, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving we remember those who have gone before us in faith, and the souls of all the faithful departed, that they may find rest and blessing in the arms of your love, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all whose lives are closely linked with ours, that we may serve Christ in them and love one another as he loves us, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds the concluding Collect.*

**O** Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## **THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS**

*Celebrant*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

**M**ost 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.**

*The Celebrant says,*

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

## **THE PEACE**

CELEBRANT The peace of 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 seated as a formal welcome is made.*



## THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE



*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.*

*All stand as the Gifts are presented.*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE CHILDREN'S EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The Celebrant faces them and says*

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds,*

**I**t is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### THE SANCTUS: "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

**H**oly, holy, holy: Lord, God, Almighty, early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy: Merciful and Mighty; God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

*The Celebrant continues*

**W**e praise you that through a woman, Mary, the eternal Word took on human flesh and lived among us, giving himself to the people so that we might become the family of God. One night at supper, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God for it, broke it, and gave it to his friends and family, saying, "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks to God for it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my blood of the promise of God, given for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

So we remember and proclaim the mystery of faith:

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

*The Celebrant continues*

**C**ome now, Holy Spirit, and dwell within these gifts, to change them and change us so that we may change the world. Unite us to Jesus, so that we may grow into our calling as the children of God, and serve all families, all children, and the poor in Christ's holy name. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as Jesus himself taught us, we pray,

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**O**ur 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 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**T**he Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ is here for you and draw near to him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER SONG / "THANK YOU, THANK YOU, JESUS"

*After Communion, all stand as the Celebrant says*

Let us pray by singing together.

***Thank you, thank you, Jesus,***

***Oh, thank you, thank you, Jesus,***

***Thank you, thank you Jesus in my heart.***

***Thank you, thank you, Jesus,***

***Oh, thank you, thank you, Jesus,***

***Thank you, thank you, Jesus in my heart.***

## THE BLESSING

**G**od loves you very much and wants you to be happy and healthy and safe. As we start a new program year in the church, may your life be filled with hope and kindness and goodness—and may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

## THE DISMISSAL

CELEBRANT Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!***

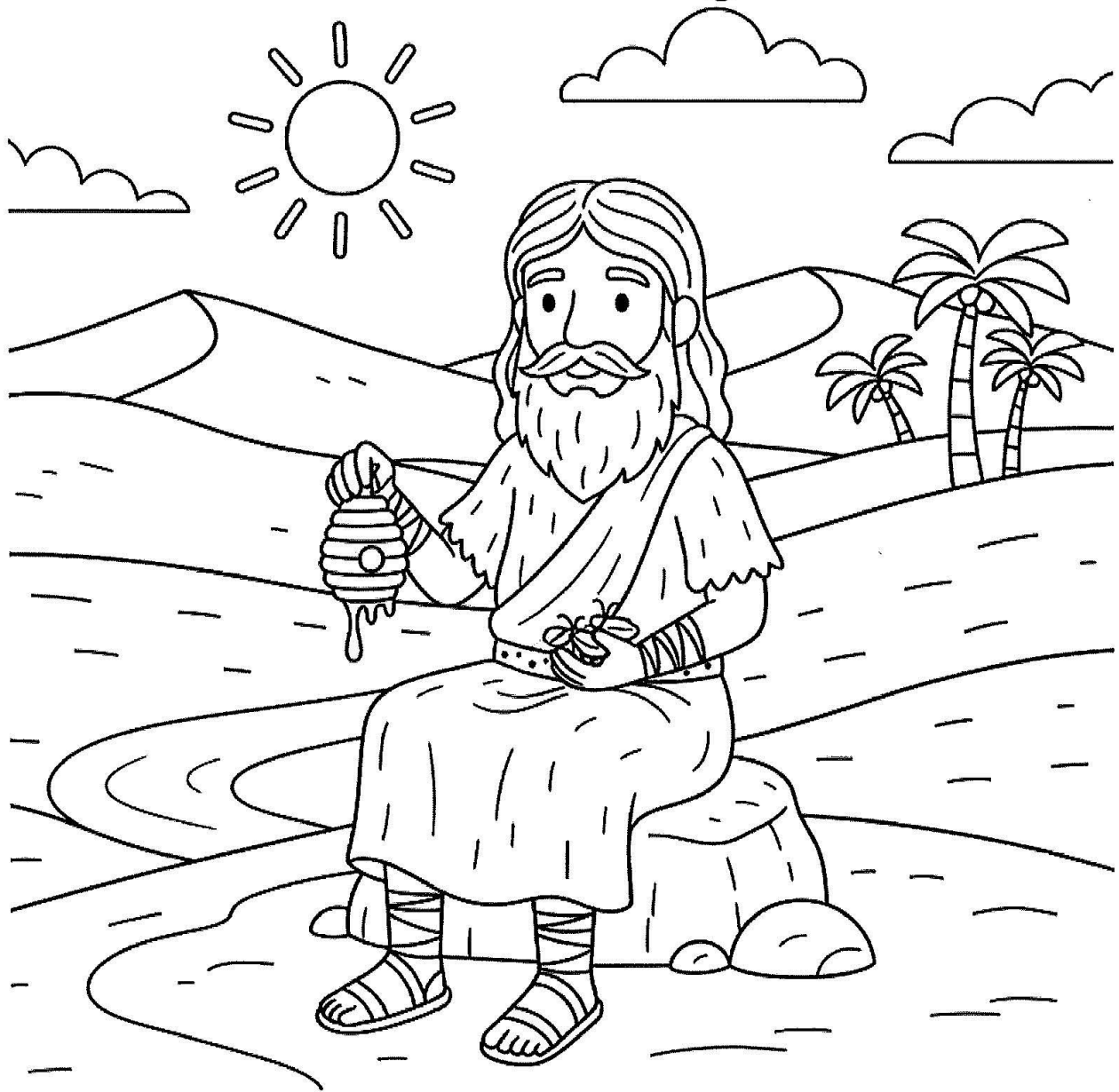
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*We welcome you to this service of worship!* It is our fervent prayer that you will find God's love and peace in this holy place. We invite you to explore life at St. Gregory's by speaking with one of the clergy. Please scan the QR code below and fill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





