

# THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST GENEROSITY SUNDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD, RITE II

November 15, 2020 10:30 AM

The Rev. Merrill Wade, Interim Priest
The Rev. Jim Enelow, Deacon

Melissa Brackin, Senior Warden Ms. Mi-Young Kim, Music Director

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. In this difficult and uncertain time, our commitment to one another as the Body of Christ is more important than ever. We are blessed to be able to join together in prayer, even as we are unable to be together in person as we would wish. Our online services are all available from the **Online Worship** page of our website.

The Church is now approaching the end of the long season known as the SEASON AFTER PENTECOST or ORDINARY TIME. During this season, we have focused on how we, following the example of the first disciples, can take what we have learned from Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, into the world and our everyday lives. We will soon be starting a new liturgical year and once again focusing on the events of the earthly life of Jesus. The new year begins with the SEASON OF ADVENT, a season of expectation and preparation for the coming of Christ – his coming as a babe in Bethlehem, his Second Coming, and his coming into our lives today and every day.

# **GUIDE TO ABBREVIATIONS**

**H** – 1982 Hymnal

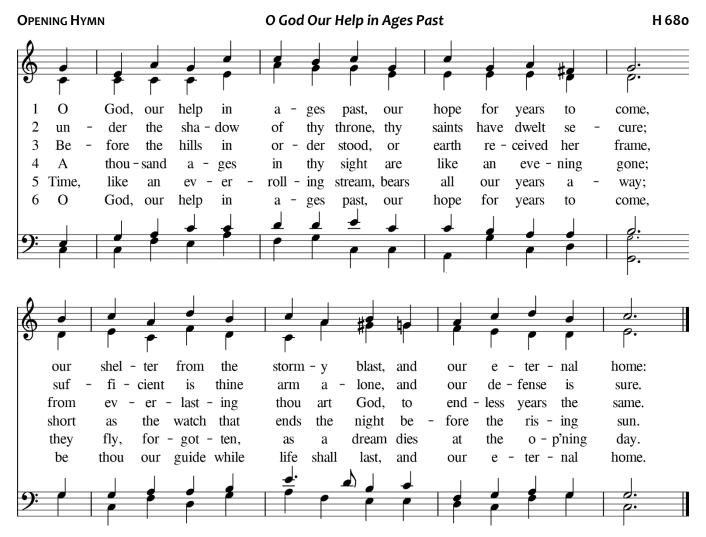
**G** – Gather Hymnal

**BCP** – Book of Common Prayer

Chester Nordman

**W**ELCOME

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90:1-5.

Music: St. Anne, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt., harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

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

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

Amen.

Officiant 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.



Words & music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950); © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-719358. All rights reserved.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY **BCP 236** 

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

Officiant Let us pray.

> Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ;

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

People Amen. First Reading Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Reader A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;

the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs,

those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the LORD,

their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them

on the day of the LORD's wrath;

in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

PSALM 90:1-8,12 DOMINE, REFUGIUM

Please join in reading the psalm in unison.

1 Lord, you have been our refuge \*

from one generation to another.

- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, \* from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \*

"Go back, O child of earth."

- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \* and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; \*

we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

For we consume away in your displeasure; \*

we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before you, \*

and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

12 So teach us to number our days \*

7

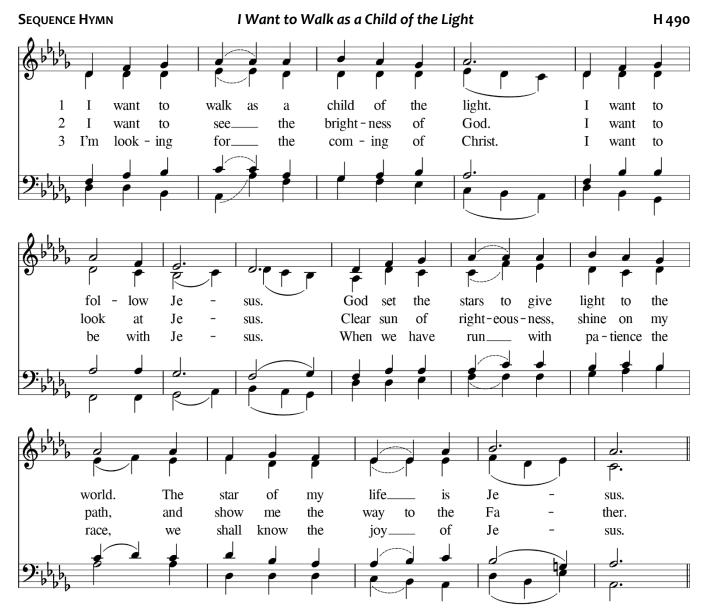
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

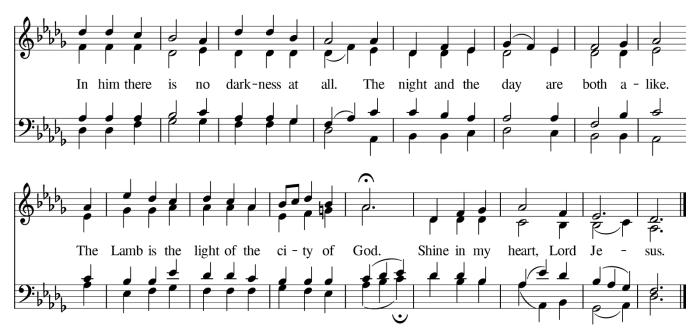
SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

Reader A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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





Words: Katherine Thomerson (b. 1934). Music: Houston, Katherine Thomerson (b. 1934).

