

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



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

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 15

Sunday, August 17, 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: Tim Vaught

LEMs: Harry Simon, "Smitty" Smith

Ellen Brooks

VERGER: Susan Copeland

ACOLYTES: TEAM LUKE:

Grady Pate, Natalee Coker,

Harper Mielke, Lily Mielke

VESTRY GREETER:

April McKay

AV CREW: Jason Pate, Camera

ALTAR GUILD: Pat Rutland, Robin Casey

FLOWER GUILD: Foy McGowin

USHERS: Daniel Hughes,

Hunter McDonald, Philip Sellers

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II ~ 10:30 AM LIVESTREAM

Voluntary *Glory and Peace: "Seven whole days..."* (D. Locklair)
 "...I will love thee"

Introit *Hope of the world, thou Christ* (Melody from *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, 1551)

Hymn 376 *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee (Ode to Joy)*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

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)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly

King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, notes, rests, and bar lines. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' and a bracket) on the staves corresponding to the lyrics 'Christ, on - ly', 'take a - way', and 'High, Je - sus'. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH 23:23-29

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 82 *Deus stetit*

William Russell
(1777–1813)



- 1 God takes his stand in the / council • of / heaven; *
he gives / judgment in • the / midst of • the / gods:
- 2 "How long will you / judge un- / justly, *
and show / fa - vor / to the / wicked?
- 3 Save the / weak and • the / orphan; *
de- / fend the / humble • and / needy;
- 4 Rescue the / weak and • the / poor; *
deliver / them from • the / power of • the / wicked.
- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go a- / bout in / darkness; *
all the foun- / dations of • the / earth are / shaken.
- 6 Now I say to you, / 'You are / gods, *
and all of you / children of • the / **Most** / High;
- 7 Nevertheless, you shall / die like / mortals, *
and / fall like / an - y / prince."
- 8 Arise, O God, and / rule the / earth, *
for you shall take all / na - tions / for your / own.

THE EPISTLE: HEBREWS 11:29-12:2

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN 490 *I want to walk as a child of the light (Houston)*

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.
I want to look-at Je-sus.
I want to be-with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa-tience the race, and we

star of my life — is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934).

THE GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: *The Rev. Andrew S. Brislin*

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 One, found on page 383.

Pause for a slow count to three.

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace in the world...in our country...in our homes...and in our hearts, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, we pray to you, O Lord *Lord, have mercy.*

For the search 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 the clergy and people, and 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.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, Donald; for our governor, Kay; for our mayor, Steven; and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering especially, Dan Morris, Ways Holloway, Brett Hall, Alice Blake, Billy Blake, Paul Davis, Chris Lewis, Kenneth Mullinax, Bob Lewis, Brittney Calhoun, Debbie Mathis, Violet Monson and Family, Andi Silberman, Janet Hutto, George Rutland, Ann Lewis, Tad Davis, Ann Thornington, Sue & Bill Hicks, Betty Godbold, Sophie Xides, Edith Crook, Hugh Alsobrook, Marion Allison, Ginny White, Lila Dryer, Bruce Salmon, Anne Waldo, George Thomas,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died especially those in whose memory the altar flowers are given James Vernon Franklin, Vernon Leroy Franklin, Grace Green Franklin, Thomas Parker Chambers, Gertrude Lincoln Chambers in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence.

Wait for the Celebrant to add 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 www.coascension.org and click on the "Give" link

Or, text the word "GIVE" to (833)901-2138 and follow as prompted.

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

Offertory Anthem *In the Lord I'll be ever thankful* (Taizé, J. Berthier)

We invite the congregation to sing along with the choir.

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God, do not be a-

fraid; lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near.

Presentation *The Doxology (Old 100th)*

All things come of thee, O Lord,

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.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image and called us to 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)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

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 re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

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.

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

BCP 364

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)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Celebrant says

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.

Communion Hymn *Hymnal 1982 691*



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887). Music: *Olivet*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

Communion Hymn *Hymnal 1982 253*

Give us the wings of faith to rise
Within the veil, and see
The saints above, how great their joys,
How bright their glories be.

