



NINETEENTH
SUNDAY AFTER

Pentecost

Episcopal Church *of the* Ascension

October 4, 2026 | 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us today! The mission of the Church of the Ascension is to restore all people to unity with God and each other, and we joyfully welcome all people into our life and fellowship. We strive to be a radically-inclusive community with diverse and vibrant worship, intentionally-focused on children and youth, caring for each other, and on being the hands and feet of Christ in all that we do.

To help us welcome you, please take a moment to complete a connect card, located in your pew, then place it in the collection plate. Virtual cards are also available on the website.

	Ushers can guide you to the most convenient restroom. A unisex restroom is available in the Narthex (foyer).
	Ask an usher about accessing the hearing loop or put your hearing device on telecoil.
	Our professionally staffed nursery is open. An usher can help direct you.
	Help us get to know you. Visit the welcome desk for a nametag.
	Help us remain a place where everyone feels seen, valued, and uplifted. We encourage you to greet and welcome those in front of you, behind you, and in your pew.

The Holy Eucharist

Opening Voluntary

10:30 only

Cromborne en Taille

François Couperin

Welcome

Please stand, as you are able, as the procession enters the nave.

Processional Hymn *Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth*

10:30 only

The Hymnal 598

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

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.

The Song of Praise

Spoken at 8:00; sung at 10:30

Gloria in excelsis

The Hymnal S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly

King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

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

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Please be seated.

First Lesson

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice

vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

80:7-14

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
 you cast out the nations and planted it.
You prepared the ground for it; *
 it took root and filled the land.
The mountains were covered by its shadow *
 and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
 and its branches to the River.
Why have you broken down its wall, *
 so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
 and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *
 preserve what your right hand has planted.

Second Lesson

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Sequence Hymn

King of glory, King of peace

The Hymnal 382

10:30 only

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Tankersley

Please stand, as you are able.

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. 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

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (*Prayers may be offered silently or aloud.*)

Most merciful God, hear our prayers this day, most especially for those who are poor and neglected whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please kneel, as you are able.

Confession

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All 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.**

Presider 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Offertory

You may scan this code to make a one-time offering:



Celebrant Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Please be seated.

Anthem

Christ hath a garden

Gerald Near

10:30 only

Christ hath a garden walled around, a Paradise of fruitful ground,
Chosen by love and fenced by grace from out the world's wide wilderness.

Like trees of spice his servants stand, there planted by his mighty hand;
By Eden's gracious streams, that flow to feed their beauty where they grow.

Awake, O wind of heav'n and bear their sweetest perfume through the air:
Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom, till the beloved Master come:

That he may come, and linger yet among the trees that he hath set;
That he may evermore be seen to walk amid the springing green.

Please stand, as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Prayer C

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

The Hymnal S124

Spoken at 8:00; sung at 10:30

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.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The presider continues the prayer and then says

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

All **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

After the Bread is broken, silence is kept.

Spoken at 8:00

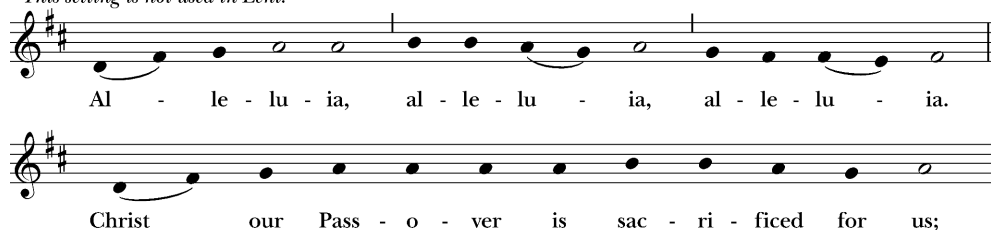
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Sung at 10:30

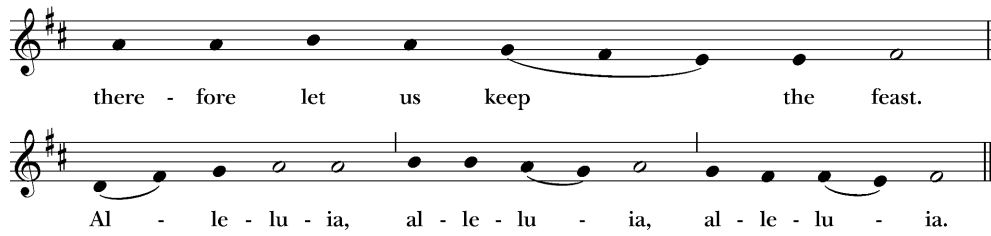
The Hymnal S 154

This setting is not used in Lent.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Communion of the People

Please follow the instructions of the ushers. All who are baptized by water and in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, regardless of denomination, are invited to receive Communion. Those who are not baptized, or who choose not to receive for any reason, are invited forward to the altar rail to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. To indicate your desire to receive a gluten-free host, hold out your hands together, palms down. There is something for everyone at God's table today.

Communion Hymn

My song is love unknown

The Hymnal 458

10:30 only

Please stand or kneel, as you are able.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God,

All **we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Please stand.

