



EIGHTEENTH
SUNDAY AFTER
Pentecost

Episcopal Church *of the Ascension*

September 22, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Church of the Ascension!

Whether you're a guest or a long-time member, you'll find a warm community emanating love for the uniqueness God has sown within each one of us. We hope the notes below will help guide and connect you to this community.

Connect cards are in the pews, at the Welcome Center, and can be accessed through our website. Most weeks, we send two emails which include announcements, events, and information about worship. If you are a guest, please complete the Connect card, drop it in the collection plate on your way out, leave it with a greeter at the Welcome Center, or press "Send" if you fill it out online. We'd appreciate the opportunity to follow up with you. Members can use these cards to update information, as well.

A few notes to help you prepare for worship:

- Sit and breathe. The world around us is often in a hurry, so take a moment as you arrive to be present to the space and others who are here to worship God. It may also help to silence cell phones or other devices that can be distracting.
- Prepare to pray. This bulletin is your guide: review it. We hope you will join us in prayer and song, but simply being present to the worship is always an option.
- Children are an important part of our community, and they are always welcome in worship. We offer Children's Chapel at the 10:30 a.m. service as a space just for young people (ages 3-9) to engage in worship at their own pace. To join in, simply follow the Children's Chapel processional cross during the singing of the opening hymn. We will return to the Nave at the Passing of the Peace!
- Weekly materials for creative worship are available for children of all ages in the Narthex; ask an usher or greeter if you need help. It's our hope that you will return the materials to the Welcome Desk when you leave so that children can enjoy them week-to-week.
- The sacraments are important to us. In the Episcopal Church, Christ is present in the consecrated bread and wine. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. First, you will receive the host (gluten free is available upon request). You can consume this then sip from the chalice, or you may leave the host in your hand, and our lay eucharistic minister will intinct (dip) the host and place it back in your hand. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing (please cross your arms over your chest), or remain in your pew.
- As the service ends, some may remain where they are to pray; others will move to the Narthex - the open area just outside our sanctuary - to greet one another and visit. A tour of the church facilities is offered the first Sunday of each month after the 10:30 a.m. worship, as well.
- For those with hearing aids or Cochlear Implants, our Nave has a hearing loop. You can access the loop by activating the telecoil function in your device, if you would like more information or need assistance connecting, please let us know.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand to sing the hymn

HYMN 372: Blue Hymnal

Praise to the living God!

Leoni

Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
Who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.
The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:
The first, the last, beyond all thought his timeless years!

Formless, all lovely forms declare his loveliness;
Holy, no holiness of earth can his express.
Lo, he is Lord of all. Creation speaks his praise,
And everywhere above, below. His will obeys.

His spirit floweth free, high surging where it will:
In prophet's word he spoke of old: he speaketh still.
Established is his law, and changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, on land.

Eternal life hath he implanted in the soul;
His love shall be our strength and stay while ages roll.
Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
Who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

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.**

**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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:10-31

A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away. She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls. She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson. She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth

with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please read together in unison

PSALM 19

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.**
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.**
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

SECOND READING

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does

not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand if able

HYMN 766: Green Hymnal

You're called by name, forever loved

Sara H.

You're called by name, forever loved, adopted as a child of God.
Now one with us, the family of those who know and love the Lord.

Refrain Lord, in your hands we place your own.
Lord, in their lives make your love known.

Marked as Christ's own, signed by the cross where Jesus for our sins once died.
With Jesus buried in his death, called to confess Christ crucified. *Refrain*

Raised to new life, a life of grace, set from from sin, in Christ to grow;
His resurrection to proclaim his love in all of life to know. *Refrain*

Sealed by the Spirit, Lord of life, sustained and strengthened by his might.
Joined to the church to share, with us, the inheritance of saints in light. *Refrain*

Please stand if able

THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for

he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Please be seated

The Rev. Paul Klitzke

Please stand

THE NICENE CREED

The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 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.**

Please remain standing

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.
Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. For those we name (*silently or aloud*)..... Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

**All God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

Please stand

THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory is a time for us to offer ourselves, souls and bodies, and gifts of money, bread, wine, music and meditation to the Lord. Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the clergy. The people stand while the offerings are presented.

