

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension



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

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 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: Chris Partridge

LEMs: Nan Barganier, Anne Kimzey,
"Smitty" Smith

VERGER: Bill Garrett

ACOLYTES: TEAM MARK:
Ryan Coker, Natalee Coker,
Harper Mielke, Lily Mielke

VESTRY GREETERS:
"Smitty" Smith

AV CREW: Jason Pate
Stephen Gunter, Camera

ALTAR GUILD: Susan Copeland, Margaret Hunt

Flower Guild: Richard Norris

USHERS: Nick Mielke, Brad Curvin,
George Wakefield

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE TWO 11:00 AM

Voluntary *Chant de Paix* (J. Langlais)

Introit *Nada de turbe* (Taizé, J. Berthier)

Hymn 409 *The spacious firmament on high* (Creation)

Unison or harmony

1 The spa - cious fir - ma - ment on high,
2 Soon as the eve - ning shades pre - vail,
3 What though in sol - emn si - lence all

with all the blue e - ther - eal sky,
the moon takes up dark the won - drous tale,
move round the dark ter - res - trial ball?

and span - gled heavens, a shin - ing frame,
and night - ly to the lis - tening earth
What though no re - al voice nor sound

their great O - rig - i - nal pro - claim.
re - peats the sto - ry of her birth:
a - mid their ra - diant orbs be found?

The un - wea - ried sun from day to day
whilst all the stars that round her burn,
In rea - son's ear they all re - joice,

does his Cre - a - tor's power dis - play;
and all the plan - ets in their turn,
and ut - ter forth a glo - rious voice;

and pub - lish - es to ev - ery land
con - firm the ti - dings, as they roll
for ev - er sing - ing as they shine,

the work of an al - might - y hand.
and spread of the truth from pole to pole.
"The hand that made us is di - vine."

Words: Joseph Addison (1672-1719); para. of Psalm 19:1-6. Music: *Creation*, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809); adapt. *Dulcimer*, or *New York Collection of Sacred Music*, 1950, alt.

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

The Celebrant says

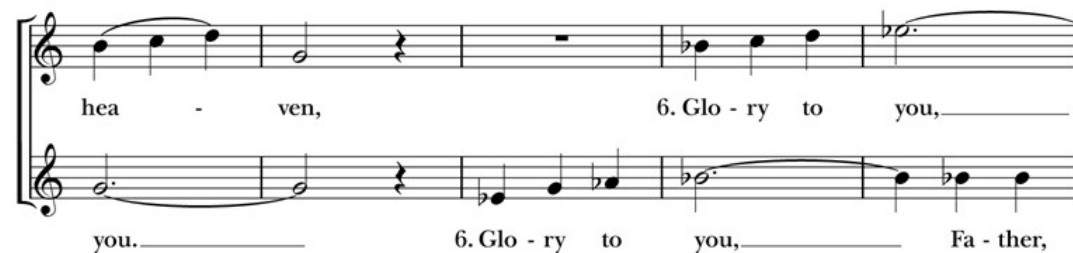
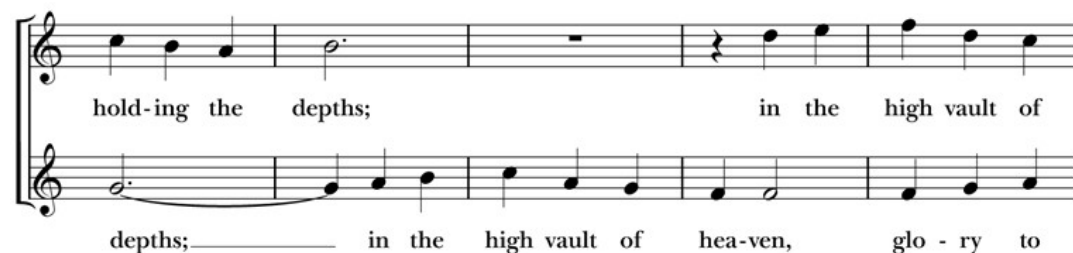
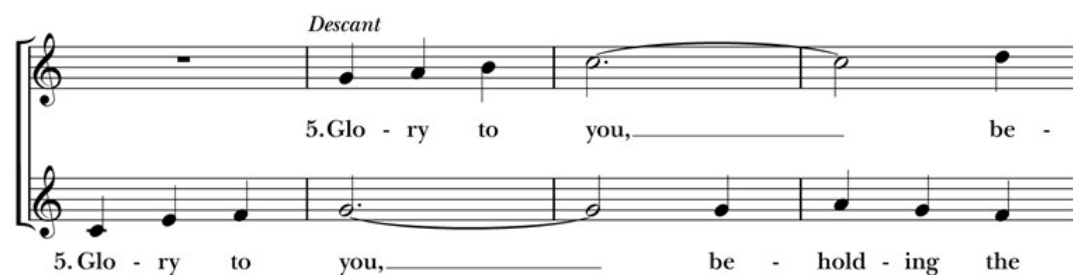
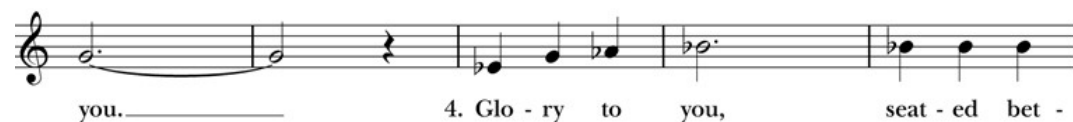
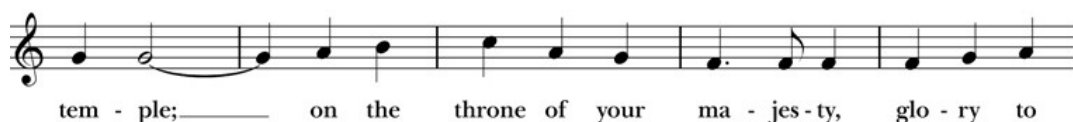
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

