

# ***Fifth Sunday of Easter***

***Sunday, May 3, 2026***

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

***Also Live Streaming at***

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

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## **VOLUNTARY**

Air and Trio

Claude Balbastre

*(People stand)*

## **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Bulletin Page 16

## **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Presider* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*People* **The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## **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.

## HYMN OF PRAISE (10:15 Service)

Thine is the Glory

Judas Maccabeus

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
*Refrain*  
where thy bod - y lay. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939  
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

*Presider*      Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## FIRST READING

Acts 7.55-60

*Lector*        A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 31.1-5, 15-16

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.*



In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me. **Antiphon**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength. **Antiphon**

Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and in your loving-kindness save me. **Antiphon**

## SECOND READING

1 Peter 2.2-10

*Lector* A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

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

*(Please stand)*

### **SEQUENCE HYMN**

Thou Art the Way

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### **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 14.1-14

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

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

**GOSPEL RESPONSE**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Howard Hughes

*(Please repeat each phrase after the cantor)*

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

The Rev. Michael K. Fincher

*(Silent reflection)*

**NICENE CREED** *(Please stand)*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

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

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

As a royal priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices, let us pray to God for the needs of every living creature.

For the holy churches in every place and for the unity of all.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For this holy assembly and for all who seek in Jesus the way, the truth, and the life.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all recently baptized and for all illumined by the light of Christ.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for John our bishop, for Antonio our bishop-elect, for all bishops, priests, and deacons, for all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For the world and its leaders, for our nation, for Donald our President, for Gavin our Governor, for Rex our Mayor, and all the people of this land.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all those in trouble and need, and for those injured by malice and guile.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For those who have died in the resurrection of Christ and for all the dead. We especially remember those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

*(Pause)*

We lift our prayers to you.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all students, teachers, and staff as the school year nears its end, for those graduating from colleges and high schools, and for their families.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For ourselves, for our families, and those we love. We especially remember those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

*(Pause)*

We lift our prayers to you.

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary, Gregory, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

**To you, O Christ our Risen Lord.**

*Presider* Blessed are you, God our Father, who calls us to dwell with you in heaven. Hear the prayers we offer this day, and draw your holy people to your side; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life!

Godfrey Sampson

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
such a way as gives us breath;  
such a truth as ends all strife;  
such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
such a light as shows a feast;  
such a feast as mends in length;  
such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
such a joy as none can move;  
such a love as none can part;  
such a heart as joys in love. (George Herbert)

## PRESENTATION HYMN

Halle, Halle, Halle

Traditional Caribbean, arr. Marty Haugen

(Sung twice)

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le -

lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in 2/4 time, key of D major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The first three staves end with a fermata over the final note, and the fourth staff concludes with a double bar line.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you.      And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts.      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 score is written in a single system with four staves. The first two staves are for the Celebrant and People, with lyrics written below. The third and fourth staves are for the Celebrant and People respectively, with lyrics written below. The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

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:

SANCTUS

*A Community Mass, Richard Proulx*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

