

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

Good Shepherd
Sunday

April 26, 2026



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026**

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

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, Bishop of Alabama
The Rev. Candice B. Frazer, Rector
The Rev. David Hall, Interim Associate Rector

MINISTERS SERVING THIS SUNDAY

ORGANIST/CHOIR MASTER:

Rebecca Taylor

LECTOR: Paula Smith

LEMS: Virginia Humphrey,
Matt Clower, Ellen Brooks

VERGER: Bil Garrett

ACOLYTES: TEAM JOHN

Will McKay, Nolan Wishum,
Dylan Curvin, Gage Holloway

AV CREW: Jason Pate

ALTAR GUILD: Janan Hayden, Anne Kimzey

Flower Guild: Cara Coreale

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE TWO 10:30 AM

Voluntary
Introit

St. Columba
You hear the lambs a-cryin'

(K. Leighton)
(Spiritual)

Processional Hymn 377

All people that on earth do dwell

(*Old 100th*)

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for a unison or harmony setting. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are arranged in five numbered lines, with some lines starting with a different number (e.g., line 3 starts with '3').

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he
3 O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap - proach with joy his
4 For why? the Lord our God is good, his mer - cy is for
*5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom heaven and

1 cheer - ful voice: him serve with mirth, his praise forth
2 did us make: we are his folk, he doth us
3 courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his Name al -
4 ev - er sure; his truth at all times firm - ly
5 earth a - dore, from men and from the an - gel

1 tell, come ye be - fore him and re - - joice.
2 feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
3 ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
4 stood, and shall from age to age en - - dure.
5 host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - - more.

Words: William Kethe (d. 1608?); para. of Psalm 100. Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

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

The Celebrant says

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

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

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
_ for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____
3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Descant



5. Glo - ry to you, be -

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

hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING: ACTS 2:42-47

A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 *DOMINUS REGIT ME*



1 The / Lord is • my / shepherd; *
I / shall not / be in / want.

2 He makes me lie / down in • green / pastures *
and / leads me • be- / side still / waters.

3 He re- / vives my / soul *
and guides me along right / pathways • for / his Name's / sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall / fear no / evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your / staff, they / com - fort / me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of / those who / trouble me; *
you have an- / ointed • my / head with / oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the / days of • my / life, *
and I will dwell in the / house of • the / Lord for / ever.

THE EPISTLE: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from the first book of Peter

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 708 *Savior, like a shepherd lead us*

(Sicilian Mariners)

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us
ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,
for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

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

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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 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 Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Glenda our bishop; Richard our bishop elect; and Candice and David, 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. 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; and for Ascension Day School.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We pray to you almighty God, maker of heaven and earth, inspire your people by your creative vision in the growing of your church, that we may partner with you and one another to share in The Way, The Truth, and The Life, our capital campaign.

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 Don Orlando, Dan Morris, Julia Markham, Bo Henderson, Brett Hall, Paul Davis, Kenneth Mullinax, Violet Monson and Family, Andi Silberman, Janet Hutto, George Thomas, Ann Lewis, Sue & Bill Hicks, Ann Thorington, Betty Godbold., Sophie Xides, Hugh Alsabrook, Ginny White, Lila Dryer, Bruce Salmon, Ann Longshore.

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: Paul Whiting Copeland, Anne Harrell Copeland Fitzpatrick, Albert Whiting Copeland, C. T.

Fitzpatrick, 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 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 on Venmo: @ChurchoftheAscension-Montgomery,Alabama

Offertory Anthem Offertory Anthem *Psalm 23* (H. Goodall)
The Presentation *The Doxology Hymn 380, vs 3* (*Lasst uns erfreuen*)

Offertory Sentence

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

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 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

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission of the publisher.

Celebrant and People
 We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread
A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei Hymn S165 *Jesus, Lamb of God* (W. Mathais)



Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Hymn during Communion: 645 *The King of love*



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-les-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*.

317 *This is the hour of banquet and song*

- 1 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table spread for me;
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong
the brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.
- 2 Too soon we rise; we go our several ways;
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone,
the Bread and Wine consumed: yet all our days
thou still art here with us—our Shield and Sun.
- 3 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,
giving us foretaste of the festal joy,
the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

This is the hour of banquet and of song, #316 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), alt. Music: *Canticum refectionis*, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

Hymn during Communion: 343 *Shepherd of souls*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Shepherd of souls'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the
word of grace, in strength of which we
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1845), alt. Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications.

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

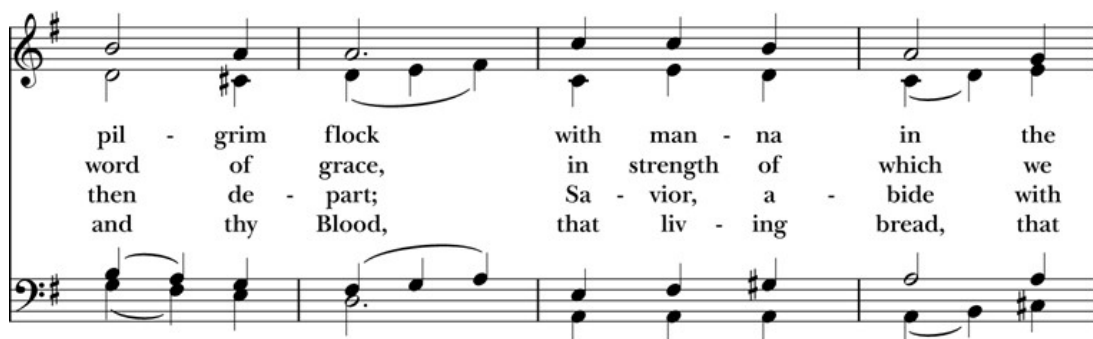
The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Processional Hymn 343 *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

(*St. Agnes*)



1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy



pil - grim flock with man - na in the
word of grace, in strength of which we
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that



wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1845), alt. Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications.

Dismissal

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

Voluntary: *This Joyful Eastertide*

(K. Kolander)

VBS 2026! June 1 - June 4th

Registration for Rising K through Rising 6th
open through through May 18, 2026



Child Registration



Adult Volunteer
Registration

Part and Full time spots are available for volunteers!

Sawyerville In-Gathering

- 20 Girls Swimsuits, One Piece Size Large (10-12)
- 20 Boys Swim Trunks, Size Small
- 100 **Thin & New** Pool Towels
- 20 Clorox Wipes

Donations can be dropped off in the
Ascension Hall Foyer!
Deadline May 15



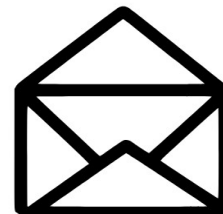
WAYS TO GIVE AT ASCENSION



@ChurchoftheAscension-
Montgomery, AL



Text to Give
833-901-2138



Giving envelopes available upon
request—contact Tracy Hinton



Friday, May 1st
6:00pm - 9:00pm

We are in need of sponsors, silent auction donations, and wine donations. If you would be interested in helping please contact the church.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

315 CLANTON AVENUE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36104
(334)263-5529 ♦ STAFF@COASCENSION.ORG

www.coascension.org

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