## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE

# ASCENSION



We believe in sharing love and grace with God and one another.

### THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 9, 2025

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, Bishop of the Diocese of Alabama The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior, Assisting Bishop The Reverend Candice B. Frazer, Rector The Reverend Andrew S. Brislin, Associate Rector

#### **ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER:**

**Becky Taylor** 

**LECTOR**: Mark Bullock

LEMs: Brittany Wade, Terryn Abner

Harry Simon

VERGER: Bill Garrett

**ACOLYTES:** TEAM MATTHEW:

Margie Anne Prescott, Kayla Bledsoe,

John Harrison, Clair Simon, Nolan Wishum

**VESTRY GREETER:** Daniel Hughes,

Ed Walker

AV CREW: Jason Pate, Camera Russell Bush, Sound

ALTAR GUILD: Polly Williamson,

Margaret Hunt

FLOWER GUILD: Libby Weatherly

USHERS: Boman Bear,

Caleb Goodwyn, Charlie Hawthorne

#### HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II ~ 10:30 AM LIVESTREAM

Voluntary *Adoration* (Florence Price)

Introit "Put down your nets and follow me" (R. Giles)

Hymn **362** *Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty (Nicaea)* 



Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt. Music: Nicaea, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

#### THE WORD OF GOD

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

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

#### *The Celebrant says*

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*.

Song of Praise **S280** Glory to God in the highest (R. Powell)



#### The Collect of the Day

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

#### THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 6:1-8, [9-13]

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

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

#### PSALM 138 Confitebor tibi

(1777–1813)

William Russell

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my / **whole** / heart; \* before the gods / I will / sing your / praise.

2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and / praise your / Name, \* because of your / love and / faith – ful- / ness;

3 For you have / glorified • your / Name \* and your / word a- / bove all / things.

4 When I called, you / an - swered / me; \* you in- / creased my / strength with- / in me.

5 All the kings of the earth will / praise you, • O / Lord, \* when they have heard the / words of / **your** / mouth.

6 They will sing of the / ways of • the / Lord, \*

that great is the / glo - ry / of the / Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he / cares for • the / lowly; \* he perceives the / haugh -ty / from a- / far.

8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you / keep me / safe; \* you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your / right hand • shall / save / me.

9 The Lord will make good his / purpose • for / me; \* O Lord, your love endures for ever; do not a- / bandon • the / works of • your / hands.

#### THE EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

#### Sequence Hymn 537 Christ for the world to sing! (Moscow)



Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886). Music: *Moscow*, melody Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1892).

#### THE GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

Celebrant: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon:** The Rev. Candice B. Frazer

#### **The Nicene Creed**

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 of the People are Form VI found on page 392. [Pause for a slow count to three]

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

<u>For Donald our President, Kay our Governor, and Steven our mayor;</u> For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For the discernment for the next Archbishop of Canterbury; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Glenda and Brian, our bishops; for Candice and Drew our clergy; and for all bishops and other ministers; For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation especially: Mark, Nancy, Paul, Jill, George, Ann, Mimi, Cynthia, Bill, Debbie, Janet, Lila, Andi, Bob, Brittney, Violet, Jean, Ann, Sue & Bill, Betty, Sophie, Edith, Hugh, Marion, Ginny, Anne, Bruce.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. For the Ascension Day School; for the capital campaign, The Way, The Truth, and the Life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, <u>especially for those in whose memory the altar flowers are given Beth M. Grover, H.D. Grover, Carter D. Roberts</u> that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence* 

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The People may add their own petitions

We pray for the decernment of the 13th bishop of Alabama:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese (or, rector for this parish), that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. *Silence may be kept.* 

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[The celebrant will say a concluding collect or absolution; stand at the lectern until they are finished and then move to your seat at the Peace.]

#### The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

#### **Announcements**

Giving is available on-line by going to www.coascension.org and click on the "Give" link Or, text the word "GIVE" to (833)901-2138 and follow as prompted.

Or, VENMO (a)churchoftheascension (look for our logo in color or gold

**Offertory Anthem** *In the year that King Uzziah died* (D. Mc. Williams)

Presentation The Doxology (Hymn 380, v. 3) (Old 100th)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord,

People: And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

#### **Holy Communion**

#### **Eucharistic Prayer A**

People

People

Celebrant

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 Celebrant proceeds*

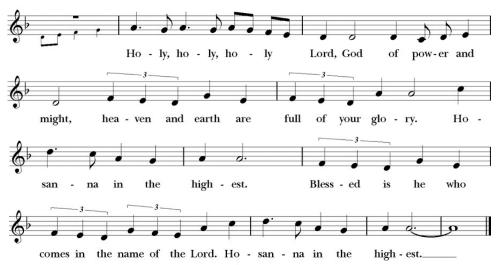
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.



For you are the source of light and life, you mad us in your image, and called us to the new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

#### Sanctus Hymn S129 Holy, holy, holy (R. Powell)



#### The Celebrant continues

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.