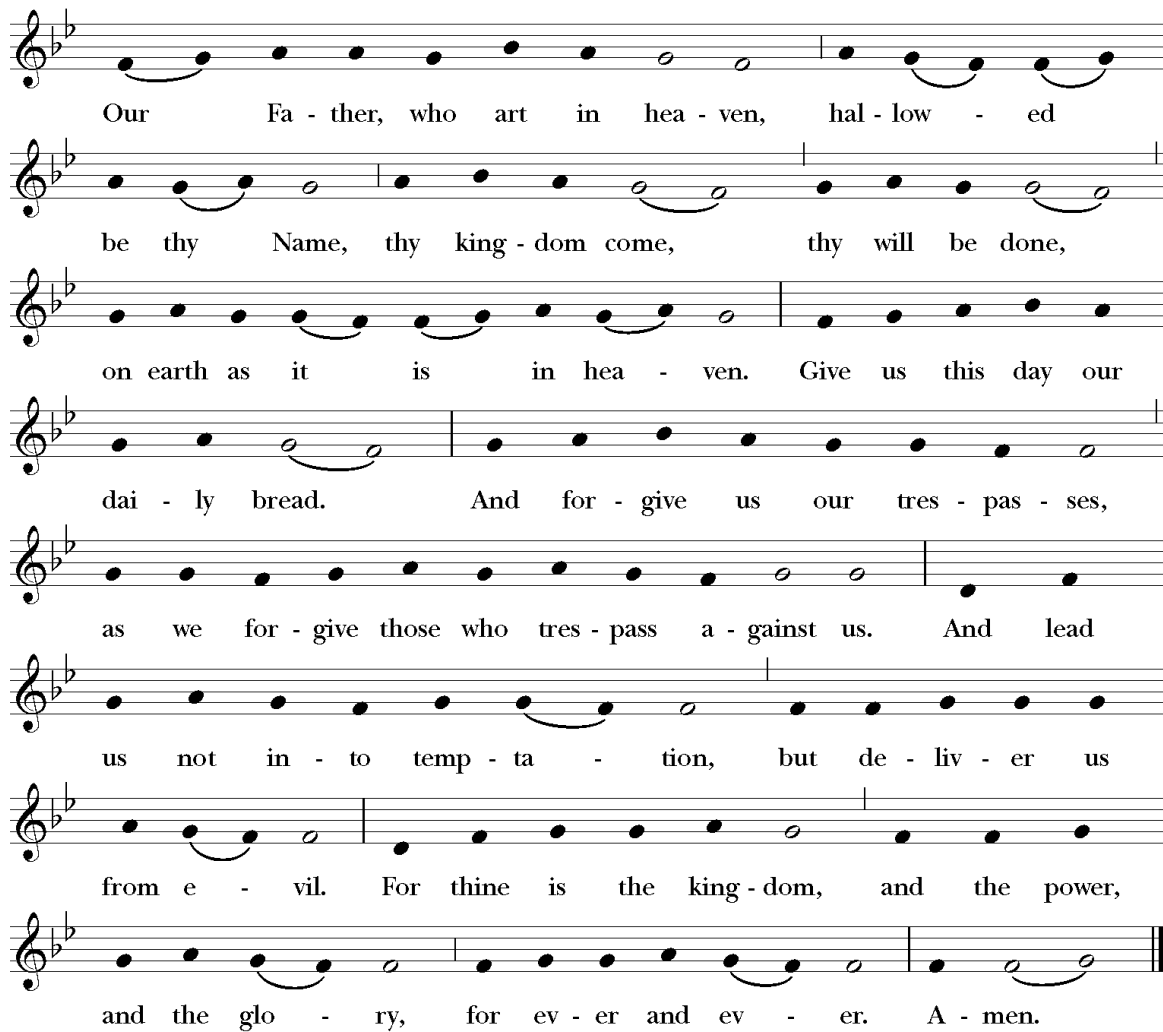
**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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



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

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus

David York



### Refrain

Verse: The bread which we break, Alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

### Refrain

*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

Adonai Li

Bruce Benson & Don Rossoff

Jordan Tickner, solo

Brianna Zucker, flute

*The Eternal is with me, I will not fear. Into your hands I entrust my spirit, when I sleep and when I wake, and with my spirit my body also; the Eternal is with me, I will not fear.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

I Received the Living God

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## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Presider* Let us pray.

**Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

## EASTER SEASONAL BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

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## THE DISMISSAL

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

## VOLUNTARY

Allemande

Antony Holborne

St. Gregory's Brass:

Mike Canzoneri, Casey Ramsdell, Jordan Tickner, John Kagy, Dylan Wicks,  
Craig McKnight, Ellen Ramsdell, Sean Dunnahoe

**FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

**and**

**Scott Morgan, Fran Luebben-Morgan and David Luebben-Morrill  
In honor of all teachers and other educational workers**

**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**

	<u><b>8:00 SERVICE</b></u>	<u><b>10:15 SERVICE</b></u>
Presider	Rev. Michael K. Fincher	Rev. Michael K. Fincher
Organist	—	David York
Crucifer	—	David Luebben-Morrill
Lector	Patty Rohling	Dave DeMent
Lay Eucharistic	Dana Lindsay	Dorothy Edwards
Ministers (LEMs)	David Luebben-Morrill	Lizz Spencer

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

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**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**  
*Hymnal 1982, Hymn 518*

