

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021 10:30 AM

The Rev. Ann McLemore, Interim Rector

Ms. Dia Park, Music Minister

The mission of St. George's Episcopal Church is to worship God and share our faith through word, action, and service.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE WITH US.

For those worshiping in person: Masks are required for all worshipers in the church. (Disposable masks are available in the narthex.) Please continue to practice social distancing throughout the service. Please do not sit in the pews with yellow cards. When the service ends, please join us outside the Wright House for a time of fellowship.

For those worshiping from home: Please know that you are still valued members of the congregation! And we look forward to seeing you in person, whenever you feel safe doing so. Our services continue to be available on the **Online Worship** page of our website.

The Church is now in the long season known as the SEASON AFTER PENTECOST or ORDINARY TIME. Most holidays and seasons of the church year focus on the events of the earthly life of Jesus, but the Season after Pentecost shifts to a focus on how we, following the example of the first disciples, will take what we have learned from Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, into the world and our everyday lives. The term "ordinary" comes from the word "ordinal," which refers to counting, because we number each Sunday of Ordinary Time based on how many Sundays after Pentecost it is. But in some ways, it might be appropriate to think of this time as ordinary in the more common sense – time not marked by a constant stream of high points and low points, but simply the everyday life of the church. May we all take this opportunity to settle into our ordinary lives, being exactly where we are, and finding ways to live our faith in each of those ordinary moments.

GUIDE TO ABBREVIATIONS

H – 1982 Hymnal

G – Gather Hymnal

BCP – Book of Common Prayer

O, Perfect Love, All Human Thought Transcending

(F. Mendelssohn and J. Barnby)

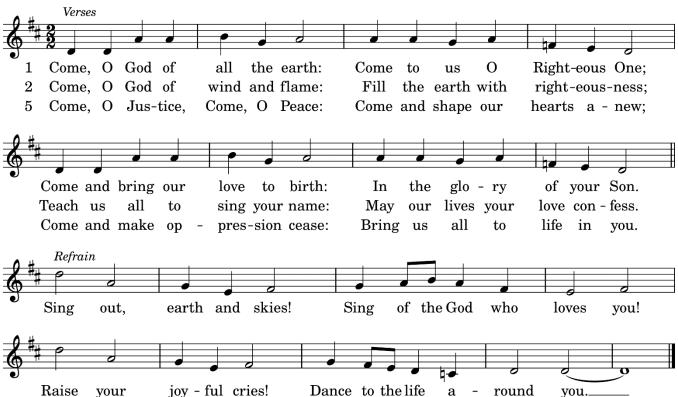
THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING HYMN

Sing Out Earth and Skies (verses 1,2,5)

G 337

Please stand, as able. Worshippers in the church are asked not to sing.



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WELCOME

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

GLORIA BCP 356

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 BCP 234

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and

ESTHER 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

FIRST READING

Please be seated for the readings.

Reader A reading from the book of Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me – that is my petition – and the lives of my people – that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 124 NISI QUIA DOMINUS

Please join in reading the psalm in unison.

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, * let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, * when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive * in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us * and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters * have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! *

he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; * the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, * the maker of heaven and earth.

Second Reading James 5:13-20

Reader A reading from the letter of James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

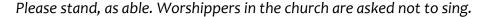
My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

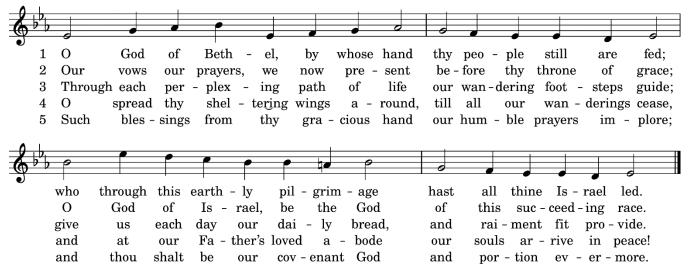
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE **H**YMN

O God of Bethel, By Whose Hand

H 709





Words: Philip Doddrige (1702-1751), alt.

Music: Dundee, melody from The CL Psalmes of David, 1615; fauxbordon The Psalmes of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635.

THE HOLY GOSPEL MARK 9:38-50

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

NICENE CREED BCP 358

Please stand, as able.

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, FORM III

BCP 387

Intercessor Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People That we all may be one.