We ask them whence their victory came,
They, with one united breath,
Ascribe the conquest to the Lamb,
Their triumph to his death.

They marked the footsteps that he trod,
His zeal inspired their quest,
And, following their incarnate God,
They reached their promised rest.

Our glorious Leader claims our praise
for his own pattern given;
while the long cloud of witnesses show
the same path to heaven.

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

The priest blesses the people, saying

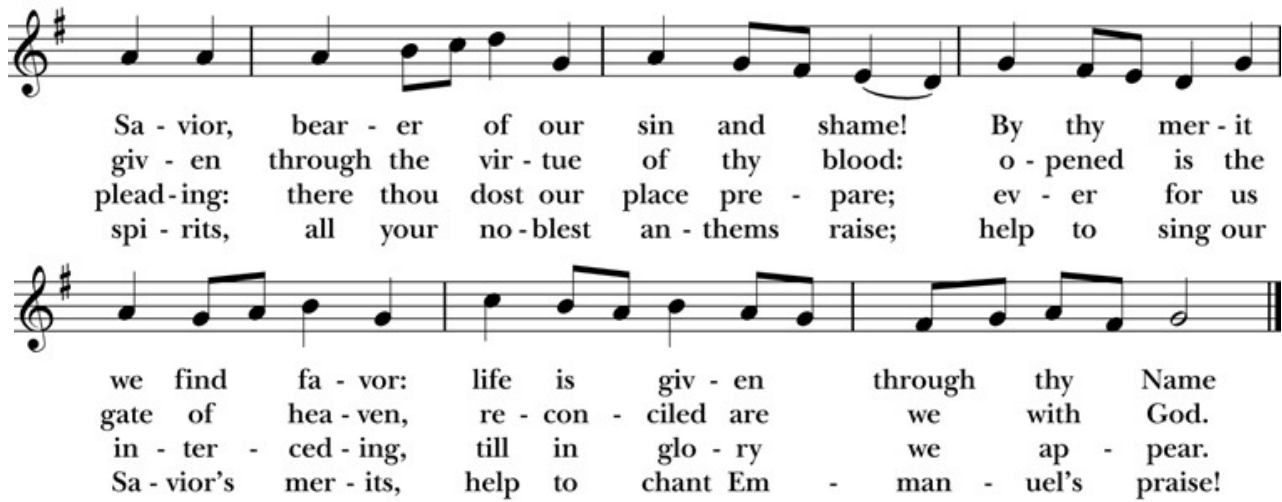
*May the peace of God which passes all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.*

Processional Hymn 495 Hail thou once despised Jesus! (In babilone)

1 Hail, thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, thou Gal - i -
2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, all our sins on
3 Je - sus, hail! en - throned in glo - ry, there for ev - er
*4 Wor - ship, hon - or, power, and bless - ing thou art wor - thy

le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us;
thee were laid: by al - might - y love a - noint - ed,
to a - bide; all the heaven - ly hosts a - dore thee,
to re - ceive; high - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing,

thou didst free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, thou u - ni - ver - sal
thou hast full a - tone - ment made. All thy peo - ple are for -
seat - ed at thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners thou art
right it is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic



Sa - vior, bear - er of our sin and shame! By thy mer - it
 giv - en through the vir - tue of thy blood: o - pened is the
 plead - ing: there thou dost our place pre - pare; ev - er for us
 spi - rits, all your no - blest an - thems raise; help to sing our
 we find fa - vor: life is giv - en through thy Name
 gate of hea - ven, re - con - ciled are we with God.
 in - ter - ced - ing, till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
 Sa - vior's mer - its, help to chant Em - man - uel's praise!

Words: John Bakewell (1721-1819) and Martin Madan (1726-1790), alt. Music: *In Babilone*, melody from *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradanseu*, 1710; harm. Roy. F. Kehl (b. 1935).

Dismissal

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

Voluntary *Glory and Peace: "...I will praise thee"* (D. Locklair)



Financial Gifts Offered This Week

\$8,900

Financial Gifts Offered This Month

\$34,443

Financial Gift Target Monthly

\$85,500

Total Pledged Amount for 2025 - \$912,628
Total Collected Amount for 2025 - \$552,656



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