

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
SUNDAY, MAY 11, 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: Claire Harrison, Sam Edmondson

LEMS: Collins Liveoak, Ryan Coker,
Ways Holloway

VERGER: Susan Copeland

ACOLYTES:

Harper Mielke, Lily Mielke, Will McKay,
Margie Anne Prescott, Natalee Coker

VESTRY GREETERS:

April McKay, "Smitty" Smith

AV CREW: Jason Pate

Stephen Gunter, Camera

ALTAR GUILD: Pat Bamman, Anne Kimzey

Flower Guild: Libby Weatherly

USHERS: Scott Bamman, Jeff Holloway,
Evans Bailey, Barrett Austin

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE TWO 11:00 AM

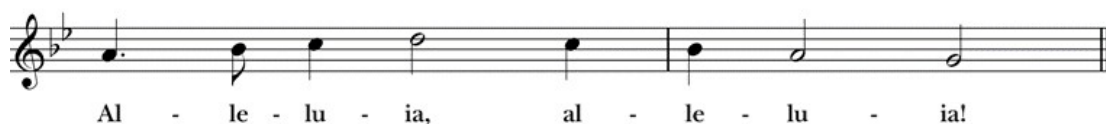
Voluntary *Christ lag in Todesbanden* (J. S. Bach)

Introit *Now the green blade riseth* (Medieval French Carol)

Processional Hymn 203 *O sons and daughters, let us sing* (*O filii et filiae*)

Antiphon (at the beginning)





Words: Jean Tisserand (15th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866). Music: *O filii et filiae*, melody from *Airs sur les hymnes sacrez, odes et noëls*, 1623; harm. *Hymnal 1982*. Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

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

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 *Glory to you* S236 (J. Rutter)

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord

God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;

glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you

for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will

praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your

tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to

you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -

ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be -

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be - hold - ing the

hold-ing the depths; _____ in the high vault of

depths; _____ in the high vault of hea-ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, _____

you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,

— Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will

Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ we will praise you and

high-ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you! _____

high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945). Copyright © 1985 Oxford University Press, Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING: ACTS 5:27-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23



- 1 The / LORD is • my / shepherd; *
I / shall not / be in / want.
- 2 He makes me lie / down in • green / pastures *
and / leads me • be- / side still / waters.
- 3 He re - / vives my / soul *
and guides me along right / path- ways / for his / Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall / fear no / evil; *
for you are with me;
your / rod and • your / staff, they / comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of / those who / trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my / cup is / run - ning / over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the / days of • my / life, *
and I will dwell in the / house of • the / LORD for / ever.

THE EPISTLE: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from the Revelation of John.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!

Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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,
with the Father and the Son he 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.

For Donald our President, Kay our Governor, and Steven our mayor; 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 Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Sean our Presiding Bishop elect; 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: Jerry, Nancy, Paul, George, Ann, Mimi, 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.

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, especially for those in whose memory the altar flowers are given L. Daniel & Claudine Morris, Obed A. & Ina Kimbro Monk, Barbara Monk Maddox, Tommy Morris, Judy Morris Barclay, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

We pray for the safety of our armed forces both here and abroad; we pray for peace throughout the world; and we give thanks for Ascension Day School.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

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 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 *Joseph's Coat* (A.L. Webber)
The Presentation *The Doxology Lasst uns erfreuen*

Offertory Sentence

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty. For all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. *I Chronicles 29:11*

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 musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est."

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,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

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)