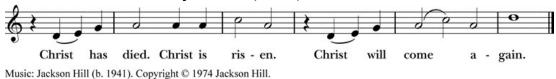
He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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:

#### Memorial Acclamation Hymn S135 (J. Hill)



#### The Celebrant continues

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. AMEN.

The Celebrant then continues
And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
We are bold to say

#### Officiant and People

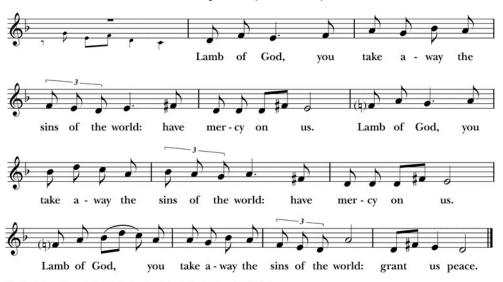
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **Breaking of the Bread**

A period of silence is kept.

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

Fraction Anthem S163 Lamb of God (R. Powell)



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

**Communion Anthem** *Will you come and follow me?* (J. L. Hooker)

BCP 364

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Who shall I send?

#### Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord. If You lead me.
I will hold, Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied. I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send?

#### **Lay Eucharistic Commission**

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All: We who are many, are one body because we all share in one bread, one cup.

#### The Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

#### Celebrant and People

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

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and, the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you this day and remain with you always. Amen.

**Processional Hymn 381** Thy strong word did cleave the darkness (Ton-y-hotel)



The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.

Words: Martin H. Franzmann (1907-1976). From *Worship Supplement*. Copyright © 1969, Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Music: *Ton-y Botel*, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944).

#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!* 

Voluntary Toccata (Florence Price)





#### THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:30 am Breakfast (Ascension Hall)
9:15 am Christian Education for all ages
10:30 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II) (Livestream)

5:00 PM EYC-BIG GAME NIGHT

Monday, February 10 Scholastica, Monastic, 543

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER (FACEBOOK LIVE)
5:00 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY (LIBRARY)
7:00 PM CULTIVATING COMPASSION (LIBRARY)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 THE CONSECRATION OF BARBARA CLEMENTINE HARRIS,

FIRST WOMAN BISHOP IN THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION, 1989

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER (FACEBOOK LIVE)

Wednesday, February 12 Theodora, Empress, c.867

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER (FACEBOOK LIVE)
4:30 PM OPEN REUNION GROUP (LIBRARY)
5:15 PM DINNER (ASCENSION HALL)
6:00 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

CHILDREN'S CHOIR (3RD FLOOR CHOIR LOFT)

New Beginnings Tutoring Program The Word (Small Dining Room)

6:45 PM COMPLINE (CHOIR LOFT)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

7:00 AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST—EXODUS: MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER (FACEBOOK LIVE)

12 Noon Ascensionairs Luncheon (Ascension Hall)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 ABSALOM JONES, PRIEST, 1818

8:00am Morning Prayer (Facebook Live)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 THOMAS BRAY, PRIEST AND MISSIONARY, 1730

8:00 AM BEANS & RICE (JOSHUA COMMONS PARKING LOT)



#### WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION



@ChurchoftheAscension-Montgomery, AL



Text to Give 833-901-2138



Giving envelopes available upon request—contact Tracy Hinton



## **SUNDAY TOWER FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

#### CLERGY FORUM AND BOL SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAYS AT 9:15AM IN THE UPPER ROOM JANUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 23

Adult formation will combine this winter to study **Jesus' Rule of Life**. This eight week course will facilitate conversation around understanding Jesus' "Why" and motivation for his ministry and mission as a method of shaping our lives as Christians.

#### IN TROUBLE AND IN WONDER

Women's Bible Study Mondays at 5pm - Library January 27—April 7

The wisdom sayings attributed to Jesus in The Gospel of Thomas open us in new ways of seeing the world. In this ten week study, we will explore various sayings and what they might mean for us today. Contact Candice+ for more info.

## EXODUS: MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursdays at 7:15am—Ascension Hall January 9 – February 27

Order and disorder, life and chaos, are the means through which God moves his people and liberates them for his purposes. In the book of Exodus, Moses discovers his call in the ordering of God's chosen people and the power of God's purposes over those desired by man. Join us each week to nurture the body, mind, and spirit through breakfast, study, and community.

## THE WORD: ENNEAGRAM WEDNESDAYS – SMALL DINING ROOM 5:45pm – 6:45pm

The Enneagram is an ancient understanding of our gifts as children of God. The nine personality types of the Enneagram help us to "wake up" to our true selves and embrace who God has called us to be. Each week we discuss a different personality type.

#### **COMMUNION AT ASCENSION**

During the ministration of Communion, the congregation is invited to come forward to receive bread and wine. It is acceptable to receive in one kind only or simply to have a blessing instead of the sacrament by crossing your arms over your chest.

#### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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www.coascension.org

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