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THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER

*Pentecost*

Episcopal Church *of the Ascension*

June 9, 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 388: Blue Hymnal

*O worship the King*

*Hanover*

O worship the King, all glorious above!  
O gratefully sing his power and his love!  
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth, with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old,  
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,  
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;  
Thy mercies, how tender! how firm to the end!  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

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.

**O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; 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

1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20

All the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the Lord, and the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots. He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for

yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day.” But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, “No! but we are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please read together in unison*

PSALM 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; \*  
before the gods I will sing your praise.**
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, \*  
because of your love and faithfulness;**
- 3 For you have glorified your Name \*  
and your word above all things.**
- 4 When I called, you answered me; \*  
you increased my strength within me.**
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, \*  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, \*  
that great is the glory of the Lord.**
- 7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; \*  
he perceives the haughty from afar.**
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; \*  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.**
- 9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; \*  
O Lord, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if able*

HYMN 336: Blue Hymnal

*Come with us, O blessed Jesus*

*Werde munter*

Come with us, O blessed Jesus, with us evermore to be;  
And though leaving now thine altar, let us nevermore leave thee.  
Be thou one with us forever, in our life thy love divine  
Our own flesh and blood has taken, and to us thou givest thine.

Come with us, O mighty Savior, God from God, and Light from Light;  
Thou art God, thy glory veiling, so that we may bear the sight.  
Now we go to seek and serve thee, through our work as through our prayer;  
Grant us light to see and know thee, in thy people everywhere.

Come with us, O King of glory, by angelic voices praised;  
In our hearts as in thy heaven, be enraptured anthems raised.  
Let the mighty chorus ever sing its glad exultant songs;  
Let its hymn be heard for ever—peace for which creation longs.

*Please remain standing if able*

THE GOSPEL

Mark 3:20-35

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and his disciples could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. “Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.” Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

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 In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

Leader For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for George and Wayne our own Bishops, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**



Leader For those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those we name (*silently or aloud*)....., we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**All To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSIOIN 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.**

*Please stand*

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.*

SOLO

*The Lord is my Light*  
Patrick Unkenholz, soloist

Frances Allitsen

*Please stand if able*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

The Book of Common Prayer (Red), p. 369

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*

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:

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*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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

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 kneel if able*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**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 that 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.**

## BLESSING

*Please stand if able*

HYMN 579: Blue Hymnal

*Almighty Father, strong to save*

*Melita*

Almighty Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traffic runs amain  
By mountain pass or valley low; wherever, Lord, thy people go,  
Protect them by thy guarding hand from every peril on the land.

O Spirit, whom the Father sent to spread abroad the firmament;  
O Wind of heaven, by thy might save all who dare the eagle's flight,  
And keep them by thy watchful care from every peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power, our people shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from space, air, land, and sea.

## 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

### *Our Prayer List*

Glen and Dusty; Jane and Don; George and Nancy; Joe; Jerry; Ginny; Jewel; The Heffner family; John; the Stubblefield family; Terry and Jan; Alexis and Fortune; Trish; Rosemary and John; Gloria; the Coney family; the Bryant family; Titus & Theresa; Amit and family; Lani; Clara; Sterling and Kay; Alice; Mark and Jill; Elliott and Suzanne; Judy; Jack; Rebecca; Sallie; Kenn; Joy; Terrel; Adrian; Nora; Maureen; Janie; Marlene and Steve; Jeff and Deborah; David; Judy; Pettigrew Family; Marla; Ellie; Teresa; Quinta; Eva Maria; James; Lynda; Nancy; Rosabella; Taylon; Fred; Vanessa; Kelli; James; Lisa; Linda; Sara; The Mohanty family; Janice; Greg; Janet and Bruce; Jennifer; Mary; Jack & Karen; Linda; Lupita Pryor and family; Jimmy; Clifton; Hoover; Mary.

For the repose of the soul of Perry Lyons, and grace and comfort for his wife Mary Ann and all those who mourn this loss.

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: Sherman - St. Stephen's: The Rev. Lorenzo Galuszka;  
Terrell - Good Shepherd: The Rev. Ian Hyde

## *Upcoming Events & Notices*

### **SEND US YOUR FAVORITE HYMN**

Music is such an important part of worship. As we prepare to enter the season after Pentecost, or Ordinary Time, we want to know what hymns you'd enjoy singing most during the 10:30 service. Please email Mark Unkenholz the titles of your favorite hymns or hymn requests so that he can incorporate them into the order of worship. We look forward to singing with you on Sunday!

### **ASCENSION PRAYS**

**Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor**

Come join us in praying for our parish! Our Wednesday evening prayer service lasts less than 30 minutes. Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my Name, I am there in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). We are more than two or three! Some come regularly; others drop in. ALL are invited to ASCENSION PRAYS!

### **SAINTS & SINNERS RETURNS!**

It's time to reorganize our Saints and Sinners groups for another round of fun potluck dinners! These groups meet at parishioners' homes for food and fun. Here's how it works:

- You'll be assigned to a group, typically comprised of 8-10 people (Singles are welcome in addition to couples).
- The host provides the main dish.
- Others bring appetizer, salad, side, dessert and beverages.

If you would like to join a S&S dinner group, please email Sally Kittles [sally.kittles54@gmail.com](mailto:sally.kittles54@gmail.com) and provide your name(s), address, phone number, email, and the number of diners you would like to accommodate. You can also call Sally at 214-695-0790. S&S is a great way to get together with friends and make new friends in a casual atmosphere. We hope you'll join us for another fun season!



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

**The Rev. Paul Klitzke, Rector**

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