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

*Descant*

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

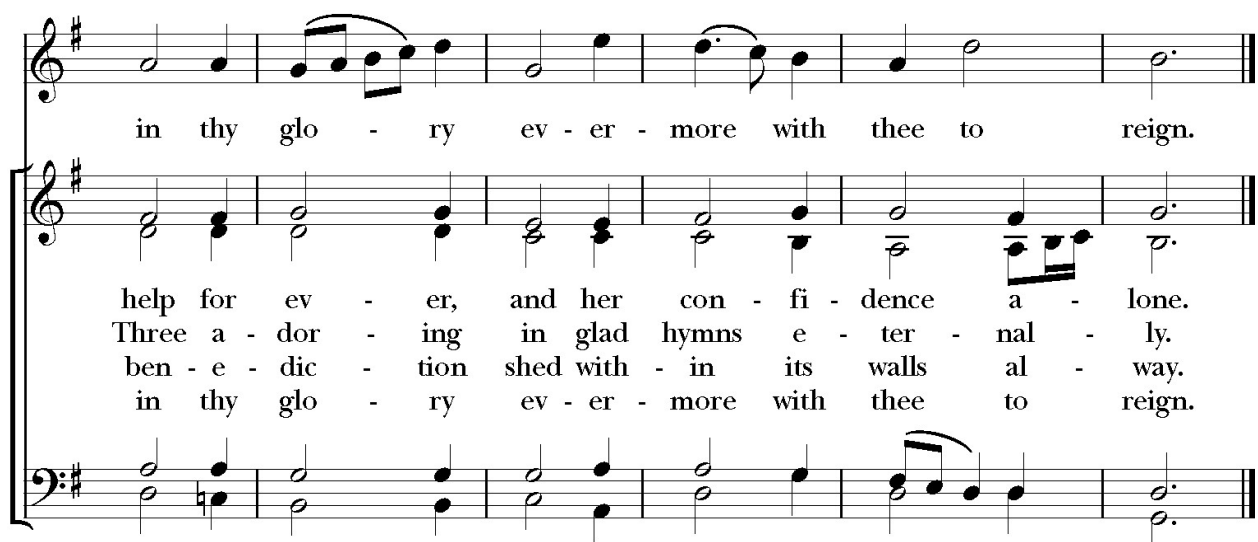
1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and  
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of  
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of  
 4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,  
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion  
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness  
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in  
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.  
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

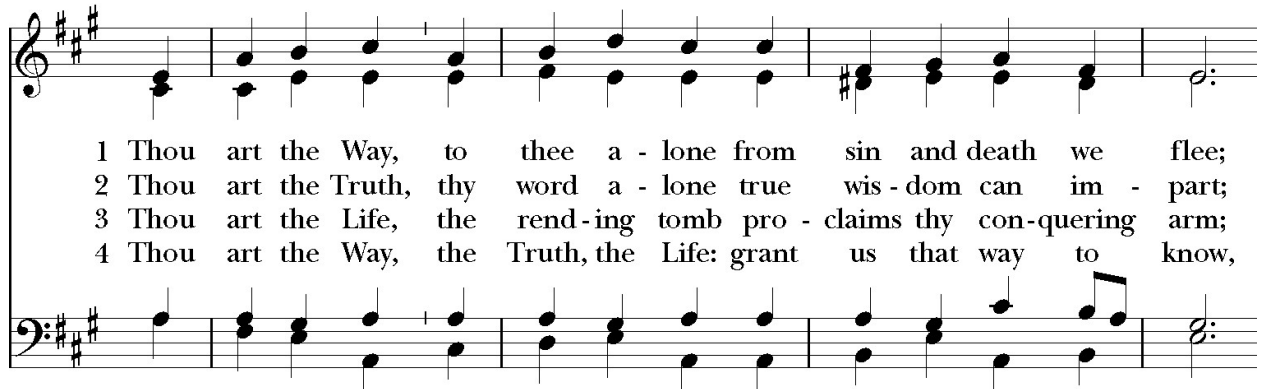
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# SEQUENCE HYMN

