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ELEVENTH  
SUNDAY AFTER  
*Pentecost*

Episcopal Church *of the Ascension*  
August 4, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

## Welcome to Church of the Ascension!

Whether you're a guest or a long-time member, you'll find a warm community emanating love for the uniqueness God has sown within each one of us. We hope the notes below will help guide and connect you to this community.

Connect cards are in the pews, at the Welcome Center, and can be accessed through our website. Most weeks, we send two emails which include announcements, events, and information about worship. If you are a guest, please complete the Connect card, drop it in the collection plate on your way out, leave it with a greeter at the Welcome Center, or press "Send" if you fill it out online. We'd appreciate the opportunity to follow up with you. Members can use these cards to update information, as well.

A few notes to help you prepare for worship:

- Sit and breathe. The world around us is often in a hurry, so take a moment as you arrive to be present to the space and others who are here to worship God. It may also help to silence cell phones or other devices that can be distracting.
- Prepare to pray. This bulletin is your guide: review it. We hope you will join us in prayer and song, but simply being present to the worship is always an option.
- Children are an important part of our community, and they are always welcome in worship. We offer Children's Chapel at the 10:30 a.m. service as a space just for young people (ages 3-9) to engage in worship at their own pace. To join in, simply follow the Children's Chapel processional cross during the singing of the opening hymn. We will return to the Nave at the Passing of the Peace!
- Weekly materials for creative worship are available for children of all ages in the Narthex; ask an usher or greeter if you need help. It's our hope that you will return the materials to the Welcome Desk when you leave so that children can enjoy them week-to-week.
- The sacraments are important to us. In the Episcopal Church, Christ is present in the consecrated bread and wine. 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 lay eucharistic minister will intinct (dip) the host and 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 (please cross your arms over your chest), or remain in your pew.
- As the service ends, some may remain where they are to pray; others will move to the Narthex - the open area just outside our sanctuary - to greet one another and visit. A tour of the church facilities is offered the first Sunday of each month after the 10:30 a.m. worship, as well.
- For those with hearing aids or Cochlear Implants, our Nave has a hearing loop. You can access the loop by activating the telecoil function in your device, if you would like more information or need assistance connecting, please let us know.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE WORD OF GOD

*Please stand to sing the hymn*

HYMN 390: Blue Hymnal

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

*Lobe den Herren*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
Join the great throng, psaltery, organ, and song, sounding in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord; over all things he gloriously reigneth:  
Borne as on eagle-wings, safely his saints he sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen how all thou needest hath been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy way and defend thee;  
Surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee;  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for ever adore him.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

**Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 S280: Blue Hymnal

*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.

**Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus

says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.” David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please read together in unison*

PSALM 51:1-13

- 1     **Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
          in your great compassion blot out my offenses.**
- 2     **Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
          and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3     **For I know my transgressions, \*  
          and my sin is ever before me.**
- 4     **Against you only have I sinned \*  
          and done what is evil in your sight.**
- 5     **And so you are justified when you speak \*  
          and upright in your judgment.**
- 6     **Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
          a sinner from my mother's womb.**
- 7     **For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
          and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**
- 8     **Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
          wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**
- 9     **Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
          that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.**
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:1-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if able.*

HYMN 812: Green Hymnal

I, the Lord of sea and sky

Daniel L. Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,  
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Refrain* Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

*Please stand if able*

THE GOSPEL

John 6:24-35

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The next day, when the people who remained after the feeding of the five thousand saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the

bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

*Please be seated*

The Rev. Paul Klitzke

*Please stand*

THE NICENE CREED

The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 358

**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.**



*Please remain standing*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. For those we name (*silently or aloud*)..... Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

**All**        **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Please stand*

### THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord*

### BIRTHDAY PRAYER

**Watch over thy 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 thy 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 his 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.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE OFFERTORY

*The Offertory is a time for us to offer ourselves, souls and bodies, and 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.*

SOLO

*There is a balm in Gilead*  
Aden Black, soloist

arr. Mark Hayes

*Please stand if able*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer 1 (Enriching our Worship)

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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

HYMN S129: Blue Hymnal

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Sanctus)*

Robert Powell

***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.***

*The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 364

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.**

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 lay eucharistic minister will intinct (dip) the host and place it back in your hand. Our tradition teaches that receiving either (bread or wine) is to receive in full.*

*Please stand if able*

HYMN 811: Green Hymnal

*You shall cross the barren desert*

Bob Dufford

You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.  
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.  
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.  
You shall see the face of God and live.

