

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension



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

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 12, 2026

The Rt. Rev. Richard Lawson, 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: Robert Prescott
LEMs: Matt Clower, Rachel Wishum,
Brad Curvin
VERGER: Christopher Turner
CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Carolyn King,
Katherine Werner

ACOLYTES: Team luke
Grady Pate, Natalee Coker,
Harper Mielke, Lily Mielke,
AV Crew Jason Pate
Altar Guild: Patty McDonald
Stacia Bailey
Flower Guild Patty McDonald

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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The Episcopal Church of the Ascension @coascension

This week at Ascension

SUNDAY, JULY 12 THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 8:30 am Continental Breakfast in Ascension Hall
- 9:15 am Adult Clergy Forum (Upper Room)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Livestreamed)

MONDAY, JULY 13

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer (Facebook Live)

TUESDAY, JULY 14 ARGULA VON GRUMBACH, SCHOLAR & REFORMER, C.1554

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer (Facebook Live)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer (Facebook Live)

THURSDAY, JULY 16

- 7:00 am Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Ascension Hall)
- 8:00 am Morning Prayer (Facebook Live)

FRIDAY, JULY 17 WILLIAM WHITE, BISHOP, 1836

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer (Facebook Live)

SATURDAY, JULY 18



**EfM Registration Open for Fall
Contact Eric Kidwell or Russ Wishum**

EfM or Education for Ministry is a four-year small group formation program based on study and practice in theological reflection sponsored by Sewanee. Participants can commit to a year-by-year basis.

Contact Eric or Russ for more information or to sign up.

Processional Hymn **376** *Joyful, joyful we adore thee*

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 Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary *Sonata II: Grave*

(F. Mendelssohn)

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE TWO 11:00 AM

Voluntary	<i>Sonata I: Adagio</i>	(F. Mendelssohn)
Introit	<i>God is working his purpose out</i>	(M. F. Shaw)
Hymn 392	<i>Come, we that love the Lord</i>	(Vineyard Haven)

Come, we that love the Lord,
And let your joys be known,
Join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne.

Refrain:
Hosanna, hosanna! Rejoice, give thanks and sing

Let those refuse to sing
that never knew our God;
But children of the heavenly King,
May speak their joys abroad.

Refrain.

The heirs of grace have found
glory begun below;
Celestial fruits on earthly ground
From faith and hope my grow.

Refrain.

Then let our songs abound,
And let our tears be dry,
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
To fairer worlds on high.

Refrain.

<i>Officiant</i>	Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
<i>People</i>	And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. <i>Amen</i>

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 *Glory to God* S280

(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 - mighty - 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
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
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
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. 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 Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Hymn during Communion: *Hymnal* 1982 508

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.
till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889), alt. Music: *Nova Vita*, Lister R. Peace (1885-1969).

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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

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 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*

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.

Fraction Anthem: Hymn S169 *My flesh is food indeed*

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -

deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my

deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my

flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Music: Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 by Ray W. Urwin. Used by permission.

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.

Communion Anthem *One bread, one body* (J. B. Foley)

THE FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 25:19-34

A reading from the book of Genesis.
These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham’s son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, “If it is to be this way, why do I live?” So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

“Two nations are in your womb,and
two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.”

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

PSALM 119:105-112 *Lucerna pedibus meis* William Russell (1777–1813)

105 Your word is a / lantern to • my / feet *
and a / light up- / on my / path.

106 I have sworn and / am de- / termined *
to / keep your / right - eous / judgments.

107 I am / deep - ly / troubled; *
preserve my life, O Lord, ac- / cord - ing / to your / word.

108 Accept, O Lord, the willing / tribute of • my / lips, *
and / **teach** / me your / judgments.

109 My life is always / in my / hand, *
yet I do / not for- / get your / law.

110 The wicked have set a / trap for / me, *
but I have not / strayed from / your com- / mandments.

111 Your decrees are my in- / heritage • for / ever; *
truly, they are the / **joy** / of my / heart.

112 I have applied my heart to ful- / fill your / statutes *
for / ever • and / to the / end.

The Epistle: Romans 8:1-11

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

Sequence Hymn **593** *Lord, make us servants of thy peace* (Dickinson College)

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -

2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow

3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing

4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -

5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your

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,

Memorial Acclamation **S138**

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.

¹ Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission of the publisher.

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 hath 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.

Announcements

Giving is available on-line by going to our website and click on the “Give” link. Or on Venmo: @ChurchoftheAscension-Montgomery,Alabama

Offertory Me Anthem Almighty God, your word is cast (R. Johnson)

The Presentation The Doxology: Hymn 380, vs. 3 (Old 100th)

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People And of thine own have we given thee.

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:

Celebrant and People
Sanctus Hymn S125 (R. Proulx)

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

Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division on Cassell Ltd. Music: Dickinson College, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979). Copyright © 1962, Theodore Presser Co. used by permission of the publisher.

Holy Gospel Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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 Form VI found on page 392. *[Pause for a slow count to three]*

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For Donald our President, Kay our Governor, and Steven our mayor; For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Richard, our bishop; for Candice

and David our clergy; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation especially: Dan, Julia, Bo, Brett, Paul, Kenneth, Violet and family, Andi, George, Ann, Sue & Bill, Betty, Sophie, Hugh, Ginny, Lila, Bruce, Ann.

Silence
The People may add their own petitions.

We pray for our next Director of Music Ministry:
O God, who has blessed and sustained us through the years; we ask that you continue to lead us, stretch us, and direct us in our search for a new director of music. Raise for us, we pray, someone who will faithfully serve your people with love and compassion, leading us to be more deeply engaged in worship, that we may continue to grown in the likeness of Christ and be a beacon of love and hope to our community and the world. To the glory of your Holy Name.
Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially the Ascension Day School.
Silence
The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially for those in whose memory the altar flowers are given Jack Humphrey, Ruth Hughes Humphrey, Harold Bowman Blach that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Silence may be kept.

Leader and People
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[The celebrant will say a concluding collect or absolution; stand at the lectern until they are finished and then move to your seat at the Peace.]

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.