

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



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

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 19

Sunday, September 14, 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

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER:

Becky Taylor

LECTOR: Robert Prescott

LEMs: “Smitty” Smith, Virginia Humphrey,
Matt Clower

VERGER: Christopher Turner

ACOLYTES: TEAM LUKE:

Grady Pate, Natalee Coker,
Harper Mielke, Lily Mielke

VESTRY GREETER: “Smitty” Smith

AV CREW: Jason Pate, Camera

ALTAR GUILD: Pat Bamman,
Lisa Franklin

FLOWER GUILD: Cara Coreale

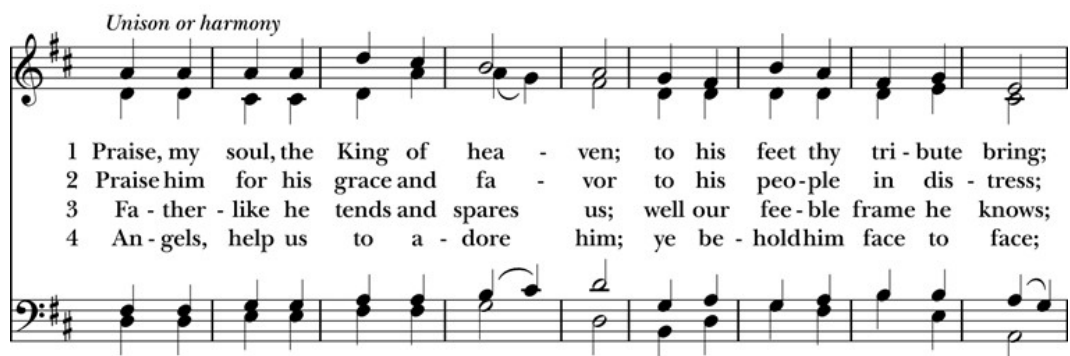
USHERS: Daniel Hughes,
Hunter McDonald, Philip Sellers

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II ~ 10:30 AM LIVESTREAM

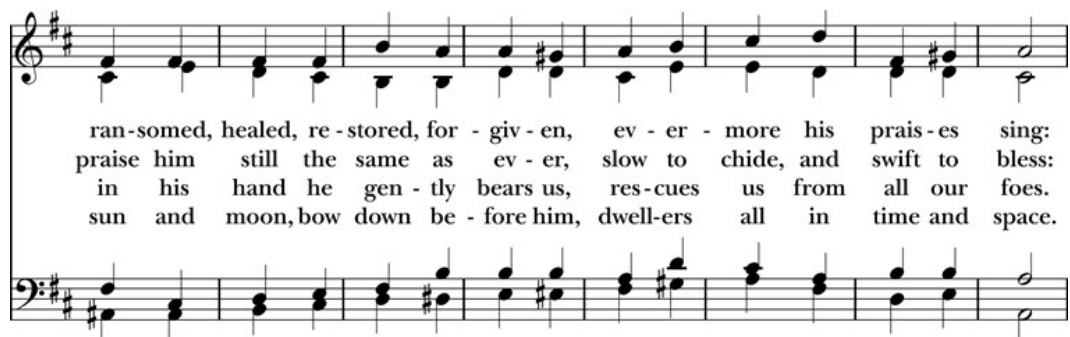
Voluntary *Psalm 23:4* (H. Howells)
Introit *Depth of Mercy* (X Gustafson)

Hymn 410 *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven* (*Lauda anima*)

Unison or harmony



1 Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven; to his feet thy tri - bute bring;
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple in dis - tress;
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold him face to face;



ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing:
praise him still the same as ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
in his hand he gen - tly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847). Music: *Lauda anima*, John Goss (1800-1880); desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971).
Descant by permission of Novello and Company, Limited.

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.*

Trisagion S102 *Holy God* (A. Archangelsky)

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal* 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

THE FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 32:7-14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-11 *Miserere mei, Deus*

William Russell
(1777–1813)



1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your / lov - ing- / kindness; *
in your great compassion / blot out / my of- / fenses.

2 Wash me through and through / from my / wickedness *
and / cleanse me / from my / sin.

3 For I know / my trans- / gressions, *
and my / sin is / ever • be- / fore me.

4 Against you only / have I / sinned *
and done what is / e - vil / in your / sight.

5 And so you are justified / when you / speak *
and / up - right / in your / judgment.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked / from my / birth, *
a / sinner from • my / moth - er's / womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth / deep with- / in me, *
and will make me understand / wis - dom / se - cret- / ly.

8 Purge me from my sin, and I / shall be / pure; *
wash me, and / I shall • be / clean in- / deed.

9 Make me hear of / joy and / gladness, *
that the body you have / bro - ken / may re- / joice.

10 Hide your / face from • my / sins *
and / blot out / all my • in- / iquities.

11 Create in me a / clean heart, • O / God, *
and re- / new a • right / spirit • with- / in me.

THE EPISTLE: 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17

A reading from Paul's first letter to Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN 469 *There's a wideness in God's mercy* (St. Helena)

Introduction



1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness
 2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure

of the sea; there's a kind - ness in his jus -
 up in heaven; there is no place where earth's fail -
 of the mind; and the heart of the E - ter -

tice, which is more than lib - er - ty. There is wel - come
 ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given. There is plen - ti -
 nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were

for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good; there is mer - cy
 ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for
 but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word; and our life would

Interlude/Conclusion

with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.



Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984). Copyright © 1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-10

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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 are according to Form IV, found on page 388. *(Pause for a count of four.)*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for the discernment for the next Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Glenda and Brian our bishops; and Candice our clergy.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for Donald, our President; Kay, our Governor; Steven, our Mayor.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

We pray for the safety of our armed forces both here and abroad and for peace...in the world...in our country...in our homes...and in our hearts.

We give thanks for Ascension Day School.

We pray for The Way, The Truth, and The Life, our capital campaign.

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially Dan, Ways, Brett, Alice, Billy, Paul, Kenneth, Bob, Brittney, Debbie, Violet and Family, Andi, Janet, George, Ann, Sue & Bill, Ann, Betty, Sophie, Hugh, Marion, Ginny, Lila, Bruce, Anne.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died especially for those in whose memory the altar flowers are given: Nancy & Charles Williamson, O. G. Pinkston, Juliette & Dudley Williamson that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer. [Stay until the priest has finished the collect.]

The Confession

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 and click on the "Give" link
Or, text the word "GIVE" to (833)901-2138 and follow as prompted.
Or, [VENMO @churchoftheascension](https://www.venmo.com/churchoftheascension) (look for our logo in color or gold)

Offertory Anthem

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need, She makes me lie down in green meadows, Beside the still waters, She will lead. She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs, She leads me in a path of good things, And fills my heart with songs. Even though I walk, through a dark and dreary land, There is nothing that can shake me, She has said She won't forsake me, I'm in her hand. She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes, She anoints my head with oil, And my cup overflows. Surely, surely goodness & kindness will follow me, All the days of my life, And I will live in her house, Forever, forever & ever. Glory be to our Mother, & Daughter, And to the Holy of Holies, As it was in the beginning, is now & ever shall be, World, without end. Amen

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 A

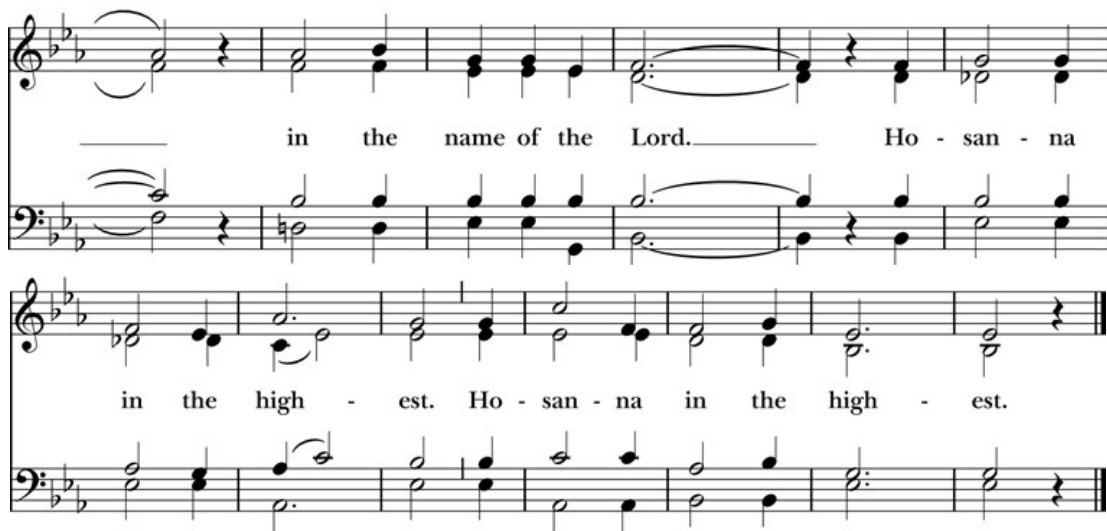
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 **S130** *Holy, holy, holy* (F. Schubert)

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



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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 he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Music: Jackson Hill (b. 1941). Copyright © 1974 Jackson Hill.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 S164 *Jesus, Lamb of God* (F. Schubert)

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, re - deem - er of the world:

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system ends with a repeat sign. The second system ends with a repeat sign. The third system ends with a repeat sign.



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, 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 333*

Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty
hands up - lift - ed Now the kneel - ing Now the plea
Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come Now the hear - ing
Now the power Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing
Now the Bo - dy Now the Blood Now the joy - ful
cel - e - bra - tion Now the wed - ding Now the songs
Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing Now the Spi - rit's
vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - an - y
Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Words: Jaroslav J. Vajda (b. 1919). Music: *Now*, Carl Flentge Schalk (b. 1929). Words and Music: Copyright © 1969, by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Communion Hymn *Hymnal 1982 645*



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody, harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

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 448 *O love, how deep how broad, how high (Deus tuorum militum)*



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Voluntary *Let all the world in every corner sing* (R. Vaughan Williams)

WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION



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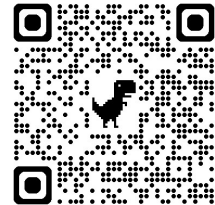
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

ART AND *Spirituality* WORKSHOP CROSS AND CURRENTS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2025

9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

FOLLOWED BY
EVENSONG AT 4:00 P.M.



TO REGISTER, VISIT WWW.COASCENSION.ORG OR USE THE QR CODE PROVIDED



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 5 - 10:30 AM

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

315 CLANTON AVENUE

MONTGOMERY, AL 36104

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