

as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30 *Standing*

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Gradual Hymn *O for a closer walk with God* Hymnal 683

The Holy Gospel of John 15:1-8

Reader: The Holy Gospel.... **All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev'd Honey Becker

The Nicene Creed *Standing, said by all* BCP 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 worshipped 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 Form V *standing* BCP 389

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

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.

After every petition, **People: Lord have mercy.**

For *Justin*, Archbishop of Canterbury, for *Michael* our Presiding Bishop, for *Jake* our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

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.

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.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

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.

For those in positions of public trust [especially *Joseph*, our President], that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

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.

For this *congregation* [for those who are present, and for those who are absent], 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.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

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.

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.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God. **People: To you, O Lord our God.**

The Confession of Sin BCP 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.*

The celebrant pronounces absolution.

The Peace *In acknowledgement of Christ's Peace, you are invited to bow to one another with your right hand over your heart. Please refrain from all physical contact.*

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

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory *The Prayer of St. Francis*

The Presentation of the Gifts & Doxology vs.3 Hymnal 380

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you **All: And also with you**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them to the Lord**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give him thanks and praise

The Celebrant Continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;

The Celebrant continues with preface of the day

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:

The Sanctus *Sung by all* S125

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The people remain standing. Then 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:

Celebrant and People

Celebrant: 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.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, *[in unison]*

The Lord's Prayer *Said by all* BCP 364

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.*

At the Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: [Alleluia] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All: Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia]

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
 Jesus bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymns

Beneath the cross of Jesus Hymnal 498
In the cross of Christ I glory Hymnal 441

Thanksgiving and Blessing *standing in unison*

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 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 forever. *Amen*

Recessional Hymn *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* Hymnal 423

Dismissal People respond: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Postlude

Please exit the nave whilst maintaining social distance of six feet.

In addition to those in our prayers as listed in the Tidings Newsletter and Parish website we join in our supplication on behalf of: friends, and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Postulants and Wesley United Campus Ministry. (Names stay on the prayers list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
 Nancy Holloway and Jim Ferguson
 &
 George R. Herman*

Lectors: 11:00 am Kathy Knierim

Music: Tom Lyles, Minister of Music and Dennis Morrison, Organist, Stacy Shumaker, soprano,

Acolytes: Aiden Daly, Cannon Schwegmann, Parker Roberts

Church Office Hours: Monday -Friday: 8:30am -1:00pm



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"Let us worship the Lord" standing practices & expectations

Ascension and Coronavirus

We welcome you to worship with us today! As we seek to reduce (not remove) risk to our parishioners, volunteers and staff, the following standards are subject to change as circumstances warrant and shall be normative until further notice.

Sunday Worship times & order

11:00 AM

A limit of 90 attendees per service will be admitted.

Ushers will assign seating per state regulation. Families of the same household may sit together as space allows.

No childcare will be provided until further notice.

Those considered at risk of COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to worship from home. The at-risk population is anyone 65 years old or older, and anyone with chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; chronic heart disease; severe obesity; diabetes; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; or weakened immune system.

Everyone 3 years of age and older are required to wear a face mask over their nose and mouth, including clergy. Celebrants of Word and Table will remove masks only when speaking. The State advises, "Children under 2 years of age and individuals who have difficulty breathing should not wear face coverings." If you have difficulty breathing, stay home.

Service modifications include:

Bulletins will be available on the pews. Please dispose in recycling bins at the doors when exiting.

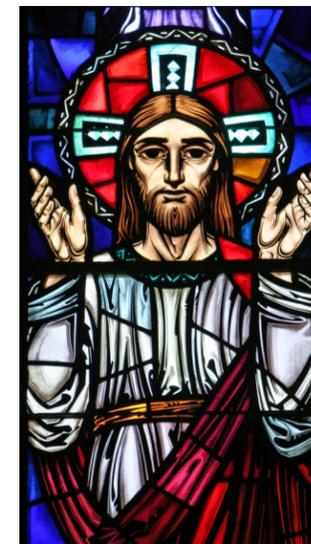
Prayers shall be said standing only. No kneeling.

The Peace of Christ shall be shared verbally without physical contact. All are encouraged to place their right hand over their heart and bow to acknowledge one another with Christ's Peace.

Offering plates will be stationed at the front and back of the church nave and shall not be touched or moved during the service.

Communion bread will be administered by clergy at the chancel steps.

Communicants shall wear their mask and receive the bread in the open palm. They may intinct the bread in the wine and remove their mask to consume. Please use hand sanitizer after receiving holy communion.



The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

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Bishop
 The Right Reverend Jacob W. Owensby
Rector
 The Reverend Joseph Daly
Chaplain
 The Reverend Palmer Kennedy
Deacon
 The Reverend Honey Becker

The Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2, 2021

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Stand up, stand up, for Jesus* Hymnal 561

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen **All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Collect for Purity BCP 355

The Gloria *Glory to God* Hymnal S-280
The "S" indicates Service Music found in the front section of the Hymnal

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because