*Refrain* Be not afraid. I go before you always.  
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown,  
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.

If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,  
Know that I am with you through it all. *Refrain*

Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs.  
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.  
And if wicked men insult and hate you all because of me,  
Blessed, blessed are you! *Refrain*

*Please kneel if able*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

*Please stand if able*

HYMN 397: Blue Hymnal

*Now thank we all our God*

*Nun danket alle Gott*

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
Eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

## *August Birthdays*

John Goble	8/1	Randy Nelson	8/19
Bela Sanchez	8/2	Sam Hooper	8/20
Eduardo Sanchez	8/2	Ijeoma Nebolisa	8/21
LaDonna Cade	8/2	Ben Taber	8/21
Libby Chattaway	8/3	Sidney Onyekew	8/22
Lisa Breda	8/3	Evelyn Pope	8/23
Janice Truitt	8/4	Doug Podd	8/23
Karen Pruett	8/9	Shelby Breda	8/23
Brent Bolding	8/10	Carey Felius	8/24
Joan Rutherford	8/10	Bill Dunham	8/25
Charlotte McLaughlin	8/12	Stacy Landis	8/26
Ginny Marsh	8/13	Kay Wheeler	8/27
Scott Raine	8/14	Ansu John	8/28
Brent Truitt	8/14	Bassey Udoh	8/28
Carey Camp	8/15	Connie Kearns	8/30
Jon Dunfee	8/15		



## *Our Prayer List*

Alison; Colleen; Manali, Leo, Milan; Wes; Steve, Bobbie; Diane; Sara; Barbara; Phil and Sandy; Roger; George; Glen and Dusty; Jane and Don; George and Nancy; Joe; Jerry; Ginny; The Heffner family; Terry and Jan; Trish; Rosemary and John; Gloria; the Coney family; the Bryant family; Titus & Theresa; Lani; Sterling and Kay; Alice; Mark and Jill; Elliott and Suzanne; Judy; Suzan; Kenn; Adrian; Maureen; Janie; Steve; Jeff and Deborah; David; Marla; Quinta; Eva Maria; Lynda; Nancy; Rosabella; Taylon; Fred; Kelli; Linda; Janice; Greg; Janet and Bruce; Jennifer; Jack & Karen; Lupita Pryor and family; Jimmy; Clifton; Hoover; Mary.

For the homeless and those in need; for migrants and refugees at our border and around the world; for the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza and those who seek help from war; for those affected by natural disasters, and those who face threats of violence, particularly those at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Awaken us to our common humanity, our common human needs no matter the walls we build.

Diocese of Dallas Cycle of Prayer: Retired Bishops: The Rt. Rev. James M. Stanton, The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert



## *Upcoming Events & Notices*

### **ADULT PODCAST GROUP**

**Saturday, August 10th | 10:00 a.m. | Civil Pour | 8061 Walnut Hill Lane**

Join us for our next podcast group meeting on Saturday, August 10th, from 10-11 a.m., at Civil Pour for our first summer Podcast Group gathering. Over a cup of coffee, we'll explore an episode from *The Bible for Normal People*. For more information, August's podcasts are linked on our Adult Formation page. Please plan to listen to the assigned podcast or read the script before we meet. Come when you're available, and bring a friend!

### **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

**Sunday, August 11th | During 10:30 a.m. Service**

All pre-school to graduate level students are invited to bring their backpacks to worship and have them blessed before school begins! The blessing recalls God's wisdom and reminds us of God's presence daily as we prepare for a new school year. Please join us on Sunday, August 11th!

### **2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN KICKOFF**

***Abide in Love, Live with Purpose* | Sunday, August 11th**

For Ascension's 2025 Stewardship campaign theme, we've chosen *Abide in Love, Live with Purpose*. We will use this concept to guide our steps by prioritizing what matters most and to make our lives a love letter to God. We plan to involve various members in writing reflections on the weekly scriptures and discussing why they do what they do through Ascension. We encourage you to abide in love and experience meaningful ways to practice life stewardship. If you feel called to a more significant role in this adventure, please email Janey Burruss at [JaneyBurruss@gmail.com](mailto:JaneyBurruss@gmail.com).



**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**OF THE**  
**ASCENSION**

**The Rev. Paul Klitzke, Rector**

[paul.klitzke@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:paul.klitzke@ascensiondallas.org)

**Mark Unkenholz, Organist and Choirmaster**

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**Eva Barraza, Director of Christian Formation**

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