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TWELFTH SUNDAY  
AFTER  
*Pentecost*

Episcopal Church *of the* Ascension  
August 16, 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.***

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Voluntary on the 100th Psalm Tune*  
*10:30 only*

Henry Purcell

## THE WORD OF GOD

*Please stand, as you are able.*

HYMN 380: Blue Hymnal *From all that dwell below the skies*  
*10:30 only*

*Old 100th*

From all that dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise!  
Let the Redeemer's Name be sung through every land, by every tongue!

Eternal are thy mercies, Lord, and truth eternal is thy word:  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

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.

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

### THE 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.**

HYMN S 280: Blue Hymnal  
*Spoken at 8:00; sung at 10:30*

*Gloria in excelsis*

Robert Powell

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.

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

#### FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### PSALM 67

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
**show us the light of his countenance and come to us.**
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, \*  
**your saving health among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
**let all the peoples praise you.**

- 4     **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \***  
          **for you judge the peoples with equity**  
          **and guide all the nations upon earth.**
- 5     **Let the peoples praise you, O God; \***  
          **let all the peoples praise you.**
- 6     **The earth has brought forth her increase; \***  
          **may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**
- 7     **May God give us his blessing, \***  
          **and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.**

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

HYMN 533: Blue Hymnal     *How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!*

*Lyons*

*10:30 service only*

How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!  
     How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!  
     O who shall not fear thee, and honor thy Name?  
     Thou only art holy, thou only supreme.

To nations of earth thy light shall be shown;  
     Their worship and vows shall come to thy throne:  
     Thy truth and thy judgements shall spread all abroad,  
     Till earth's every people confess thee their God.

*Please remain standing, as you are able.*

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Eric J. Liles

*Please be seated.*

*After a brief period of quiet reflection, the Celebrant will stand. Please stand as well, as you are able.*

## THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, **the Father, the Almighty,**  
**maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,**  
**eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,**  
**true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**  
**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**  
**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**  
**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**  
**he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
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.**

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Leader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Leader* For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

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

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

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

*Leader* For Rob, our Bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Leader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. (*Prayers may be offered  
silently or aloud.*) Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

*Leader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. (*Prayers may be offered silently or  
aloud.*) We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Leader* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  
(*Names may be offered silently or aloud.*) Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

*Celebrant* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

*Please kneel, as you are able.*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*A brief period of silence precedes the confession to allow time for self examination.*

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Celebrant* 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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE OFFERTORY

*The Offertory is a time for us to offer ourselves, our souls and our bodies, as well as gifts of money, bread, wine, music, and meditation to the Lord. Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the clergy. The people stand while the offerings are presented.*

*Celebrant* Let the peoples praise you, O God. The earth has brought forth her increase. May all the ends of the earth stand in awe of our God.

*Please be seated.*

HYMN 408: Blue Hymnal *Sing praise to God who reigns above*

*Mit Freuden zart*

*10:30 service only*

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul he fills, and every faithless murmur stills:  
To God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made, his gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning glow or evening shade his watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.  
Within the kingdom of his might, lo! all is just and all is right:  
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy Name give God all praise and glory;  
Let all who know his power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from its throne, the Lord is God, and he alone:  
To God all praise and glory.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

*Celebrant* 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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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:

HYMN S128: Blue Hymnal

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Sanctus)*

William Mathias

*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.***

*Please stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues.*

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:

**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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

*A period of silence is observed after the Celebrant breaks the bread, after which:*

8:00

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

10:30

HYMN S155: Blue Hymnal *Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover*

Gerald R. Near

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

## MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. First, you will receive the host. (Gluten free is available upon request.) You can consume this then sip from the chalice, or you may leave the host in your hand, and our eucharistic minister will intinct (dip) the host and place it back in your hand. Our tradition teaches that to receive either element (bread or wine) is to receive in full. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion for any reason, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. There is something for everyone at God's table today.*

HYMN 470: Blue Hymnal     *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

*Beecher*

*10:30 only*

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;  
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.  
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word;  
And our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

*Please stand or kneel, as you are able.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**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.**

*On Sundays when we send visitors to the homebound or ill*

## SENDING OUT OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

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.  
**We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

## BLESSING

Maintain justice, and do what is right. Hold fast to the way of the Lord, By your love and mercy, may your life show God's saving health to all you meet; 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.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

HYMN 539: Blue Hymnal      *O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling*  
*10:30 only*

*Tidings*

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,  
To tell to all the world that God is Light;  
That he who made all nations is not willing  
One soul shall fail to know his love and might.