Intercessor Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Intercessor We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our bishops, Ann

our Interim Rector, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons; and for all lay leaders, especially our vestry: Josh, Rob, Mark, Ed, Dale, Brad, Hye Na, Belinda, and Samantha;

People That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Intercessor We pray for Joe our president, Greg our governor, Steve our mayor, and for all who

govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People That our works may find favor in your sight.

Intercessor Have compassion on Birger, August, Gladys, Sue, Charles, Gerry, Ralph, Kirk, Betty,

Polly, Divesh, George, Mary, Barbie, Phil, Ben, Rochelle, Jon, Travis, Joshua, Christopher, JoAnn, Bonnie, the people of Afghanistan and Haiti, those affected by Hurricanes Ida and Nicholas, those suffering from COVID-19, and all those who suffer from any grief or

trouble;

People That they may be delivered from their distress.

Intercessor Give to Jerry, Nevin, those who have died from COVID-19, and to all the departed,

eternal rest;

People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Intercessor We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Intercessor We give you thanks for Pia, Kirk, and Hollie, as they celebrate their birthdays; and for all

the blessings of this life.

(Silence)

Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(Silence)

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the

prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

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

People Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

THE PEACE

Please stand, as able.

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 Christ. Please maintain social distance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Thank you for your generosity. You may place checks or cash in the offering baskets on the table at the front of the center aisle. If you prefer, you may give online at the <u>St. George's Donation page</u>.

THE DOXOLOGY

Please stand, as able.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A BCP 361

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, 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. 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:

All 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.

Celebrant

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

All **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

ΑII 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 sacrified for us; People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We will be receiving only the consecrated host, and not the wine. To receive communion, please remain in your pews, and the host will be brought to you. Please let the Celebrant know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

If you do not wish to receive Communion, please cross your arms over your heart, and the Celebrant will pray for God's blessing upon you.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

Please stand, as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

ΑII Eternal God, heavenly Father,

you have graciously accepted us

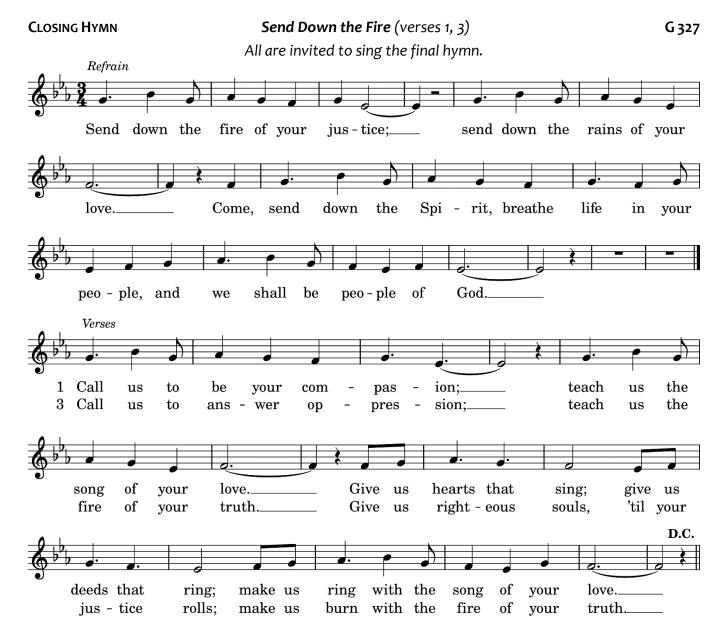
as living members

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE BLESSING



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DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Soon and Very Soon (Andrae Crouch)

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The altar flowers are given by Elaine Hosage, in honor of Rebecca Lozano's birthday.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

For those who are sick or facing medical issues, especially:

Birger Anderson Polly Littrell
August Dolan-Henderson Divesh Manohar
Gladys Dykes George Neher
Sue Flanagan Mary Parker

Charles Foster Barbie & Phil Parsons

Gerry Gram Ben Sears

Ralph Hausser Rochelle & Jon Winkle

Kirk Hoffman Travis

Betty Jacobson Those suffering from COVID-19

For those who have died and their families, especially

Jerry Horton
Nevin McNulty

Those who have died from COVID-19

For those facing difficult circumstances, especially:

Joshua Chai The people of Afghanistan

Christopher Fitzgerald The people of Haiti

JoAnn Mays Those affected by Hurricanes Ida and Nicholas

Bonnie Wood

For those serving in the armed forces and their families, especially:

Andrew Hutton

For those who celebrate birthdays, especially:

Pia Ibsen (Sep 26) Kirk Hoffman (Sep 28) Hollie Gordon (Sep 30)

For those who celebrate anniversaries

In the Anglican cycle of prayer: In the Diocese of Texas cycle of prayer:

The Episcopal Church Christ Church, San Augustine

Holy Trinity, Port Neches

St. John's, Silsbee

Names newly added to the list of prayer requests are in bold.