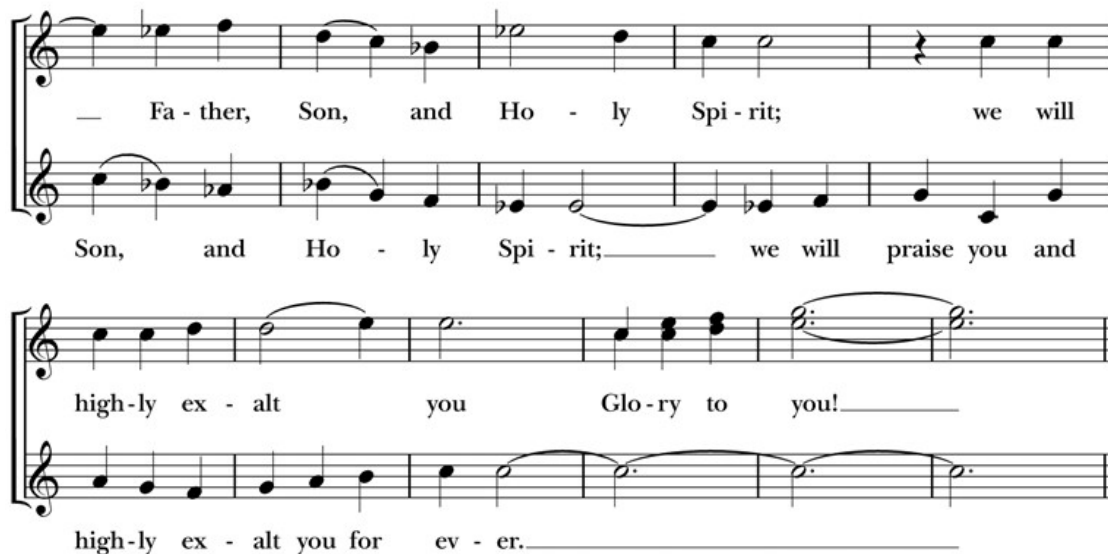
Song of Praise *Glory to you* S236 (J. Rutter)

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





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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST READING: ACTS 16:9-15

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67 *Deus misereatur*



1 May God be merciful to / us and / bless us, *
show us the light of his / countenance • and / come to / us.
2 Let your ways be / known up - / on earth, *
your saving / health a- / mong all / nations.

3 Let the peoples / praise you, • O / God; *
let / all the / peo - ples / praise you.
4 Let the nations be glad and / sing for / joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the / na - tions / up - on / earth.

5 A Let the peoples / praise you, • O / God; *
let / all the / peo - ples / praise you.
6 B The earth has brought / forth her / increase; *
may God, our / own God, / give us • his / blessing.
7 B May God / give us • his / blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth / stand in / awe of / him.

THE EPISTLE: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

A reading from the Revelation to John.

