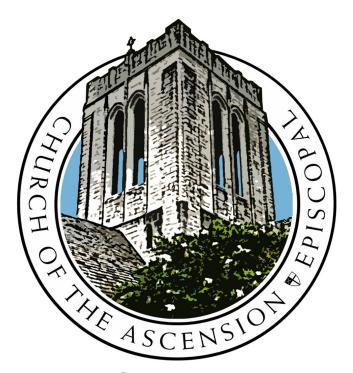
The Episcopal Church of the Ascension



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER Sunday, May 4, 2025

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

MINISTERS SERVING THIS SUNDAY

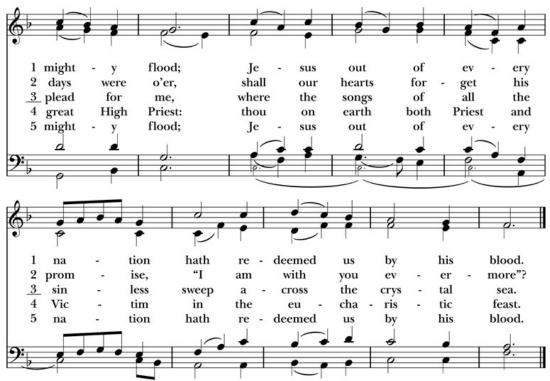
ORGANIST/CHOIR MASTER:

Rebecca Taylor LECTOR: Tim Vaught LEMs: Brad Curvin, Matt Clower, Virginia Humphrey VERGER: Susan Copeland ACOLYTES: TEAM JOHN Alden Pate, Grady Pate, Ways Holloway, Gage Holloway, Dylan Curvin AV CREW: Jason Pate Stephen Gunter, Camera ALTAR GUILD: Debbie Hacket, Lisa Franklin Flower Guild: Foy McGowin USHERS: Jimmy Walter, Nick Mielke, Glenn Sylvest, George Wakefield

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE TWO 11:00 AM

VoluntaryEarth (T. Muramatsu)
Benard Juma, Flute; Emmanuel Inheyinwa, PianoIntroitDay of delight and beauty unbounded (G. Gastoldi)
Emmanuel Inheyinwa, OrganProcessional Hymn 460Alleluia! sing to Jesus (Hyfrydol)





Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

HOLY BAPTISM

Officiant	Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People	The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant then continues

	There is one Body and one Spirit;
People	There is one hope in God's call to us;
Celebrant	One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People	One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

THE FIRST READING: ACTS 9:1-6

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

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

PSALM 30 Exaltabo te, Domine



1 I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have / lifted • me /up * and have not let my / ene- • mies /tri- umph / over me. 2 O Lord my God, I / cried out • to / you, * and you re- / **stored** / me to /health.

3 You brought me up, O Lord, / from the / dead; * you restored my life as I was going / **down** / to the / grave. 4 Sing to the / Lord, you / servants • of / his; * give thanks for the re- / membrance • of / his / holiness.

5 For his wrath endures but the /twinkling of • an / eye, * his / fa- vor / for a / lifetime. 6 Weeping may / spend the / night, * but / joy comes / in the / morning.

7 While I felt secure, I said, "I shall / never be • dis- / turbed. * You, Lord, with your favor, made me as / **strong** / as the / mountains." 8 Then you / hid your / face, * and / I was / filled with / fear.

9 I cried to / you, O / Lord; *
I pleaded with the / Lord, / say- / ing,
10 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go / down to • the / Pit? *
will the dust praise / you or • de- /clare your / faithfulness?

11 A Hear, O Lord, and have / mercy • up- / on me; *
O / Lord, / be my / helper."
12 B You have turned my / wailing in- • to / dancing; *
you have put off my / sack-cloth • and / clothed me • with / joy.
13 B Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; *
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

THE EPISTLE: Revelation 5:11-14

A reading from the Revelation to John.

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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

Sequence Hymn 306 Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest (Sursum Corda)



Words: George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: Sursum Corda, Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971). Copyright © 1941, Mrs. Alfred M. Smith.

HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 21:1-19

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

The Sermon: The Rev. Andrew S. Brislin

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Infants and Younger Children Then the candidates who are unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Parents and Godparents, as follows

Parents and Godparents I present <u>Francis Marion Dobson II</u> to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When the candidate has been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Answer	Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God? I renounce them.
Question	Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
Answer	I renounce them.
Question	Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
Answer	I renounce them.
Question	Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
Answer	I do.
Question	Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Answer	I do.
Question	Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
Answer	I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with *this* person who *is* committing *himself* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Celebrant People	Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
Celebrant People	Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
Celebrant People	Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Celebrant	Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?
People	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant People	Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? I will, with God's help.
Celebrant People	Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? I will, with God's help.
Celebrant People	Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

The Celebrant then says to the congregation Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the sacrament of new birth.

Leader People	Deliver <i>him</i> , O Lord, from the way of sin and death. Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Open <i>his</i> heart to your grace and truth.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Fill <i>him</i> with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader	Keep <i>him</i> in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Teach <i>him</i> to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Send <i>him</i> into the world in witness to your love.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Bring <i>him</i> to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

Hymn 296 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more (Engelburg)

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more embraced by death he broke its fearful hold; and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

We share by water in his saving death. Reborn we share with him an Easter life as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God. Baptized we live with God, the Three in One. Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body take on flesh and blood. The universe restored and whole will sing: Alleluia! Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

People	The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

Frank, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*.

When this action has been completed for the candidate, the Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over the candidates, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *this* your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *him* to the new life of grace. Sustain *him*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *him* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen*.

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one

Frank, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Announcements

Giving is available on-line by going to our website and click on the "Give" link, or text the word "GIVE" to (833)901-2138 and follow as prompted. Or on Venmo: @ChurchoftheAscension-Montgomery,Alabama

Offertory Anthem	Beautiful City (S. Schwartz)
	Cahlil Mapson, Baritone

The Presentation The Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3 (Lasst uns erfreuen)

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant	All things come of thee, O Lord.
People	And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

The Holy Communion The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

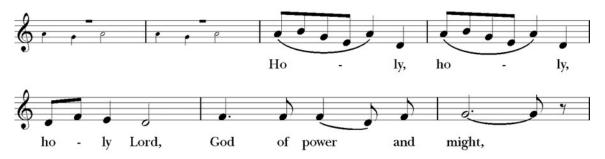
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

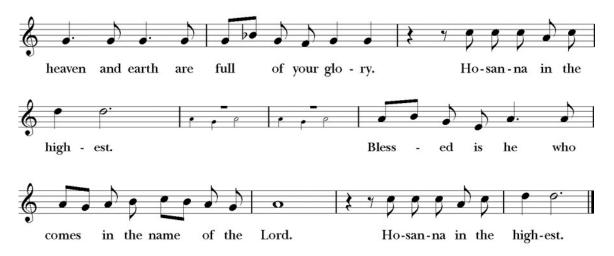
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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:

Celebrant and People **Sanctus** Hymn **S128** *Holy, holy, holy* (W. Mathias)





The people kneel or stand.

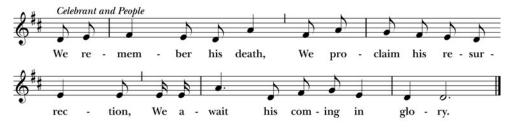
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,



Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission of the publisher.

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.

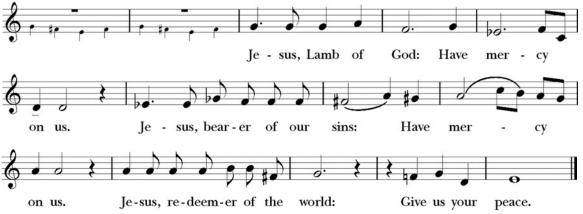
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant 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 *A period of silence is kept.*

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

Agnus Dei Hymn S165 Jesus, Lamb of God (W. Mathais)



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.

