

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

From the Rector...

This past weekend Steve and I got to hang out at Orange Beach with some of our dearest friends. It was windy and cold but beautiful blue skies most of the time—a great day at the beach. On our last morning—the coldest but also the least windy—I headed down to the pier to enjoy the sunrise. It was glorious. To the east, the sky slowly turned from deep blue to grey to salmon to red. The closer the sun came to peeping its way above the horizon, the more orange the sky became until—pop—the curve of that fiery ball breeched the treetops and the rays began to sparkle like diamonds dancing on the bay.



As I sat watching the miracle of the day being born, I couldn't help but look to the western sky—tracing the color scheme from yellow and orange to midnight blue and black. Hanging amidst the drapery of the night sky in the west was an almost full moon, shining brightly to greet the sun. Two lovers destined to chase one another across the skies for all eternity.

It is an eternal and sacred moment—one that is a privilege to see. To watch the sun rise in the east reaching forth its light to the moon and to see the moon, in its turn, embracing the light of the sun is an invitation into the holy and an experience one does not hold lightly. It is an invitation to pause and pay homage to a new born world.

I don't get to witness that as often as I would like. But for reasons beyond my knowing, I was privileged with the honor of witnessing the awakening of the earth two days in a row. Yesterday morning at the beach and this morning at Camp McDowell. I awoke to watch

the sun begin to peep over the trees of Clear Creek while the moon, a little lessened in its fullness, paid faithful homage to her delight and joy.

It's the same sun and moon no matter where you are. If you live long enough you realize the earth doesn't change, people are not different from one another, and God always shows up. That is the faithfulness we are called too—appreciating what we have and delighting in all that God gives us. And maybe, like the moon awaiting his lover, we too await our God-shining brightly as we receive God's rays of hope and joy and reflecting them for all the world to see.

Light and Life, Candice+ candice@coascension.org

WORSHIP

lift up your woice singing through LENT AND EASTER

In this devotional, each day, scripture and song inspires our hope in the midst of this season of Lent.

Booklets available in Ascension Hall and the Narthex. Daily emails contain a link to the hymn of the day.

Weekly Worship Schedule



Sunday Services

8:00 AM - Rite I, 10:30 AM Rite II



Morning Prayer

Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - Facebook Live



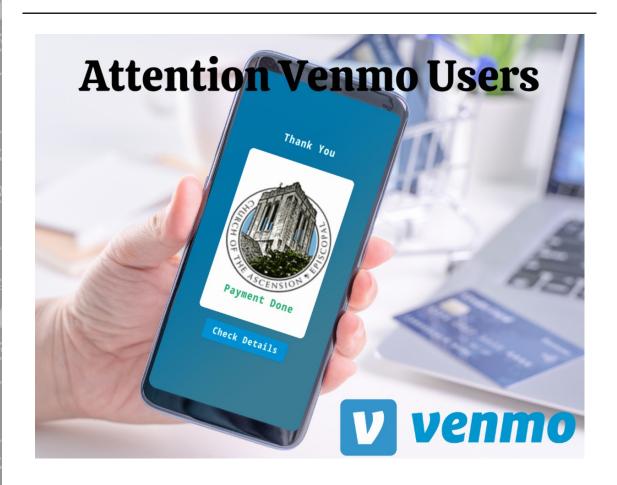
Compline

Wednesday 6:45 PM - Choir Loft & Facebook Live



Sung Compline

3rd Sundays 7:30 PM - Nave



As electronic payments become more widely used we ask that anyone who uses Venmo to <u>please add a short summary of what the payment is for in the description field</u>. We now accept Venmo for Wednesday night dinner, Sunday morning breakfast, purchases in The Vineyard Bookstore, as well as for giving. This description will help us allocate the resources appropriately. Thanks!

CONNECT

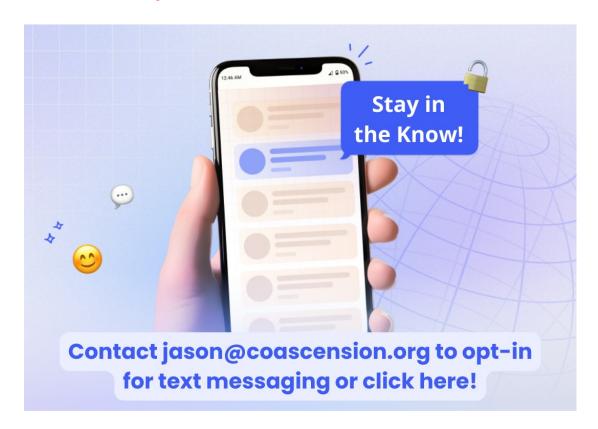
Roof Work Continues!







Opt-In for Text Notifications!





Wednesday January 8, 2025 at 4:30p.m. "Open Reunion" for those who have attended Cursillo is back! For anyone who has not yet attended Cursillo but would like to, please reach out to Steve Frazer or Sharon Massey.

No WNL this week due to Spring Break. See everyone next week!