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

Sequence Hymn 405 *All things bright and beautiful* (Royal Oak)

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea - tures great and small,

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Repeat Refrain



he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958)
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HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 14:23-29

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

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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 III found in your bulletin or on page 387 in the Book of Common Prayer. You are invited to respond appropriately.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for the discernment for the next Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Glenda and Brian our bishops; and Candice and Drew; and all other bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Donald, our President; Kay, our Governor; Steven, our Mayor; and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for: Kenneth, Mark, Nancy, Paul, George, Ann, Mimi, Debbie, Janet, Lila, Andi, Bob, Brittney, Violet, Jean, Ann, Sue & Bill, Betty, Sophie, Edith, Hugh, Marion, Ginny, Anne, Bruce. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for those who have died especially for those in whose memory the altar flowers are given Phillip O. Rawlings, Jr. and Ray D. Rawlings. Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

We pray for the discernment 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 the Diocese of Alabama, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence—the priest will offer a concluding collect.

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 *The Secret of Christ* (R. Shepherd)

For a long time I have held my peace, but now will I speak. I will lead the blind in a way they know not, in paths that they have not known, I will guide them. I will turn their darkness into light, and I will not forsake them. And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God: and on either side of the river was there a tree of life, and the leaves of the trees were for the healing of the nations. Help us, Lord, to persevere in prayer with minds awake and thankful hearts, that we may share the secret of Christ with those we meet on our earthly pilgrimage, following in the steps of Jesus, our Master and our friend. Amen.

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. *1 Chronicles 29:11*

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)

Ho - ly, 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.

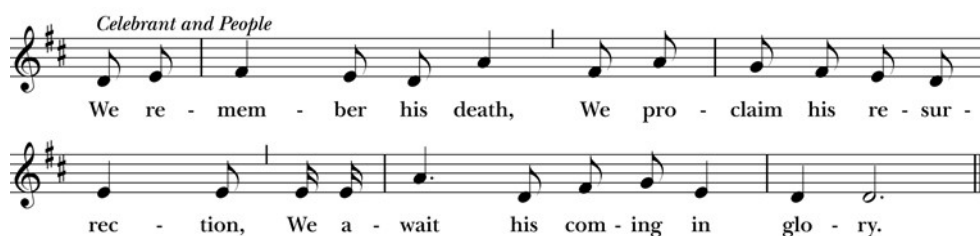
At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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



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

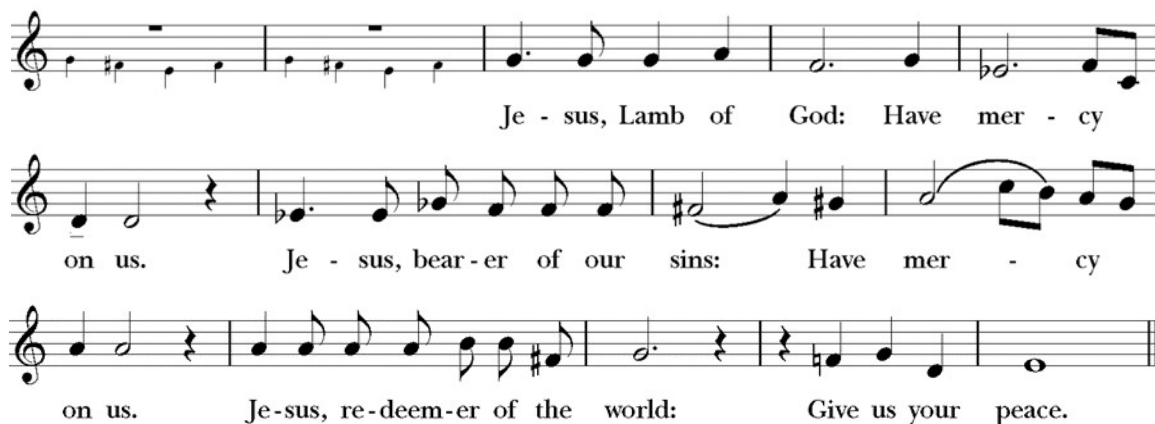
as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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)



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.