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy

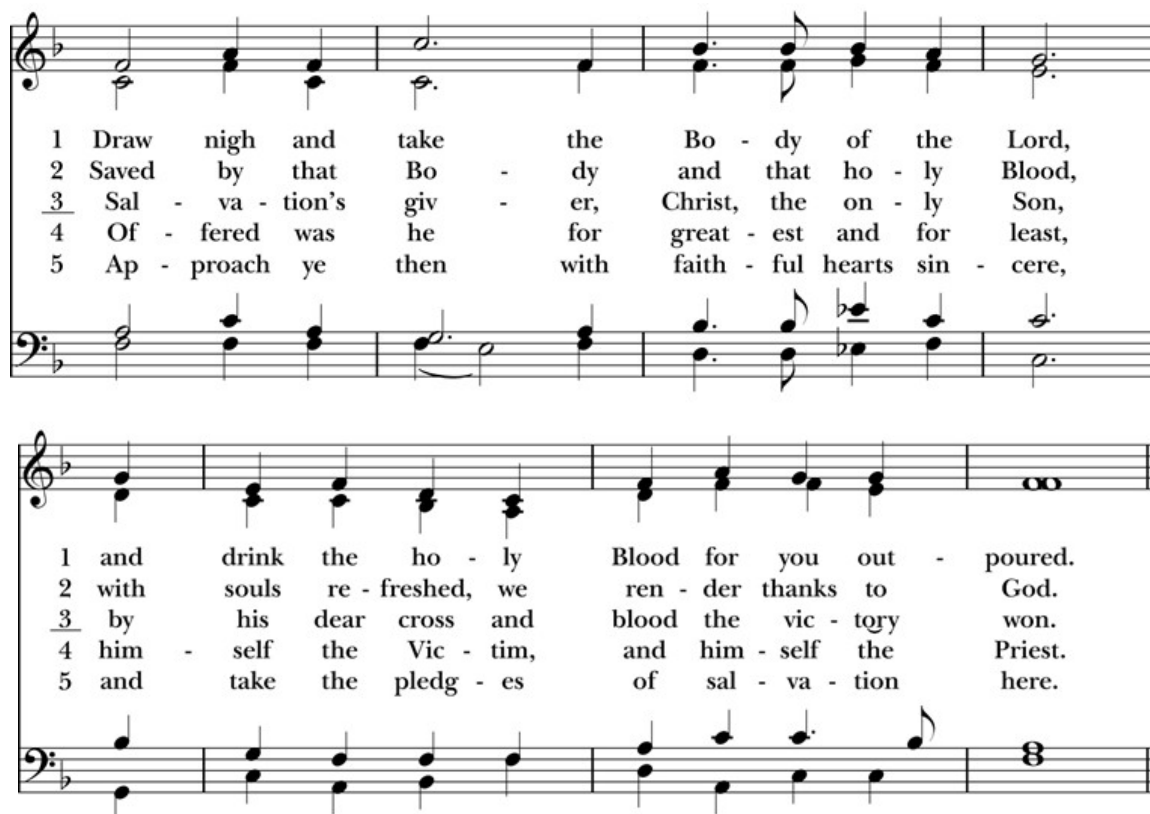
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy

on us. Je-sus, re-deem-er of the world: Give us your peace.

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.

Hymn during Communion: 328 *Draw nigh and take (Song 46)*



1 Draw nigh and take the Bo - dy of the Lord,
2 Saved by that Bo - dy and that ho - ly Blood,
3 Sal - va - tion's giv - er, Christ, the on - ly Son,
4 Of - fered was he for great - est and for least,
5 Ap - proach ye then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,

1 and drink the ho - ly Blood for you out - poured.
2 with souls re - freshed, we ren - der thanks to God.
3 by his dear cross and blood the vic - tory won.
4 him - self the Vic - tim, and him - self the Priest.
5 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

6 He that his saints in this world rules and shields
to all believers life eternal yields;

7 with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole,
gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

8 Alpha-Omega, unto whom shall bow
all nations at the doom, is with us now.

Words: *Bangor Antiphoner*, ca. 690; tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Song 46*, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

Communion Anthem: *Any Dream Will Do* (A.L. Webber)

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 Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

ProceSSIONAL Hymn 307 *Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor (Bryn Calfaría)*

1 Lord, en - throned in heaven - ly splen - dor, first - be -
*2 Here our hum - blest hom - age pay we, here in
*3 Though the low - liest form doth veil thee as of
4 Pas - chal Lamb, thine of - fering, fi - nished once for
5 Life - im - part - ing heaven - ly Man - na, smit - ten

1 got - ten from the dead. Thou a - lone, our strong de -
2 lov - ing rev - erence bow; here for faith's dis - cern - ment
3 old in Beth - le - hem, here as there thine an - gels
4 all when thou wast slain, in its full - ness un - di -
5 Rock with stream - ing side, heaven and earth with loud ho -

Al - le -

1 fend - er, lift - est up thy peo - ple's head.
2 pray we, lest we fail to know thee now.
3 hail thee, branch and flower of Jes - se's stem.
4 min - ished shall for ev - er - more re - main.
5 san - na wor - ship thee, the Lamb who died.

