

# ASCENSION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## ASCENSION SUNDAY

May 12, 2024

10:30 AM

**Holy Eucharist Rite II**



*The Rev Mark W. McDonald, Rector*

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The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

[www.epicenter.org](http://www.epicenter.org)

*The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, Bishop*

# Welcome

*You've found home.*

A church home, where whatever your background, however you see God today, no matter how challenging your journey is right now, you belong here. At Ascension Episcopal Church, we strive to be a welcoming and safe place for all people to belong. We hope you encounter the radical love of God and the love of His church community right here.

We're a multi-generational spiritual center, with grandparents, parents, singles, teens and children living out the central invitation from Jesus to Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World. We smile a lot around here, and it's authentic!

We believe that people desire relationships over religion; our Sunday services are engaging and hope-filled. And, I believe that fun and church worship are not mutually exclusive. Love and joy are the byproducts of life with God and with each other. Come see and experience the beauty and love of Christ with us.

Welcome home!



The Rev. Mark W. McDonald

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## JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY.

We offer two services; our **8:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE** is a Rite I Traditional Eucharist Service, without music and our **10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE** is a Rite II Contemporary Eucharist Service with organ and choral music.

Our **NURSERY** is available from 9:30 to noon on Sunday mornings. The safeguarded staff maintains a healthy and safe environment for your children.

From 9:30am to 10:15am, join us in person in the Church Library for **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** or Upstairs for **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**,

**Voices of small children are always welcome.  
Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.**

PRELUDE

arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

ENTRANCE HYMN 494

*Crown him with many crowns*

DIADEMATA

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!  
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and  
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and  
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -  
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who  
 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his  
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and  
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who  
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their

1 hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.  
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

## COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

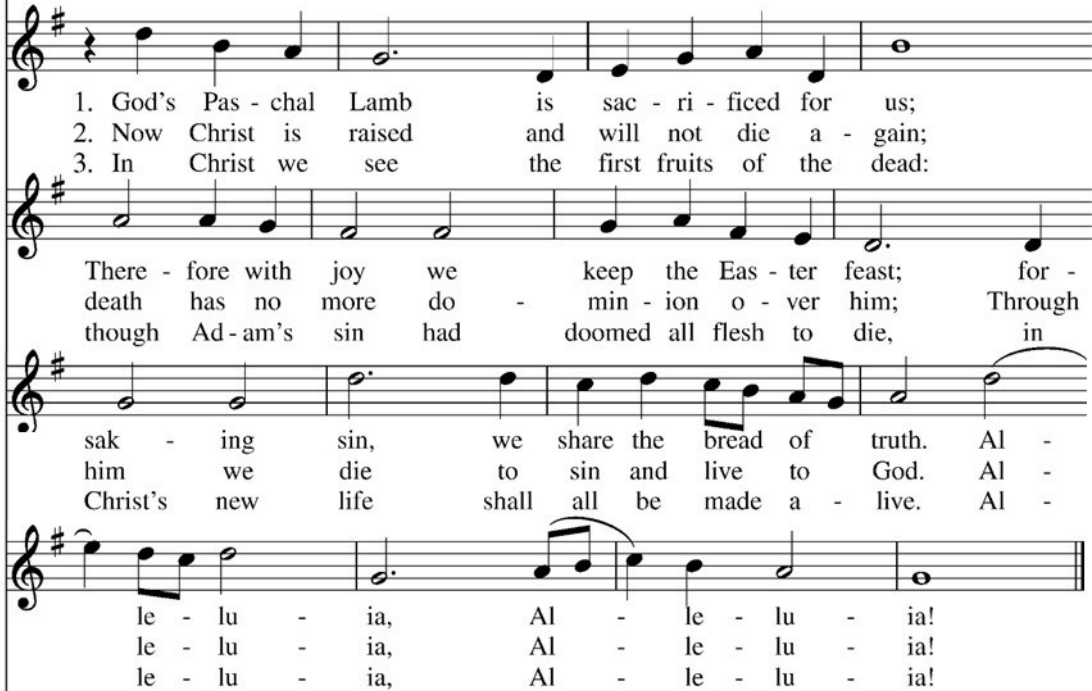
*The Celebrant may say*

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 WLP 880

*Christ our Passover*

SINE NOMINE



1. God's Pas - chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain;  
3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:  
There - fore with joy we keep the Eas - ter feast; for -  
death has no more do - min - ion o - ver him; Through  
though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die, in  
sak - ing sin, we share the bread of truth. Al -  
him we die to sin and live to God. Al -  
Christ's new life shall all be made a - live. Al -  
le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

*People And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

# The Lessons

## FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Reader            The Word of the Lord.

People            *Thanks be to God.*

*Silence may follow.*

## PSALM: Psalm 47

*Remain seated. Please read responsively by half verse at the asterisk. \**

<sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples; \*  
*shout to God with a cry of joy.*

<sup>2</sup>For the LORD Most High is to be feared; \*  
*he is the great King over all the earth.*

- <sup>3</sup>He subdues the peoples under us, \*  
*and the nations under our feet.*
- <sup>4</sup>He chooses our inheritance for us, \*  
*the pride of Jacob whom he loves.*
- <sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout, \*  
*the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.*
- <sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises; \*  
*sing praises to our King, sing praises.*
- <sup>7</sup>For God is King of all the earth; \*  
*sing praises with all your skill.*
- <sup>8</sup>God reigns over the nations; \*  
*God sits upon his holy throne.*
- <sup>9</sup>The nobles of the peoples have gathered together \*  
*with the people of the God of Abraham.*
- <sup>10</sup>The rulers of the earth belong to God, \*  
*and he is highly exalted.*

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader        The Word of the Lord.

People        *Thanks be to God.*

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN 544**     *Jesus shall reign where'er the sun*     DUKE STREET

*All stand.*

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun doth his suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
2 throng to crown his head; his Name like sweet per -  
3 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
1 shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
2 fume shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
3 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his Name.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53**

*All stand.*

Priest        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People        *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said to his disciples,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Priest            The Gospel of the Lord.

People            *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **THE SERMON- THE REV. MARK W. MCDONALD+ (BCP p. 358)**

### **THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358)**

*All stand.*

*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.  
He 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.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM I (BCP p. 383)**

*Stand or kneel.*

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

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

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, the Presiding Bishop, Andy, our Bishop, Hector, our Bishop Assistant, Mark, our Rector, for the Anglican Church of Burundi in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, for St. Luke’s in the Meadow of Fort Worth, St. Luke’s of Stephenville, and St. Martin-in-the-Fields of Keller in the Diocese of Texas Cycle of Prayer, for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Joe, our President, Greg our Governor, John our mayor, and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

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

*Lord, have mercy.*

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

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, we especially pray for Phyllis, Todd, Dion, Jim, John, Cory, Todd, Stephanie, John, Ellen, Greg, Jack, Lucia, Jean, Johnny, Katy, Don, David, Lucia, Angela, Pat, Olive, Carissa, Laura, Maria Isabel, C.J., Margaret, Tim, Mary, David, Ann, Valerie, and those known privately to us.

*(Prayers are offered at this time, followed by silence)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives. Let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

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

*Lord, have mercy.*

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

*Lord, have mercy.*

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

*To thee, O Lord our God.*

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)**

*The Celebrant says*

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 (BCP p. 360)**

*All stand.*

Celebrant      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People          *And also with you.*

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Prayers for Birthdays & Anniversaries and those who are Traveling**

*If you are a visitor or guest, please scan the QR code in the announcements section of this bulletin and give us your contact information. Let us connect with you!*

# The Holy Communion

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*You Say*

Lauren Daigle

*Sung by: The Ascension Youth Choir*

*I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough  
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up  
Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low?  
Remind me once again just who I am because I need to know*