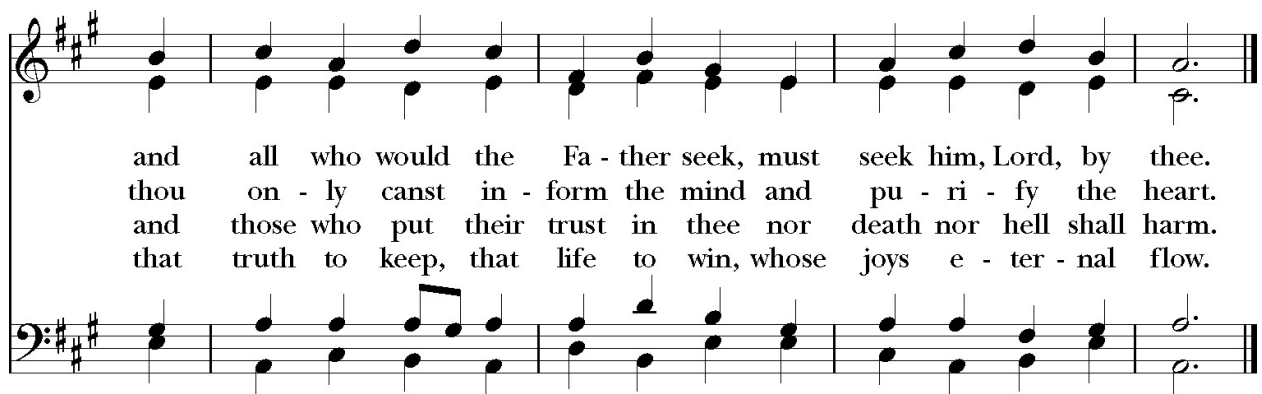
*Hymnal 1982, Hymn 457*

Thou Art the Way

*St. James*



1 Thou art the Way, to thee a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
2 Thou art the Truth, thy word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 Thou art the Life, the rend - ing tomb pro - claims thy con - quering arm;  
4 Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that way to know,



and all who would the Fa - ther seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.  
thou on - ly canst in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

## COMMUNION HYMN


I Received the Living God

*Living God*

*Refrain*



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



*Refrain*

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.  
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.  
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.  
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous

Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

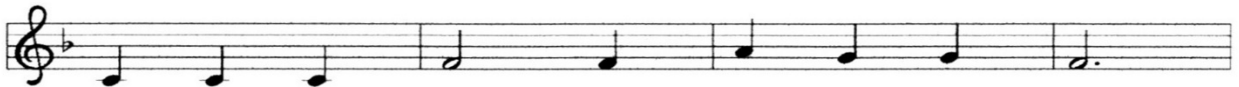
Tanzanian traditional



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.



Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.



For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
and in its con - quest his might did show.  
On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

*Refrain*



Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

## ***THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S***

### **Tuesday, May 5**

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

### **Thursday, May 7**

**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, May 10 – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**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](http://www.stgregoryschurch.com)).*

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

### **Sunday, May 31 – Music at Four**

**The Select Sorority- The Very First Ladies** – In celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the United States of America the Readers Theater of the American Association of University Women, Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch, will present a fully costumed original play featuring a lively interview-style discussion between Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, and Dolley Madison.

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**Air Conditioner Fund:** As we recently informed the parish, we are having to replace 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.

**Nursery Attendant Needed:** We are seeking a Nursery Attendant to provide loving childcare on Sunday mornings from 7:45 AM to 12:15 PM, plus special holiday services. Experience in early childhood education preferred. First Aid and CPR certification required. This is a paid position, starting at \$17.00/hr, supporting our youngest members and their families. For more information or to apply, please contact Tamera Benedict or Dana Lindsay.

**American Sewing Guild:** Long Beach Neighborhood Group Meeting. The next American Sewing Guild Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 10. If you have any past, present, or possibly future interests in sewing, please feel free to come and check this group out. We have resources for obtaining fabric, sewing machine repairs and great times with our group. Call Susan Mora for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

- **Feed My Lambs**
  - **Homemade cookies can be dropped off any time.** Please put your homemade cookies in Ziploc Bags and label them with the date and “FML” (this way we know they are for Feed My Lambs and not other purposes).
  - **Please do not bring hardboiled eggs.** Due to issues with eggs, we now have a dedicated team responsible for providing hardboiled eggs.
  - **Volunteers** – If you are interested in helping out Feed My Lambs, contact Tamera Benedict at ([tlbenedict4@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@stgregoryschurch.com), 562.420.1311) or Bill Eldon ([billeldon@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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, Jonah Culbert, 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, Michael Hipsman, Trisha Cookmeyer, Sally Blevins, Sue Davis, Jack Alt, Shizuka Yoba, Linda Elliott, Ron Dixon, Darryl Takaki, Paul Meyer, Juhani Palomaki, Gloria Neal, Jerry Simundson, Barry Plemmons, Garren Plemmons, Meg Wagner, Annette Ffrench, Barbara Barton, Rosan Curtis, Nick Playler

*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](mailto:rector@stgregoryschurch.com)

David York, Music Director & Organist  
[york1635@aol.com](mailto:york1635@aol.com)

David Sachs, Parish Administrator  
[info@stgregoryschurch.com](mailto:info@stgregoryschurch.com)

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Monday – Friday