Names can be added to this list by emailing Jennifer at stepongenerall.com.

THE SUNDAY BANNER - September 26, 2021

- ❖ IN-PERSON WORSHIP Join us for in-person Eucharist in the church on Sundays at 10:30. As conditions change, we are continuing to re-assess our practices in light of health and safety concerns. We continue to practice social distancing, and we are once again requiring masks due to the increase in local COVID cases. The service continues to be accessible via both Zoom and Facebook Live.
- OUTDOOR COFFEE HOUR Due to rising local COVID cases, we will be gathering for simple outdoor Coffee Hours for at least the next few weeks. Please join us in the areas outside the church and the Wright House for a time of fellowship.
- NEW SCHOOL BUILDING DEDICATION All are invited to the Dedication of the new school building on Wednesday, September 29th, at 5:30 pm. This is the culmination of a multi-year project, and we are thrilled that the school will finally have its new building! The new building will be in place, but will likely not yet be open to visitors.
- ❖ ALTAR FLOWER/CANDLE DONATIONS Just a few more Sundays in 2021 are available for which you can donate altar flowers or altar candles. The remaining dates for flower donations are October 17 and 24, and November 7. The month of December is available if you would like to donate the altar candles that month. To sign up and indicate a dedication, if any, please click here for the Online Calendar. A donation of \$35 is requested for either flowers or candles. Checks can be made payable to St. George's with "altar flowers" or "altar candles" in the memo line. Payments by credit card or electronic fund withdrawal can be made on the St. George's online donation form.
- THE PARISH PROFILE IS READY! After months of hard work, the Parish Profile Committee has created a Parish Profile for St. George's, and it has now been approved by the Diocese of Texas. We are thrilled to be able to share it with the congregation! You can read the Profile on our website at www.sgchurch.org/profile. Feel free to share it with anyone who might be interested in St. George's. You are also invited to contact the Rev. Kellaura Johnson, Transition Minister for the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, at kjohnson@epicenter.org, with the names of any clergy you would like to be considered for the position. Many thanks to the Parish Profile Committee Brad Barcus, Sarah Campbell, Mary Stewart Miller, and Frances Rickard for all their hard work.
- INTERIM RECTOR'S EMAIL ADDRESS Ann has had some difficulty accessing the rector's email address that was created for her when she started at St. George's, so going forward, please use her personal email address, mclemore.a@gmail.com, for all email communication with her. She also welcomes phone calls at 769-257-2377.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMON LIFE

PRAYER IN TIMES OF TRANSITION

THE REV. CANON KRISTI PHILIP

Ever-present God. You call us on a journey to a place we do not know. We are not where we started. We have not reached our destination. We are not sure where we are or who we are. This is not a comfortable place. Be among us, we pray. Calm our fears, save us from discouragement. And help us to stay on course. Open our hearts to your guidance so that our journey to this Unknown place continues as a journey of trust. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

BCP 815

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 which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK BCP 260

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, September 27

Tuesday, September 28 Paula and Eustochium of Rome, Monastics and Scholars, 404 and c.419

Wednesday, September 29 5:30 pm New School Building Dedication Saint Michael and All Angels

Thursday, September 30 Jerome, Priest and Scholar, 420

Friday, October 1 Therese of Lisieux, Monastic, 1898

Saturday, October 2

Sunday, October 3 10:30 am Holy Eucharist John Raleigh Mott, Ecumenist and Missionary, 1955

11:30 am Coffee Hour

THOSE WHO SERVE

Vestry Person of the Day – Ed Crawford
Altar Guild – Alice Nelson
Flower Guild – Sandra Villalaz
Usher – Alice Nelson
Streaming Technicians – Liam Dolan-Henderson, Lydia Fortuna
Lector/Intercessor – Melissa Brackin
Lay Eucharistic Minister – Rob Blech

St. George's Episcopal Church

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

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www.sgchurch.org