Chorus *You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
And You say I am held when I am falling short  
And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours  
And I believe, (I) oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I), I believe*

*The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me  
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity (Chorus)*

*Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet  
You'll have every failure God, You'll have every victory (Chorus)*

### **PRESENTATION HYMN 380 vs 3**

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP pg. 361

*The People remain standing.*

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 our thanks and praise.*

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

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 S 129**  
*Celebrant and People*

*Holy, holy, holy*

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 stand or kneel.*

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.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

*Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.*

*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.*

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

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)**

*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, forever and ever. Amen.*

# The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

**FRACTION ANTHEM S154**

*Christ our Passover*

HURD

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love God and for those who hope to love God more. So, come, you who have faith and you who have doubts. Come if you have been here often, and come if you have not been here long. Come if you have followed, and come if you have stumbled, come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is Christ's will that those who seek him will meet him here at God's table. Come!

## AT THE COMMUNION

- *All baptized Christian welcome to receive communion.*
- *To receive communion, place your right hand inside of your left to receive the bread.*
- *To receive a gluten free wafer please place your palms together.*
- *You may then either drink from the cup or dip the bread into the wine.*
- *If you wish to receive just a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest.*

COMMUNION HYMN

*Go Preach My Gospel*

LEVAS 161

1. "Go— preach my gos - pel," saith the Lord, "Bid—  
 2. "I'll— make my great— com - mis - sion known, And—  
 3. "Go— heal the sick,— go raise the dead, Go—  
 4. "While— thus ye fol - low my com - mands, I'm—  
 5. He— spake and light— shone round His head, On—

1. the whole earth— my grace re - ceive, Ex - plain to them my  
 2. ye shall prove— my gos - pel true By all the works that  
 3. cast out dev - ils in my name. Nor let my proph - ets  
 4. with you till— the world shall end. All pow'r is trust - ed  
 5. a bright cloud— to heav'n He rode. They to the far - thest

1. sa - cred word, Bid— them be - lieve,— o - bey, and live."—  
 2. I have done, And— all the won - ders ye shall do."—  
 3. be a - fraid, Though— man re - proach,— and will blas - pheme."—  
 4. in my hands; I— can de - stroy,— and can de - fend."—  
 5. na - tion spread The— grace of their— as - cend - ed God.—

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)**

*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.*



# BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people.*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN 214

*Hail the day that sees him rise*

LLANFAIR



1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!  
\*3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!



glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!  
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!  
See! he shows the prints of love; Al - le - lu - ia!  
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!  
there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!



en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!  
take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!  
bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!  
find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

## DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## POSTLUDE

*Crown Him With Many Crowns*

arr. by Mark Hayes

# Announcements

*The Altar flowers are given to the glory of the Almighty God in thanksgiving for His many blessings and in celebration of every mother.*

## SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Julie Collins has arranged a special guest speaker, whom she met at the Friends of Westchase Luncheon, to speak at the Ladies Bible Study. On Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Sharon Collins, a Christian artist, author and speaker will join their group at 1:00PM in the library to present a 45 minute speech accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation of her beautiful artwork. You may view her website at <https://faithandartintersect.com/>. Please come, enjoy, and be blessed!

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children's Choir will be singing at the 10:30 service. Be sure to thank them for their contributions.

## SUMMER CHOIR

Summer Choir starts Sunday, May 26th. No Wednesday evening rehearsals, just show up Sunday morning at 9:30 to learn an easy unison or two part anthem!

## NOT TO LATE TO SIGN-UP! - CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!

Support West Houston Assistance ministries at their Annual Spring Dash on May 18th to run and fight hunger and poverty in Houston! Dress up and run or walk our 5K/1K. Everyone is invited and racers will receive a finisher medal, T-shirt, bib and a swag bag filled with goodies! Pets welcome on leashes, Party after the race! Your support helps raise funds to provide critical assistance to individuals and families. Sign-up here.



