



FIFTEENTH
SUNDAY AFTER
Pentecost

Episcopal Church *of the* Ascension
September 6, 2026 | 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

The mission of Episcopal 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 are a radically-inclusive community with diverse and vibrant worship, intentionally focused on children and youth, caring for each other, and being the hands and feet of Christ in all that we do. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

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. You can also complete a virtual card on our website.

We offer Children's Chapel at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3 and up, with an age-appropriate liturgy. To join, children follow the smaller processional cross during the opening hymn; they return to sit with their families at the Peace. Weekly activities are available in the Narthex for children of all ages. Our ushers will be glad to help you locate these. Please return them at the end of the service.

To help you prepare for worship, we recommend that you:

- Take a moment to sit quietly and breathe deeply to allow yourself to become fully present to the space.
- Silence cell phones and other devices.
- Review this bulletin so you'll know what's in store. We invite you to join in as much or as little as feels comfortable for you.
- Prepare for Holy Eucharist (communion), which we share each week. All baptized Christians are invited to receive by coming to the altar rail as directed. Place your hands together, palms up to receive the host (for gluten free, place your hands together palms down). You can then consume the bread and take a sip from the chalice, or you may hold the host in your hand to allow a eucharistic minister to intinct (dip) it into the wine (after which, they will place it back in your hand). If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing, which you will indicate you desire by crossing your arms over your chest. There is something for everyone at God's table today!
- Connect, if needed, to our hearing loop. This is accessible through the telecoil function in your device. For more information or need assistance connecting, please ask an usher.
- Take a tour, which we offer on the first Sunday of each month after the 10:30 a.m. service.

Hymns and other service music contained in this bulletin are only used at our 10:30 a.m. service.

The Holy Eucharist

Opening Voluntary

10:30 only

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

J.S. Bach

Welcome

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

Processional Hymn

10:30 only

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

The Hymnal 376

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

Gloria in excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Sung at 10:30

Earth and all stars

Verses 1 & 4

The Hymnal 412

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Lesson

Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

119:33-40

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law;
I shall keep it with all my heart.

Make me go in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

**Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.
Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless;
give me life in your ways.
Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which you make to those who fear you.
Turn away the reproach which I dread,
because your judgments are good.
Behold, I long for your commandments;
in your righteousness preserve my life.**

Second Lesson

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Sequence Hymn

Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve

The Hymnal 546

10:30 only

Gospel

Matthew 8:15-20

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

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

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

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

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

Leader: 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.

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

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

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

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

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

Celebrant: Lord, our God, hear the prayers of your people and grant us new hearts to presume the goodness of all our brothers and sisters and the spirit sensitive to the burdens each one bears, that by loving our neighbors as ourselves we may bear witness to your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please kneel, as you are able.

Confession

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

Most merciful God,

All **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 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.
As far as the east is from the west, so far has the Lord removed our sins from us.

Please be seated.

Anthem

10:30 only

I Am No Longer My Own

Mary McDonald

I am no longer my own but yours!
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for you, laid aside for you,
be exalted for you, or brought low for you.
let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing:
I freely yield all things.
And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
You are mine and I am yours. So be it! Amen.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.*

Fraction Anthem

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

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 *Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love*
10:30 only

The Hymnal 602

Please stand or kneel, as you are able.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God,
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

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. So be eager to love, quick to forgive, and ready to show compassion and mercy; 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 *Go forth for God*
10:30 only

The Hymnal 347

Dismissal

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

Closing Voluntary *Allegro maestoso, from Sonata II*
10:30 only

Felix Mendelssohn

Our Prayer List

Our Members Patrick; Becca; Helen; Craig & Kay; Lisa; Mike; Joe & Betty; Jim & Gayle; Brad & Janie; Daniel; and Alice.

Our Friends & Family Betty; The Felicito family; Terry; Morrigan; 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; Zylynda; Jacqueline; George; George & Sue; Titus (husband of Theresa); Richard; Alexis; Taylon; Gould Family; Jamie; Trish; Paulette; Eva; Mason; Lupita & family; Charles & John.

For the homeless and those in need; for migrants and refugees at our border and around the world, especially Juan, Jose, 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.

September Birthdays

Matthew Cerny	9/1
Todd William Rutenbar	9/2
John Patrick Johnson	9/3
Brad Wagoner	9/6
Steven Lee	9/9
Ernest Wyatt McAfee	9/9
Elise Rachel Marshall	9/9
Michael Edward Wendling	9/9
Kayla Ponder	9/11
Linda Lee Starr	9/18
Robert M Iden	9/22
Shari Lynn Owen	9/22

Upcoming Events & Notices

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Saturday, September 12 | 1:00 p.m.

Interested in becoming an acolyte? This is your chance to be trained and join us in leading worship. Open to students in 3rd–12th grades. All acolytes and those who want to be acolytes are asked to attend, including current acolytes needing a refresher, as Mtr. Rebecca has requested some changes to how we work together. We'll wrap up by 2:30 p.m. at the latest.

FORMATION FOR ALL AGES

Begins on September 13 | 9:15 a.m. | Men's class begins on September 20 | 9:15 a.m.

On September 13th at 9:15, we launch a new season of formation for all ages and stages. Adults begin with a two-week class on the Nicene Creed with Mtr. Rebecca, followed by a seven-week study of Women in the Old Testament. The men of Ascension will dig into Adam Hamilton's *The Walk* starting September 20, exploring five essential practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God. Kids can join Godly Play (Pre-K–2nd grade) or Journeying Through the Gospels (3rd–6th grade), and our youth (6th–12th grade) gather for Bible study, service, and community. All are welcome. Nursery is available for children 4 and under. Visit our website for more specifics on our offerings.

REMINDER | JOHN JOHNSON'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 13th | Potluck after 10:30 a.m. Service

For years, John Johnson has kept Ascension running behind the scenes. Now it's our turn to thank him. Join us after the 10:30 service on September 13 for a potluck celebrating John's retirement as our Sexton. Radical Hospitality has drinks covered — just bring a main, side, dessert, or bread, and come thank John and his wife, Nancy.

MTR. REBECCA'S INSTITUTION AS ASCENSION'S EIGHTH RECTOR

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 A.M.

Mark your calendars! On September 19, The Right Reverend Robert P. Price will institute Mtr. Rebecca as Ascension's Eighth Rector at a special 10:00 a.m. service, here at [8787 Greenville Avenue](#). Join us as we celebrate this historic tradition and welcome Mtr. Rebecca into this new chapter of ministry. A reception will follow.



**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**
alice.frederick@ascensiondallas.org

**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

8787 Greenville Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75243
Phone: 214-340-4196
Website: www.ascensiondallas.org
Facebook: [ascensiondallas](https://www.facebook.com/ascensiondallas)