



TWELFTH
SUNDAY AFTER
Pentecost

Episcopal Church *of the* Ascension

August 31, 2025 | 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

Prelude on 'Nettleton'

Craig Phillips

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand to sing the hymn

HYMN 376: Blue Hymnal

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Hymn to Joy

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother: all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

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.**

HYMN S 280: 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.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please read together in unison

PSALM 81:1, 10-16

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.**
- 10 I am the Lord your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."**
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.**
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *
to follow their own devices.**
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!**
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.**
- 15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.**
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that

confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand if able

HYMN 686: Blue Hymnal *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

Nettleton

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above,
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither, by thy help, I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Please remain standing if able

THE GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not

invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Oliver M. Butler

Please be seated

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;

All For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world;

All For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

All For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

All For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

All For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader For Sean our Presiding Bishop; for George and Wayne our Bishops; for Oliver our Interim Rector; for Rob our Bishop Coadjutor-Elect; and for all bishops and other ministers;

All 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;

All For your mercy is great.

Leader We lift up to you the Search Committee as it seeks to raise up the next Rector of Church of the Ascension.

All Guide and bless the work you have given them to do.

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;

All 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;

All 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 The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 360

Celebrant 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.**

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.

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord

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.

HYMN 408: Blue Hymnal

Sing praise to God

Mit Freuden zart

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 if able

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 361

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 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

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

***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

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:

All 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

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.

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 kneel if 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.

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

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Please stand if able

HYMN 477: Blue Hymnal

All praise to thee

Engelberg

All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine, didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
That in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine. Alleluia!

Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought; by thee the outcast and the poor were sought;
And by thy death was God's salvation wrought. Alleluia!

Let this mind be in us which was in thee, who wast a servant that we might be free,
Humbling thyself to death on Calvary. Alleluia!

Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou art high exalted o'er all creatures now,
And given the Name to which all knees shall bow. Alleluia

Let every tongue confess with one accord in heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord;
And God the Father be by all adored. Alleluia!

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune in D Major

David N. Johnson

Our Prayer List

Jose; Marvin; Susan; Suzanne; Paul; Debbie; the Gould family; Nancy; Lani; Jackie; Sadie; Gregg; The Byers family; Judy & ABW; Maddy; Craig; Kevin; Jude; Linda; Gary; Mike & Ginner; Alice; Stephanie; Michael; Jason; Kerry & Damien; Joe & Betty; Zylynda; Yolanda; Kevin; Julian; Earl; Alexis; Mary Ann; Sally; Frances; Helen; Jacqueline; Blake & Anne; Jamie; Robert; Jude; Amy; Richard; Paul; Paulette; Joell; Jerry; Spence; Eric; Colleen; Manali, Leo, Milan; Wes; Phil & Sandy; Roger; Glen & Dusty; George & Nancy; Jan; Trish; Titus & Theresa; Judy & Alfred; Suzan; Kenn; Adrian; Deborah; David; Eva Maria; Taylon; Linda; Greg; Jack & Karen; Lupita & Krys; George & Sue; Mary.

Continued prayers of discernment for the Ascension search committee members as they diligently seek a new rector for our parish.

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; and for those who face threats of violence, particularly those at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). For all those affected by the Texas floods — the victims, their loved ones, and the communities enduring hardship — as well as the dedicated individuals and organizations involved in the ongoing relief efforts. Awaken us to our common humanity, our common human needs no matter the walls we build.

Diocese of Dallas Cycle of Prayer: Nonparochial Clergy of the Diocese; Licensed Clergy in the Diocese; Aspirants, Postulants, and Candidates for Holy Orders

Upcoming Events & Notices

FALL FORMATION KICKOFF

Sunday, September 7th | 9:15 a.m.

Fall is upon us, and that means it's time to kick off our fall programming here at Ascension! On Sunday, September 7th, our Adult Formation, Men's Group, and Children's Formation will all start back up again. Youth Group has a special schedule for September, and we are adding a new offering, Parents' Social Hub, at 9:20 every Sunday. Please plan to join us on this celebratory day! Visit our website for a full list of our fall offerings, complete with times and locations.

ASCENSION WELCOMES BISHOP WAYNE SMITH

Sunday, September 7th | 10:30 a.m. Service | Reception to Follow | Parish Hall

On Sunday, September 7th, Bishop Wayne Smith will serve as Preacher and Celebrant at our 10:30 a.m. church service. A special reception immediately following the service will be held in the Parish Hall. We invite you to take the opportunity to greet and visit with the Bishop while enjoying some refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there!

PARENTS' SOCIAL HUB

Sundays beginning 9/7 | 9:20 - 10:10 a.m. | Parlor/Choir Room

All parents with children from birth through college are invited to our Parents' Social Hub on Sunday mornings from 9:20 to 10:10. Join us to connect with other parents, enjoy refreshments, and engage in a casual discussion about a daily reading from the series *Jesus Calling*. No preparation is required. We look forward to seeing you in the Parlor/Choir Room on Sunday mornings at 9:20!



**EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
ASCENSION**

The Rev. Oliver M. Butler, Interim Rector

oliver.butler@ascensiondallas.org

Alice Frederick, Director of Christian Formation

alice.frederick@ascensiondallas.org

Glenn Stroh, Interim Organist & Choirmaster

glenn.stroh@ascensiondallas.org

The Vestry

Katie Dickinson, Senior Warden

katiedickinson3@icloud.com

Herb Kadane, Junior Warden

Anne Burgdorf Moisuk, Clerk

Aaron Husman, Treasurer

Steve Baker

Todd Rutenbar

Ginger Greenberg

Audry Lee

Michelle Heron

Bob Iden

Kathleen Rylander

8787 Greenville Avenue

Dallas, Texas 75243

Phone: 214-340-4196

Website: www.ascensiondallas.org

Facebook: [ascensiondallas](https://www.facebook.com/ascensiondallas)