**Instead of fancy clothes, John wore a simple robe made of camel's hair, and his meals were as basic as honey and locusts.**



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**Every day, John would stand by the Jordan River, preaching to all who would listen. He told them about the importance of turning away from their wrongdoings and turning back to God**



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As he immersed them in the water, he would say,  
"I baptize you with water for repentance. But  
after me comes one who is more powerful than  
I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He  
will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."



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## CLERGY AND STAFF

**RECTOR** *THE REVEREND ANDREW J. SHERMAN*  
**SENIOR ASSOCIATE RECTOR** *THE REVEREND DR. ROBYN M. NEVILLE*  
**PASTORAL COUNSELOR AND CLERGY ASSOCIATE** *THE REVEREND ELIZABETH PANKEY-WARREN*  
**CLERGY ASSOCIATE** *THE REVEREND JEAN BRUNO*  
**CLERGY ASSOCIATE** *THE REVEREND DR. EMILIO ROSOLEN*  
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**DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH AND PASTORAL SUPPORT** *GENA VALLEE*  
**YOUTH MINISTRIES PROGRAM COORDINATOR** *ANITA SHERMAN*  
**SENIOR VERGER** *JEFF MILLER*  
**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR** *KRISTEN CHANEY*  
**COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA COORDINATOR** *DAWN RAHICKI*  
**AUDIO/VISUAL COORDINATOR** *LOUIS BIRRO*  
**FINANCIAL MANAGER** *LEANDA ROBINSON*  
**OFFICE MANAGER** *KAY HOLT*  
**FACILITIES MANAGER/SEXTON** *STEVE DEMOREUILLE*

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## SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
10:00 AM Choral Eucharist  
9:45 AM Church School  
6:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Evening Prayer, or Choral Evensong

## WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Morning Prayer, 9:00 AM (Tuesday and Wednesday, online and in-person; Monday, Thursday and Friday, in-person.)  
Holy Eucharist every Tuesday and Thursday at 12 noon

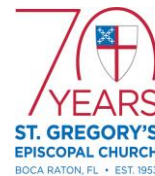
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*Transforming  
Hearts and  
Community  
through  
Jesus' Love*



## SAINT GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH *The Cultural and Sacred Hub of Arts and Service*

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Diverse  
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