*Refrain* Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,  
Tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation  
That God, in whom they live and move, is Love;  
Tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,  
And died on earth that all might live above. *Refrain*

Send heralds forth to bear the message glorious;  
Give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;  
Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious  
Till God shall bring his kingdom's joyful day. *Refrain*

He comes again! O Zion, ere thou meet him,  
Make known to every heart his saving grace;  
Let none whom he hath ransomed fail to greet him,  
Through thy neglect, unfit to see his face. *Refrain*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY  
*10:30 only*

*March in C Major*

Henry Purcell

## *Our Prayer List*

***Our Members*** Helen; Craig & Kay; Lisa; Marsha; Mike; Joe & Betty; Jim & Gayle; Phil; Brad & Janie; Pat; Daniel; 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; Jack & Karen; Lani; Gary; Greg; Colleen; Krystal & Newman; Eric; Judy & Alfred; Nancy; Spence; Linda & Emma; Sadie; Zylinda; Jacqueline; George; George & Sue; Titus & 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.

## *Upcoming Events & Notices*

**Today's Preacher** The Rev. Dr. Eric J. Liles is a lifelong follower of Jesus in the Episcopal Church. He works as a trauma- and addiction-informed licensed professional clinician and clinical director at a group practice in Dallas. On Sundays, he's at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church or assisting area churches like ours. He's an enneagram type 8 with a 9 wing (aka the momma bear!) and a Myers Briggs INFJ. Fr. Eric plays a little guitar, enjoys traveling, cycling, hiking, and reading. He is married to the Rev. Allison Sandlin Liles. They have two teenaged children and two rescue dogs. Please take a moment after the service to welcome Fr. Eric!

### **SAVE THE DATE: MTR. REBECCA'S INSTITUTION**

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, September 19, we will gather to celebrate a joyful milestone in the life of our parish. The Right Reverend Robert P. Price, Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas, will institute Mtr. Rebecca, as Eighth Rector of Ascension, at 10:00 a.m. An institution is a beautiful and historic service of our tradition, a public celebration of the covenant between a rector and her people. Join us to pray, celebrate, and welcome Mtr. Rebecca into this new chapter of ministry. A reception will follow the service.

### **YOUTH GROUP AUGUST GATHERING**

Sunday, August 23 | 6:00 p.m. | Bring your favorite snack to share

Real talk. Genuine faith. Real impact. Through Project Bible we dig into how God's Word connects to our world, then we go live it out. We create Blessing Bags for the homeless, build furniture, help plan and assist with holiday events, and more. We roll up our sleeves and have a blast doing it. This isn't just a youth group. It's a community where you'll make friends, grow, serve, and be seen.

### **AUGUST IS WATER COLLECTION FOR SANDBRANCH**

Over the past two and a half years, Ascension has delivered nearly 3,000 cases of water to Sandbranch, an unincorporated community southeast of Dallas without access to clean water. We're collecting bottled and gallon water for our September delivery. Drop off donations in the Narthex. You can also give directly through our Water Ministry fund via this QR Code. Select **GIVE TO ASCENSION CHURCH**, choose "Water Ministry" from the fund menu.





**EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
OF THE  
ASCENSION**

**The Rev. Rebecca Tankersley**  
**Rector**  
[rebecca.tankersleyr@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:rebecca.tankersleyr@ascensiondallas.org)

**Glenn Stroh**  
**Organist and Choirmaster**  
[glenn.stroh@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:glenn.stroh@ascensiondallas.org)

**Alice Frederick, Director of Christian Formation**  
[alice.frederick@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:alice.frederick@ascensiondallas.org)

**The Vestry**  
**Audry Lee, Senior Warden**  
[1222aalee@gmail.com](mailto:1222aalee@gmail.com)

**Kathleen Rylander, Junior Warden**

**Jane Taber, Clerk of the Vestry**

**Aaron Husman, Treasurer**

**Anne Burgdorf Moisuk**

**Ginger Greenberg**

**Diane Haack**

**Michelle Heron**

**Bob Iden**

**Herb Kadane**

**Elizabeth Vaughan**

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