THE HOLY GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:14-30

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.""

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON THE REV. MERRILL WADE

NICENE CREED BCP 358

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM I

Intercessor

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor

For the Church of Ceylon; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our Bishops; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For our President and President-elect, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let

us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let

us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering,

especially Edna, August, Gladys, Dick, Charles, Ralph, Kirk, Rosa, Divesh, IxChel, Janette, Mary, Ada, Anita, Ben, Aaron, Linda, Rochelle, Jon, Tom, and those suffering from COVID-

19, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and

captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially

those who have died from COVID-19, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor In thanksgiving for Justin, Mary Stewart, Eleanor, Dustin, Ed, and Susan, as they celebrate

their birthdays; and for all the blessings of this life, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us

pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor In the communion of St. George and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one

another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People To you, O Lord our God.

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

People 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.

Officiant Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and

especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in

justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Officiant 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.

Officiant 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.

Officiant 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

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

### **A**NNOUNCEMENTS

### **GENEROSITY SUNDAY LITANY**

Officiant Let us pray for the wisdom and courage to make stewardship a way of life with God.

People Gracious God, we acknowledge you as the source of all that we have and all that we are.

Help us to hear your call to be good stewards of all your gifts, by making your priorities our priorities. Help us challenge each other, as disciples of Jesus Christ, to put our faith

into action. Amen.

Officiant Let us pray that as good stewards we will plan our sharing.

People Lord, as your church, help us do wise and thoughtful planning which demonstrates the

great importance that you and the truth of the Gospel have in our lives. For it is our desire

to serve our church, our community, and our world with your gifts. Amen.

Here a number of pledge cards that have been received in the mail are placed in an alms basin on the altar to be blessed together with all the pledges submitted online.

Officiant Let us pray.

Gracious God, these pledge cards are offered in gratitude for all we have received, for all

we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place.

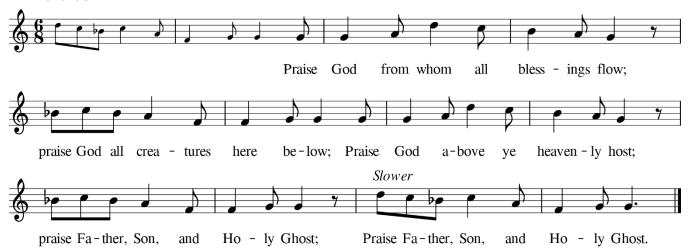
In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, we pray your blessing on St.

George's Church and on the gifts that are here offered and the pledges and commitments

that your people will continue to make into the future.

People Amen.

### THE DOXOLOGY



Music: J. M. Wade. Used by permission.

### THE BLESSING



Words: Geoffrey Anketel Studdert-Kennedy (1883-1929).

Music: Morning Song, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826).

### DISMISSAL

Officiant Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE Festival Prelude MI-YOUNG KIM

Stephan Otis

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The Altar Flowers are given by Frances & John Rickard, in loving memory of John W. Jacobson.

The altar candles are given by the Pewitt Family, in memory of Lawrence Pewitt.

After the service, please join us for our **Zoom Coffee Hour** (password: Christ). In addition to our usual time of fellowship with other St. George's parishioners, we will be blessing the SAFE Comfort Bags and hearing from our visitors from SAFE.

# PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

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

Edna BludauRosa LimonBen SearsAugust Dolan-HendersonDivesh ManoharAaron StrongGladys DykesIxChel MorrisonLinda Wallace

**Dick Eppler** Janette Overfelt Rochelle & Jon Winkle

Charles Foster Mary Parker Tom Wooten

Ralph Hausser Ada Pewitt Those suffering from COVID-19

Kirk Hoffman Anita Rodman

# For those who have died and their families, especially:

Those who have died from COVID-19

# For those facing difficult circumstances

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

Maddison Worcester

### Those who celebrate birthdays, especially:

Justin Braun (Nov 15)

Mary Stewart Miller (Nov 16)

Dustin Worcester (Nov 20)

Ed Crawford (Nov 21)

Eleanor Bandholz (Nov 17) Susan Dolan-Henderson (Nov 21)

# Those who celebrate anniversaries

# In the Anglican cycle of prayer:

# In the Diocese of Texas cycle of prayer:

The Church of Ceylon, Ascension, Houston

The Most Revds Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey Christ the King (Alief), Houston

and Keerthisiri Fernando, Bishops Emmanuel, Houston

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

Names can be added to this list by emailing Jennifer at <a href="mailto:steporgeaustin@gmail.com">steporgeaustin@gmail.com</a>.