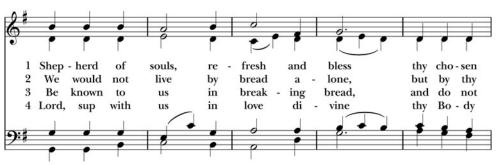
Hymns during Communion

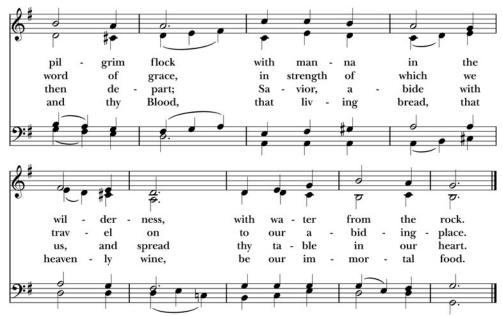




Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Middlebury*, melody from The *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946); alt. acc. Marilyn J. Keiser (b. 1941). Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Jack W. Burnam.







Words: James Montgomery (1771-1845), alt. Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications.



Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: Munich, melody from Neu-vermehrtes und zu Ubung Christl. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningisches Gesangbuch, 1693; adapt. And harm. Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847).

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

The People join in saying this prayer

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*.

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Processional 417 This is the feast of victory for our God (Festival Canticle)



Words: Revelations 5:12-13; adapt. John W. Arthur (1922-1980). Reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Copyright © 1978, by permission of Augsburg Fortress on behalf of the publishers and copyright holders. Music: *Festival Canticle*, Richard Hillert (b. 1923). Copyright © Richard Hillart.

Dismissal

PriestLet us bless the Lord. Alleluia.PeopleThanks be to God. Alleluia.

Voluntary: Festal Trumpet Tune (D. German) Emmanuel Inheyinwa, Organ



Alabama State University Choral Scholars

In the vision which is emerging at Church of the Ascension, forming and strengthening relationships with our neighbors is a goal. Alabama State University is an HBCU located within an eight-block area of the church. In the work of the Choir Director with the choirs at ASU, an opportunity arose for Ascension to begin a Choral Scholars Program.

For nearly 2 years, we have had very talented students who display excellence in voice quality, reading ability, work ethic and temperament. Future scholars will also be selected by the Music Director by audition and interview, on either a yearly or semester appointment. Students are patiently held to professional standards in terms of musical contribution, promptness in meeting commitment and time requirements, and participation in the Liturgy.

This collaboration is beneficial for Ascension as well as students at ASU. The church has an opportunity for Outreach, positively building up the life of young people, perhaps even influencing future members of the Episcopal Church. That does not mention the enormous musical benefits and young voices that these musical artists bring to us. They receive a practical gain financially and, hopefully more importantly, educationally. The participation of people in the Liturgy of our church has benefits that cannot be measured, but changes lives for the furtherance of God's Kingdom. And the practical education that students will receive professionally, musically, spiritually and in encouragement will be priceless for them, all the while having jobs as students.

Although we have had the support of our founding donor, we are called now to engage the financial support of others. We invite you to consider contributing to the future of this program. Contributions may be made to The Church of the Ascension Music Discretionary Fund has been established to provide special resources for Music Ministries. This gift should be earmarked "Choral Scholars." If you would like to support this and other initiatives, please support the Music Ministries at Church of the Ascension with your prayers, presence and gifts.



Nyla Hare is a Junior at ASU, majoring in Vocal and Piano performance. She is from Atlanta, Georgia. She loves to draw, which she has enjoyed for about 8 years. **Iheyinwa Emmanuel** is from Imo State, Nigeria, and is a freshman at ASU. He was born and brought up in the Anglican Church in Nigeria, and he says that he is glad to worship in The Episcopal Church of the Ascension.





Cahlil Mapson, also from Atlanta, is returning from last year! He is a Senior Voice Major. Cahlil loves football and spends his Sunday afternoon watching! He says, "I am happy to be a member of this church and thank you all for having **Bernard Juma** is from Nairobi, Kenya, and is currently a Music major at ASU. He plays the flute, piccolo, and piano, and enjoys exploring new places, cultures, and cuisines. A fun fact about him: he's also a trained Biomedical Scientist. Bernard loves singing in the Ascension Choir, where he has had the opportunity to meet and connect with amazing people.





Saturday, June 28 6:00pm - 9:00pm

We are in need of sponsors, silent auction donations, and wine donations. If you would be interested in helping please contact the school.



ADS@coascension.org

WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION







@ChurchoftheAscension-Montgomery, AL Text to Give 833-901-2138

Giving envelopes available upon request—contact Tracy Hinton

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