ANTHEM

Jesus Shall Reign *arr. John A. Behnke*
Words by Isaac Watts and incorporating tunes
DUKE STREET and JESU, JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING

Please stand if able

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer 1 (*Enriching our Worship*)

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 our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

HYMN S129: Blue Hymnal

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Sanctus)

Robert Powell

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care

for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 364

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

**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.**

HYMN S155: Blue Hymnal *Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover*

Gerald R. Near

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. First, you will receive the host. (Gluten free is available upon request.) You can consume this then sip from the chalice, or you may leave the host in your hand, and our lay eucharistic minister will intinct (dip) the host and place it back in your hand. Our tradition teaches that receiving either (bread or wine) is to receive in full.

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Larry Shackley

Please kneel if able

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

Please stand if able

HYMN 686: Blue Hymnal *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

Nettleton

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above,
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither, by thy help, I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Our Prayer List

The Stewart Family; Richard: John; Paulette; Tom; Kim; Allison; Joell; Jerry; Jim; Spence; Alison; Eric; Colleen; Manali, Leo, Milan; Wes; Steve, Bobbie; Diane; Sara; Barbara; Phil and Sandy; Roger; George; Glen and Dusty; Jane and Don; George and Nancy; Joe; Jerry; Ginny; The Heffner family; Terry and Jan; Trish; Rosemary and John; Gloria; the Coney family; the Bryant family; Titus & Theresa; Lani; Sterling and Kay; Alice; Mark and Jill; Elliott and Suzanne; Judy; Suzan; Kenn; Adrian; Maureen; Janie; Steve; Jeff and Deborah; David; Marla; Quinta; Eva Maria; Lynda; Nancy; Rosabella; Taylon; Fred; Kelli; Linda; Janice; Greg; Janet and Bruce; Jennifer; Jack & Karen; Lupita Pryor and family; George; Clifton; Hoover; Mary.

For the homeless and those in need; for migrants and refugees at our border and around the world; for the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza and those who seek help from war; for those affected by natural disasters, and those who face threats of violence, particularly those at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Awaken us to our common humanity, our common human needs no matter the walls we build.

Diocese of Dallas Cycle of Prayer: Camp All Saints

Upcoming Events & Notices

TACOS WITH FR. ERNIE: A CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

Monday, September 23rd | 6:00 p.m. | Mijas Taqueria | 9901 Royal Lane

Fr. Ernie is retiring from active ministry, and a special event is planned to celebrate his many contributions to Ascension. Join us Monday, September 23rd, 6:00 p.m., at Mijas Taqueria, for a joyous occasion of thanksgiving - and tacos! We hope to see you there as we honor Fr. Ernie's ministry here at Ascension!

WE ARE HIRING A NEW DIRECTOR OF FORMATION

As some of you know, we will soon say goodbye to our amazing Director of Formation, Eva Barraza. Eva and her family, including her new baby, Joey, are moving to Arkansas to be closer to extended family. We will miss Eva dearly and wish her happiness in her new home. With Eva departing, the Director of Formation position is open. If you know anyone who works well with children and youth and would be interested in joining our staff, please let us know and forward the job description to them! We pray for discernment as we seek to fill this critical position.

BLESSING OF THE PETS

Sunday, October 6th | 5:00 p.m. | Ascension Parking Lot

On Sunday, October 5th, Ascension will hold its annual Blessing of the Pets at 5:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. Bring your furry loved ones for a special blessing and lots of love! On this day, we also ask that you consider donating to Patriot Paws, a local charity that helps train and provide service dogs for disabled veterans who've served our country with honor. Cash or checks will be accepted at the event, or donate online and choose the Rector's Discretionary Fund noting "Patriot Paws" in the Donation Notes section.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
ASCENSION

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