# THE SUNDAY BANNER - November 15, 2020

- VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR Immediately after the service each Sunday, you are invited to join our Zoom Coffee Hour (password: Christ) to share a brief time of fellowship with other parishioners.
- ❖ GENEROSITY SUNDAY Today we celebrate Generosity Sunday, the culmination of our season of stewardship at St. George's. We have reflected on stewardship as a spiritual practice and an act of Faith-Filled Generosity, through scriptures and sermons and our weekly <u>Stewardship Card</u>. Today we give thanks for all the pledges we have received and for God's goodness and grace in our lives. If you have not yet pledged, you are encouraged to do so online at <a href="www.sgchurch.org/stewardship">www.sgchurch.org/stewardship</a> or by mailing your pledge card to the church office. (If you have not received a pledge packet, please contact Jennifer in the church office at <a href="stegeorgeaustin@gmail.com">stegeorgeaustin@gmail.com</a>.)
- ❖ SAFE ALLIANCE COMFORT BAGS The Outreach Committee has been working hard in response to a request from SAFE to gather donations and prepare 150 comfort bags for survivors of sexual assault, which we will bless and deliver to SAFE today. Please join us TODAY, during our Zoom Coffee Hour after the service, when Merrill will bless the bags and hear from visitors from SAFE. The bags go with our prayers for hope and healing for the recipients and for the work of the staff at SAFE. Heartfelt thanks to all who made this possible so quickly: the sewers, note card writers, shoppers, stringers, stuffers, and organizers.
- ❖ COMPLINE Join us for in-person, outdoor Compline services on Sunday evenings at 5:15 pm. Compline is a beautiful evening prayer service, which will be led by our Interim Priest Merrill Wade. The services are limited to approximately 20 people and require registration. To attend, please register online. (Some notes about the services themselves: Compline will last approximately 15-20 minutes and will be held at the rear of the playground. If you wish to sit, please bring your own chair; you are also welcome to stand. Masks and social distancing will be required, and bathrooms will not be available. Please bring a Book of Common Prayer or a device to access Compline online.) We look forward to seeing you in person!
- ❖ VIRTUAL PARISH GET-TOGETHERS We are continuing our Zoom parish gatherings; the remaining date this month is Wednesday November 18, from 5:00-6:00 pm, at this Zoom link (password: parish). Merrill will offer some reflections on our faith, but the primary focus will be fellowship. Contact Melissa Brackin at MelissaAEason@gmail.com or 512-415-7721 with any questions.
- ★ HANDS FOR HOPE El Buen Samaritano's annual Hands for Hope meal distribution is right around the corner! Over three distribution days, 1750 families will receive meal kits to prepare a delicious and nutritious holiday dinner together at home. Your support of this project is still needed! Visit www.elbuen.org/h4h to donate today, and be sure to put "St. George's" in the notes section. (You can also give by check; make your check out to "El Buen Samaritano," with "Hands for Hope/St. George's" in the memo line, and mail it to El Buen Samaritano, 7000 Woodhue Drive, Austin, TX 78745.) All donations must be received by November 21st. We are almost there let's get to the finish line to make hunger take a holiday! To help distribute meals to families on Saturday, November 21st, visit www.elbuen.org/volunteer-application. Please contact Carolyn Moreau at moreaucarolyn@gmail.com with any questions about Hands for Hope.
- ❖ INTERIM PRIEST'S OFFICE HOURS Merrill Wade is keeping office hours at St George's on Fridays. Feel free to contact him at merrill76@utexas.edu or 512-454-2523 ext 2; he will check voice mail daily during the week. When in the office, he would love to meet parishioners on the porch of the Wright House or some other socially distanced setting; contact him to set up a time in advance.

# **PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMON LIFE**

### **PRAYER IN TIMES OF TRANSITION**

God of love, in this interim time, we pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, imaginative about our future, and daring in our faith. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents, and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. All this we pray, empowered by the love of Jesus Christ. 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, November 16	7:00 pm	School Board Meeting	Margaret of Scotland, Queen, 1093
Tuesday, November 17			Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess, 1231
Wednesday, November 18	5:00 pm	Parish Get-together	Hilda of Whitby, Abbess, 680
Thursday, November 19		Mechthilde of Hackeborn and Gertr	ude the Great, Mystics, 1298 and 1302
Friday, November 20			
Saturday, November 21			
Sunday, November 22	-	Liturgy of the Word Compline	Christ the King

# **THOSE WHO SERVE**

Officiant/Preacher – The Rev. Merrill Wade
Organist/Pianist – Mi-Young Kim
Vestry Person of the Day – Melissa Brackin
Flower Guild – Sandra Villalaz
Singers – Elaine Hosage, Jan Phillips
Media Coordinator – Brad Dieringer
Reader/Intercessor – Melissa Brackin

### St. George's Episcopal Church

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