STAY CONNECTED AND JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

4:30 REUNION GROUP LIBRARY

5:15 DINNER ASCENSION HALL

5:45 THE WORD SMALL DINING ROOM

6:00
YOUTH ACTIVITIES
3RD FLOOR YOUTH ROOM
6:00
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
4TH FLOOR CHOIR LOFT

6:00 EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY LIBRARY

6:45 COMPLINE 4TH FLOOR CHOIR LOFT



If you haven't turned in your pledge card please do so as soon as possible. Thanks! If you would like to fill your pledge card out online click <u>HERE!</u>

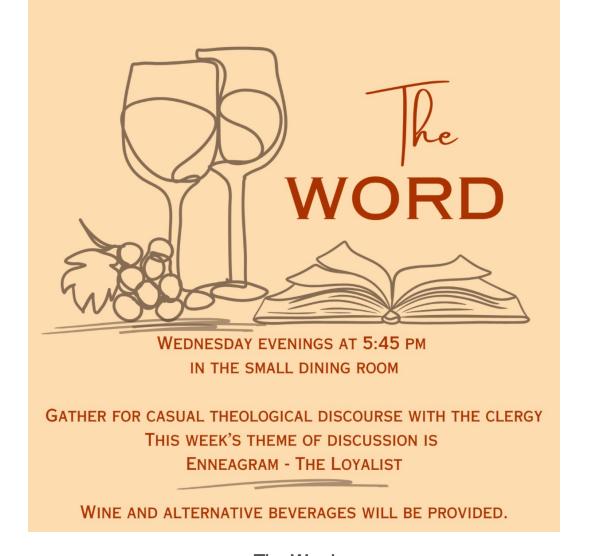
Financial Gifts Offered This Week Month Financial Gifts Offered This Monthly

\$18,809 \$55,781 \$85,500

Total Pledged Amount for 2025 - \$912,628 Total Collected Amount for 2025 - \$258,980

GROW

Not meeting this week. We'll see everyone next week!



The Word Wednesdays, January 8 – March 26 5:45pm in the Small Dining Room

The Enneagram is an ancient understanding of our gifts as children of God. The nine personality types of the Enneagram help a person get out of their own way and become who they were created to be. Some say it helps us to "wake up" to our true selves and escape the prison of our past. Studying the Enneagram is a great way to reclaim your identity and rediscover your purpose. Each week we will discuss a different personality type in hopes that participants will discover and deepen their knowledge of self and others.

The Weekly WORD

Memories

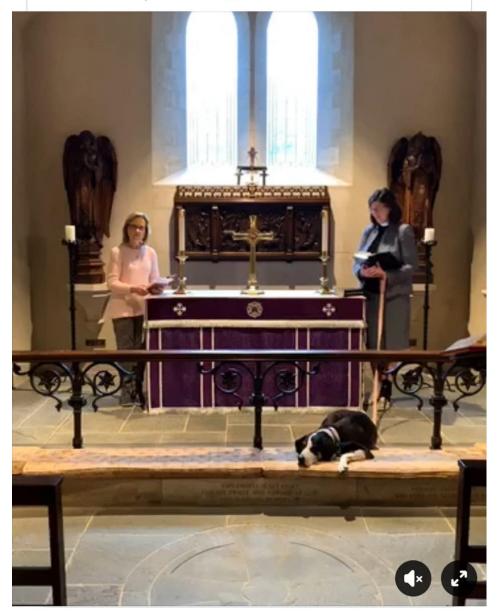






The Episcopal Church of the Ascension was live.

Mar 18, 2020 · 🕙



REMEMBERING

Lent can be a time of REMEMBERING. This picture was taken five years ago in the throws of pandemic. Banshee was 12 then and a faithful companion at Morning Prayer. It is a joy to REMEMBER her as I am reminded that to REMEMBER someone or something as to be RE-MEMBERED to them. Like ligaments, we are members to one another—connected in order to be made whole. To see a picture of Banshee as part of our worship in Morning Prayer, is an opportunity to be RE-MEMBERED with her even though she has died.

I had forgotten about this picture until this morning. But I always feel a special connection to Banshee whenever I get to pray Morning Prayer especially with Camille Carr who has been a faithful co-leader of that worship for these many years. In these mornings, I am RE-MEMBERED.

Women's Bible Study

In Trouble and In Wonder

The Gospel of St. Thomas

Tuesday Nights - 5pm The Library January 27 - April 7

The wisdom sayings attributed to Jesus in The Gospel of Thomas open in us new ways of seeing the world. In this ten week study, we will explore various sayings and examine them in relationship to their counterparts in the Synoptic gospels.

Men's Prayer Breakfast



The Four Quartets
Thursdays at 7:00 am
Ascension Hall
March 13 – April 24

T. S. Eliot converted to Anglicanism in 1927 on the eve of the Second World War. His poem, The Four Quartets, is a journey of despair and hope through the four primary elements. In this Lenten season, take time to embrace that journey and, like Eliot, find that it leads you closer to God.

SERVE

This Saturday!



How You Can Help!

- Donate cardboard boxes
- Food bank trips
- Packing food boxes

The Food Box Ministry is in need of volunteers to assist in picking up food from local food banks or packing boxes for distribution. Any amount of time that you can give is appreciated! If you are interested in becoming a part of this rewarding and important ministry, or for additional information, please contact Fay.

The Vineyard Bookstore

Come see what is new at the Vineyard!

You can now Venmo at The Vineyard! Just search for **@ChurchoftheAscension** and look for our logo. Make sure you tell us it is for The Vineyard and offer a brief description of your purchase. All proceeds at The Vineyard go to outreach initiatives.





Staff Directory

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Fay Worrilow, Administrative Assistant fay@coascension.org

PRAYER FOR THE ASCENSION

Almighty and everlasting Father, we stand in your presence, awed and silenced by your goodness and wisdom. We rejoice in the outpouring of your Spirit on the Ascension and our ministries. Help each of us to remember that we are walking in your sight, and that you are present with us at every moment. Through your Holy Spirit, guide us in our prayers and enable us to focus our thoughts on you, so that we may be filled with the knowledge of your will. Grant us the wisdom to ask what you would have us do; the strength and courage to carry out your work; and the grace to show our gratitude through good stewardship of your gracious gifts. We ask all things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Visit Our Website

Church of the Ascension | 315 Clanton Avenue | Montgomery, AL 36104 US

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