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1 Je - sus, true and liv - ing
 2 Thou art here, we ask not
 3 We in wor - ship join with
 4 Cleans - ing us from ev - ery
 5 Risen, a - scend - ed, glo - ri -

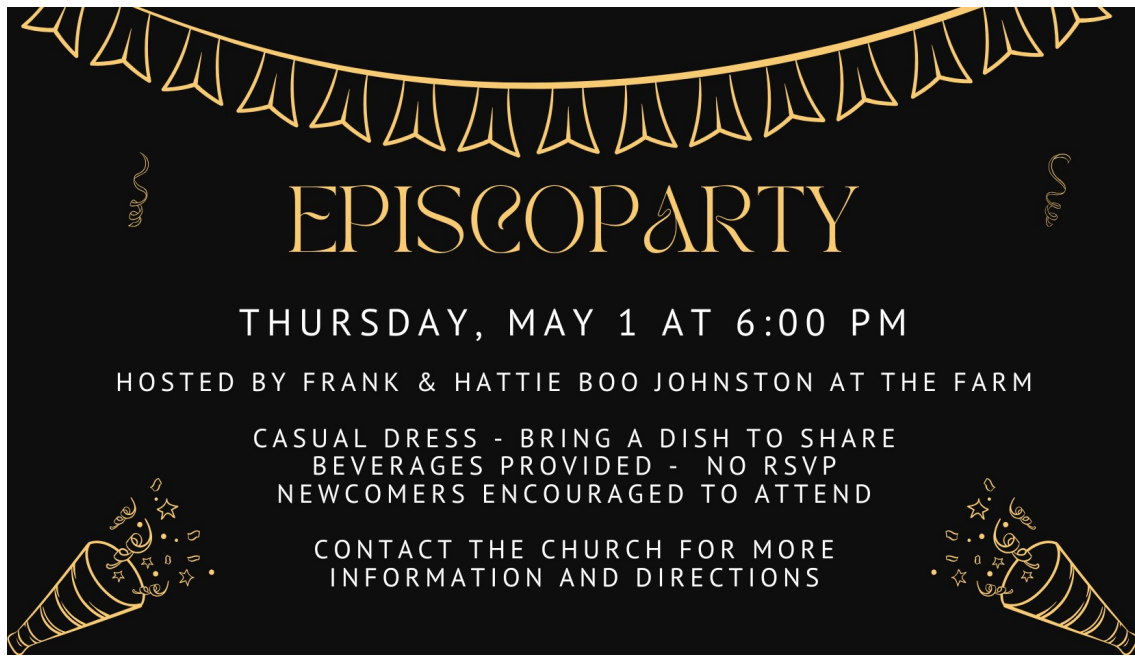
1 bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!
 2 how. Thou art here, we ask not how.
 3 them. We in wor - ship join with them.
 4 stain. Cleans - ing us from ev - ery stain.
 5 fied! Risen, a - scend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Words: George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925), alt. Music: *Bryn Calfaria*, melody William Owen (1813-1983); harm. *Christian Hymns*, 1977.

Dismissal

Priest Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Voluntary: *Christ lag in Todesbanden* (J. S. Bach)



Come join the Fun!
8134 Haw Branch Way
Montgomery, AL 36108

A green poster with a colorful striped border. The title "Vacation Bible School 2025" is in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Below it, "June 2 - June 5 at Ascension!" is in the same style. Then "8:30 - 12:00 p.m." in smaller yellow text. On the left is an illustration of a book cover titled "Groups EGYPT" with "Joseph's Journey from prison to palace" below it. On the right, "Register Your Children" is in bold yellow, followed by "Please register children by May 12, 2025" in black. Below that, "Register as a Volunteer" is in bold yellow, followed by "Adults and Youth, part time and full time help are welcome!" in black. At the bottom, "Click either link below and let Laura@coascension know if you have any questions." is in yellow.

WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION



@ChurchoftheAscension-
Montgomery, AL



Text to Give
833-901-2138



Giving envelopes available upon
request—contact Tracy Hinton

Sawyerville In-Gathering

Help us minister to Sawyererville Camp participants by filling the following needs:

- 20 Girls Swimsuits
One Piece Size L (10-12)
- 20 Boys Swimsuits Size L
- 40 Thin Pool Towels
- 40 Pool Noodles

**Donations can be dropped off in
Ascension Hall!**

Deadline April 30th!



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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