Hymns during Communion: *Hymnal 1982 513*



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the
 chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
 branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -
 cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and
 wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
 sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
 wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might: come, ——— Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
sign: come, ——— Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
pare: come, ——— Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

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Hymn 510

1 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick-ening powers;
2 See how we tri - fle here be - low, fond of these earth - ly toys;
3 In vain we tune our for - mal songs, in vain we strive to rise:
4 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick-ening powers;

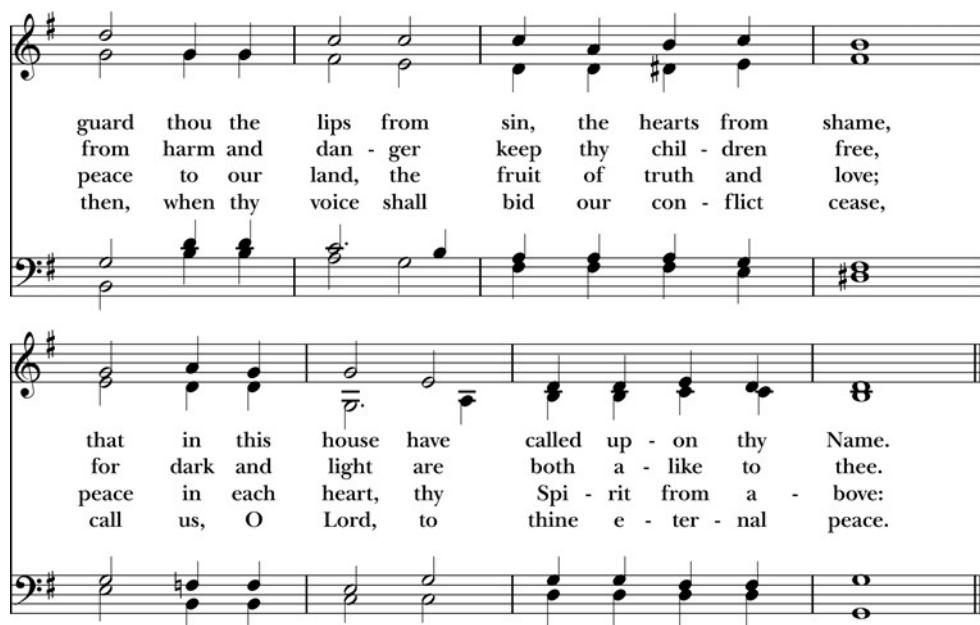
kin - dle a flame of sa - cred love in these cold hearts of ours.
our souls, how heav - i - ly they go, to reach e - ter - nal joys.
ho - san - nas lan - guish on our tongues, and our de - vo - tion dies.
come, shed a - broad a Sa - vior's love, and that shall kin - dle ours.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Saint Agnes*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

Hymn 345

1 Sa - vior, a - gain to thy dear Name we raise
*2 Grant us thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us thy peace through - out our earth - ly life;
4 thy peace in life, the balm of ev - ery pain;

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
with thee be - gan, with thee shall end the day;
peace to thy Church from er - ror and from strife;
thy peace in death, the hope to rise a - gain;



guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
from harm and dan - ger keep thy chil - dren free,
peace to our land, the fruit of truth and love;
then, when thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

that in this house have called up - on thy Name.
for dark and light are both a - like to thee.
peace in each heart, thy Spi - rit from a - bove:
call us, O Lord, to thine e - ter - nal peace.

Words: John Ellerton (1825-1893), alt. Music: *Ellers*, Edward John Hopkins (1818-1901).

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.*

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 537 *Christ for the world we sing (Moscow)*



1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
 Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
 re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
 in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

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).

Dismissal

Priest Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Voluntary: *I know that my Redeemer lives* (K. Kosche)

WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION



@ChurchoftheAscension-
 Montgomery, AL



Text to Give
 833-901-2138

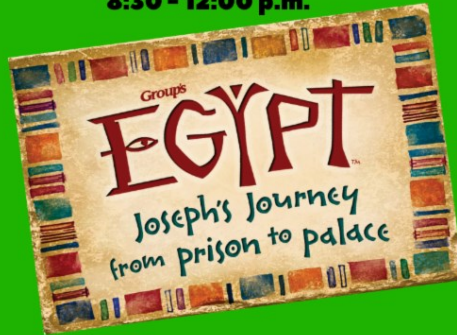


Giving envelopes available upon
 request—contact Tracy Hinton

Vacation Bible School 2025

June 2 – June 5 at Ascension!

8:30 – 12:00 p.m.



Register Your Children

**Please register children
by May 12, 2025**

Register as a Volunteer

**Adults and Youth , part time
and full time help are welcome!**

Click either link below and let Laura@coascension know if you have any questions.

Ascension Day

Thursday, May 29th

5:30 PM Evensong with reception to follow



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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