



FOURTEENTH  
SUNDAY AFTER  
*Pentecost*

Episcopal Church *of the* Ascension  
September 14, 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    *Air in F Major, from Water Music*

*G.F. Handel*

## 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.**

## 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.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## FIRST READING

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them. "For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good." I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a

desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please read together in unison*

PSALM 14

- 1     **The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \***  
          **All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;**  
          **there is none who does any good.**
- 2     **The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, \***  
          **to see if there is any who is wise,**  
          **if there is one who seeks after God.**
- 3     **Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; \***  
          **there is none who does good; no, not one.**
- 4     **Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \***  
          **who eat up my people like bread**  
          **and do not call upon the Lord?**
- 5     **See how they tremble with fear, \***  
          **because God is in the company of the righteous.**
- 6     **Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \***  
          **but the Lord is their refuge.**
- 7     **Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \***  
          **when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,**  
          **Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.**

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are

in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if able*

HYMN 470: Blue Hymnal

*There's a wideness in God's mercy*

*Beecher*

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 could take him at his word;  
And our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

*Please remain standing if able*

THE GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you,

there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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 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.*

ANTHEM

*This is my Father's world*

Elaine Hagenberg

*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.*

## ANTHEM

*Blessed are the pure in heart*

Walford Davies

*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 334: Blue Hymnal

*Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing*

*Alles ist an Gottes Segen*

Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing:

Glory be to God on high!

Christ, your cross and passion sharing,

By this eucharist declaring yours the final victory.

Scattered flock one shepherd sharing, lost and lonely one voice hearing,

Ears attentive to your word;

By your Blood new life receiving,

In your Body, firm believing, we are yours and you the Lord.

Sins forgiven, wrong forgiving, we go forth alert and living  
In your Spirit strong and free.  
Partners in your new creation,  
Seeking peace in every nation, may we faithful followers be.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Hornpipe in F Major, from Water Music*

G.F. Handel

## *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: Clergy Family Commission; Diocesan Youth Ministers Ministers, Christian Formation Commission

## *Upcoming Events & Notices*

### **MONEY AUTOBIOGRAPHY WITH THAT STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Sunday, Sept. 28th | 9:15 a.m. | Parish Hall**

Please join the Stewardship Committee for a formation offering on Sunday, September 28th, at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The regular adult formation classes plan to join us there. Since our attitudes about money can be hard to define, having been shaped by our lives and experiences, we will provide guidance on how to create a Money Autobiography to then discuss in a safe space together. We invite you to reflect on, write, and talk about your life influences as we continue to consider what God is calling us to do individually and how we will share our gifts with Ascension.

### **SHARING FAITH DINNER**

**Saturday, November 15th | 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

Exciting news! Ascension is proud to join with fellow parishioners from St. Thomas the Apostle and Transfiguration for a meaningful evening of connection, reflection, and shared stories of faith - all over dinner! On Saturday, November 15th, we will participate in our first Sharing Faith Dinner, and we want you to be a part of it!

What to expect:

- A simple, welcoming meal hosted in a parishioner's home or a church space
- Guided conversation using thoughtful prompt cards and a dinner moderator
- A chance to reflect on how God is working in your life—and listen to how God is working in others

This is a unique opportunity to grow in community, deepen your faith, and engage in open, respectful sharing and listening. Registration will be open through October 19th. Visit our website to register to be a Host, Moderator, or Attendee.



**EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
OF THE  
ASCENSION**

**The Rev. Oliver M. Butler, Interim Rector**

[oliver.butler@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:oliver.butler@ascensiondallas.org)

**Alice Frederick, Director of Christian Formation**

[alice.frederick@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:alice.frederick@ascensiondallas.org)

**Glenn Stroh, Interim Organist & Choirmaster**

[glenn.stroh@ascensiondallas.org](mailto:glenn.stroh@ascensiondallas.org)

**The Vestry**

**Katie Dickinson, Senior Warden**

[katiedickinson3@icloud.com](mailto: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](http://www.ascensiondallas.org)

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