## EPISCOPAL CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR ADULTS

**Bishop Doyle will be visiting us on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>** and he will preside over the service of Confirmation for all adults who wish to be confirmed as an Episcopalian. For those interested, we will be scheduling two Saturdays of classes. **In order to be confirmed, you must attend these classes.** Please let Fr. Mark know you are interested.

## TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We are studying the Book of Acts every Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Church Library, and for those who are unable to join us in person, there is a zoom link, which can be used for ALL of the Tuesday Night Bible Study Classes. I hope you join us and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. -God's Peace, Fr. Mark+

## **GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY**



Family and Friends, share your good news! On May 19, 2024, Ascension will honor high school, specialty programs, technical school, and college/grad school graduates. This is a very special occasion in your family member's faith journey, so mark your calendars and plan to attend the 10:30am service. We need to hear from you by May 13th with the student's name and a short bio including future plans to be printed in the bulletin. Please email the church office with the names of any family members or friends of Ascension who are Spring 2024/Dec 2023 graduates.

## **MAY 19TH IS PENTECOST SUNDAY!!**

### **WEAR RED!**

We will celebrate the gifts of the spirit on Pentecost Sunday on May 19th. Pentecost is the celebration of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the whole church, the breaking down of walls between us and the sustaining grace calling into union with each other all around the world!!! We ask that you wear red to celebrate this day.

### **BAPTISMS**

Our next baptism will be held on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, during the 10:30 service. If you, your child, or someone you know is ready for Baptism or would like to learn more, please contact Fr. Mark at [mark@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org](mailto:mark@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org). The baptism application can be found on the website or you can have it sent to you; then fill it out and return it by mail, email, or dropping it in the plate. Ascension will be honored to welcome you to a life of grace through Christ our Lord.

### **PENTECOST CELEBRATION**

We will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday with a fabulous POTLUCK lunch!! Break out your secret recipes and bring a delicious treat to share. Bring savory dishes, casseroles, salads, and desserts. What ever your heart desires! Mark your calendars and be sure to join us in celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit!

### **WHITSUNDAY**

Pentecost is also Whitsunday. In accordance with Canon 14.2 of the Diocese each parish is asked to make an offering for the Episcopal Endowment Fund on that date. If you would like to contribute, please use the labeled white envelopes designated for this fund. Checks written directly to the Diocese will be forwarded; checks written to Ascension with "Endowment Fund" in the memo line will be recorded and one large check sent from Ascension.

	<b>May 12th</b>	<b>May 19th</b>	<b>May 26th</b>
	<i>Ascension Sunday</i>	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	<i>Trinity Sunday</i>
<b>Vestry of the Week</b>	Tom Sutton and Volunteer	Funmi Falayi and Tex Wariboko	Carol Goulet and Mike Black
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Smith	Dipuma	Cole
<b>Lessons</b>	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19	Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:25-35, 37, Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15	Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29 or Canticle 13 (or Canticle 2), Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17
<b>Ushers</b>	Gemma Williams	Edwin and Jolie Murvee	Todd and Cindy Breton
<b>8 am Lect./Intercessor</b>	Glenn Criswell	Ken Kingdon	Carroll Prasad
<b>1030am Lect./Intercessor</b>	John Searle	Pam Schwabrow	Todd Breton
<b>Stream Team</b>	Cooper McDonald	Enoch Falayi	Cooper McDonald
<b>Post Service Coffee</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>Pentecost Potluck Luncheon</b>	Mike and Sharon Black and Isaac Griesbaum



### Welcome Visitors

Please take a moment to let us know who you are!! Scan the QR code to the left and fill out the form. This will allow us to connect with you and get to know you and your family.

### Giving

A quick an easy way to give to the church!! If you would like to give your pledge, make a donation, contribute to specialty music or flower campaigns, or any other reason, simply scan the QR code to the right, make your contribution, and leave a message as to what it is for.



***Thank you for worshipping with us.***

***Have a fantastic week!***