On Sundays when we send visitors to the homebound or ill, the service continues:

Sending Forth of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I 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 one bread, one cup.**

Blessing

Let the same mind and the same love be in you that was in Christ Jesus: active in compassion, grounded with humility, and radiant with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

The Hymnal 458

10:30 only

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Voluntary

Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters

10:30 only

Our Prayer List

Our Members Dan & Joan; Richard; Patrick; Becca; Helen; Craig & Kay; Lisa; Mike; Joe & Betty; Jim & Gayle; Phil; Brad & Janie; Pat; Daniel; Alice.

Our Friends & Family Jody; Cooper; Betty; The Felicito family; Terry; Tracey; Rebecca; Steve; Katara; Mary; Blake; Michael; Evyonne; Brandon & Becky; Aaron & Kelli; Monique; Mac; Kirk; Ron; Susan; Marcy; Cheryl; Michelle; Carrie; Kenn; Karen; Lani; Gary; Greg; Colleen; Krystal & Newman; Eric; Judy & Alfred; Nancy; Spence; Linda & Emma; Sadie; Zylinda; Jacqueline; George; George & Sue; Titus; Richard; Alexis; Taylon; Gould Family; Jamie; Trish; Paulette; Eva; Mason; Lupita & family; Charles & John, Dan & Joan.

For the homeless and those in need; for migrants and refugees at our border and around the world, especially Juan, Pedro, Ayoub, Ayoub, Nakisa, Afsaneh, Evaristo, Mo, Barbod, Milad, Sahel, Farshid, Amir, Blas Bautista, and their families; for the people of Ukraine, Israel, Iran, and Gaza and those who seek help from war; and for those who face threats of violence. For all those affected by extreme heat and wildfires around the globe — the victims, their loved ones, and the communities enduring hardship — as well as the dedicated individuals and organizations involved in ongoing relief efforts. Awaken us to our common humanity.

For The Faithful Departed Morrigan von der Goltz, daughter of Dan Cotton and stepdaughter of Joan Romanosky; and Carolyn Stanfield, mother of Richard Martin.

October Birthdays

Emma Katherine Husman	10/1
Robin Amenda Tinney	10/3
Karen A. Moore	10/5
Graham Wesley Fenner	10/7
Douglas Bruce Calhoun	10/8
Dabney Dwyer	10/9
Knox Leitch	10/12
Teddy Leitch	10/12
Julie Ann Baker	10/12
Judith M. Marshall	10/13
Nancy Goble	10/18
Aiden Shepard Dunfee	10/19
Folashade Monioluwa Badejo	10/19
Thomas Breda	10/20
Paul Petchey	10/20
Laurel Johnson	10/25
Jack Rector	10/25
Ciara HaYeong Dunfee	10/26
Jane R. Burruss	10/28
Jane Taber	10/28
Martha Wach	10/28
Bill Chattaway	10/28
Nancy Ruth Callaway	10/29
Akanimoh Bassey Ekpenyong	10/29

BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and the Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Upcoming Events & Notices

BLESSING OF THE PETS

TODAY | 4:00 p.m.

Bring your furry, feathered, and scaled friends to Ascension today at 4:00 p.m. for our annual Blessing of the Pets, a tradition tied to the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. All well-behaved pets and their people are welcome.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 25 | 4:00 P.M.

Trunk or Treat is coming to Ascension! Join us Sunday, October 25 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. for an afternoon of bounce houses, food, games, and candy, plus a whole parking lot full of decorated trunks waiting to trick-or-treat! Costumes encouraged. Bring the kids, bring your friends, and come on out for one of our favorite fall traditions. All ages are welcome!

TRUNK OR TREAT CANDY COLLECTION



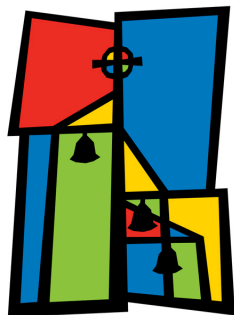
We're collecting candy for those decorating their car trunks for this special day! Look for the donation bin in the Narthex. Bring bags of candy yourself, or have Amazon ship them straight to us. (Scan the QR code.) Every bag helps make the night special for our kids and neighbors. Thank you for filling the trunks, we hope to see you there in costume!

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE WEDDING OF OLA BADEJO AND ALICE GAO

We are delighted to share that Ola Badejo and his fiancée, Alice Gao, will be married at Ascension on Saturday, October 17, at 1:30 p.m.

His parents, Shade and Kayode Badejo, warmly invite the entire Ascension community to celebrate with them by attending both the wedding service and the reception in the Parish Hall immediately afterward. Guests will enjoy a wonderful selection of traditional African cuisine, and the afternoon promises to be a joyful time of fellowship and celebration.

We are also honored that Bishop Kai Ryan will join Mtr. Rebecca in officiating the wedding service.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
ASCENSION

The Rev. Rebecca Tankersley
Rector

rebecca.tankersley@ascensiondallas.org

Glenn Stroh
Organist and Choirmaster
glenn.stroh@ascensiondallas.org

Alice Frederick
Director of Christian Formation
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The Vestry
Audry Lee, Senior Warden
1222aalee@gmail.com

Kathleen Rylander, Junior Warden
Jane Taber, Clerk of the Vestry
Aaron Husman, Treasurer
Ginger Greenberg
Diane Haack
Michelle Heron
Bob Iden
Herb Kadane
Anne Burgdorf Moisuk
Elizabeth Vaughan

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