

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



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

## THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 16

Sunday, August 24, 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

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**ORGANIST:** Dr. Elizabeth French  
**LECTOR:** Mark Bullock  
**LEMS:** “Smitty” Smith, Anne Kimzey,  
Nan Barganier  
**VERGER:** Tim Lewis  
**ACOLYTES:** TEAM JOHN:  
Will McKay, Nolan Wishum,  
Gage Holloway, Dylan Curvin

**VESTRY GREETER:** Ed Walker  
**AV CREW:** Jason Pate, Camera  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Virginia Humphrey,  
Susan Copeland  
**FLOWER GUILD:** Patty McDonald  
**USHERS:** Daniel Hughes,  
Hunter McDonald, Philip Sellers



## HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II ~ 10:30 AM LIVESTREAM

Voluntary     Dr. Elizabeth French, Organist

Introit     *Dona nobis pacem* (Traditional)

Hymn 411     *O bless the Lord, my soul!* (*St. Thomas (Williams)*)

1 O    bless   the Lord, my    soul! His    grace to    thee pro - claim!  
2 O    bless   the Lord, my    soul! His    mer - cies bear in    mind!  
3 He    will not al - ways chide; he    will with pa - tience wait;  
4 He    par - dons all thy sins, pro - longs thy fee - ble breath;  
5 He    clothes thee with his love, up - holds thee with his truth;

1 And    all that is with - in me join to bless his ho - ly Name!  
2 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.  
3 his    wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.  
4 he    heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.  
5 and    like the ea - gle he re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.

6 Then bless his holy Name,  
whose grace hath made thee whole,  
whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:  
O bless the Lord, my soul!

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 103. Music: *St. Thomas (Williams)*, melody Aaron Williams (1731-1776); harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

### 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 triplets marked with a '3' and a slur. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding staves, with some words hyphenated across lines.



### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          And also with you.

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 58:9B-14**

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah.*

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,

then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;

if you call the sabbath a delight  
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;

if you honor it, not going your own ways,  
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;

then you shall take delight in the LORD,  
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;

I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

*Reader*          The Word of the Lord.

*People*          Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 103:1-8 *Benedic, anima mea*

William Russell  
(1777–1813)



- 1 Bless the Lord, / O my / soul, \*  
and all that is within me, / bless his / ho - ly / Name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, / O my / soul, \*  
and forget not / all his / ben- e - / fits.
- 3 He forgives / all your / sins \*  
and heals / all your • in- / fir - mi- / ties;
- 4 He redeems your / life from • the / grave \*  
and crowns you with / mercy • and / lov - ing- / kindness;
- 5 He satisfies / you with / good things, \*  
and your / youth is • re- / newed like • an / eagle's.
- 6 The Lord / exe- • cutes / righteousness \*  
and judgment for / all who / are op- / pressed.
- 7 He made his ways / known to / Moses \*  
and his / works to • the / children • of / Israel.
- 8 The Lord is full of com- / passion • and / mercy, \*  
slow to / anger and • of / **great** / kindness.

## THE EPISTLE: HEBREWS 12:18-29

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken-- that is, created things-- so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

|               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Reader</i> | The Word of the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | Thanks be to God.     |

## SEQUENCE HYMN 8 *Morning has broken (Buinessan)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.\_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.\_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play!\_\_\_\_\_

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!\_\_\_\_\_  
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.\_\_\_\_\_  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!\_\_\_\_\_

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt. By permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Buinessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921). Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

### THE GOSPEL: LUKE 13:10-17

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for

eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

*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,  
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 Form II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for the discernment for the next Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean our Presiding Bishop; for Glenda and Brian, our Bishops; and for Candice and Drew our clergy; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; for Donald, our President; for Kay, our Governor; for Steven, our mayor; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask for your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison; We pray especially Dan, Ways, Brett, Alice, Billy, Paul, Chris, Kenneth, Bob, Brittney, Debbie, Violet and Family, Andi, Janet, George, Ann, Tad, Ann, Sue & Bill, Betty, Sophie, Edith, Hugh, Marion, Ginny, Lila, Bruce, Anne, George  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed especially those in whose memory the altar flowers are given Richard S. and Idelle S. Brooks, Ricky Brooks, pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

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*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

## Confession and Absolution

*Silence*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

*The Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## **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](http://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** *O God, beyond all praising* (G. Holst, arr. Proulx)

**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 -  
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.*

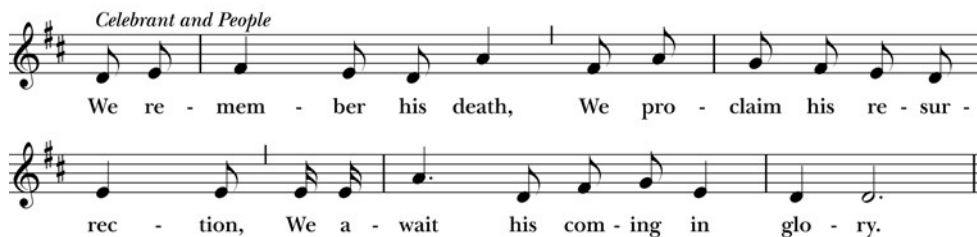
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the 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,



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.

*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.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

*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 304*

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.  
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

### Communion Hymn *Hymnal 1982* 493

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,  
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim  
 3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;  
 4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,  
 5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!  
 2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.  
 3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.  
 4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.  
 5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love  
 be now and ever given  
 by saints below and saints above,  
 the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Azmon*, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

## 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.*

### Proclamation Hymn 368 Holy Father, great Creator (Regent Square)

Holy Father, great Creator, source of mercy  
Love, and peace, look upon the Mediator,  
Clothe us with his righteousness; heavenly Father,  
Heavenly Father, through the Savior hear and bless.

Holy Jesus, Lord of glory, whom angelic  
hosts proclaim, while we hear thy wondrous story,  
meet and worship in thy Name, dear Redeemer,  
dear Redeemer, in our hearts thy peace proclaim.

Holy Spirit, Sanctifier, come with unction  
From above, touch our hearts with sacred fire,  
Fill them with the Savior's love. Source of comfort,  
Source of comfort, cheer us with the Savior's love.

Go the Lord, through every nation let thy wondrous  
Mercies shine. In the song of thy salvation  
Every tongue and race combine, Great Jehovah,  
Great Jehovah, form our hearts and make them thine.

### Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

**Voluntary** Dr. Elizabeth French, Organist



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



#### WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION



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**venmo**



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