

The First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c Standing and read responsively by half verse

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

The LORD lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.

Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win

those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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

The Gradual Hymn God is love, let heaven adore him Hymnal 379

The Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

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

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

The Sermon The Rev’d Jordan Hylden

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 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 Form III BCP 387

Kneeling, the Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Jake, our bishop; for *Joseph, Jordan, Emily,* and *Jake*, our priests; for *Honey*, our deacon; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Celebrant concludes with a prayer

The Confession of Sin BCP 360

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

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

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

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory *O God Beyond All Praising* Dan Forrest

The Presentation of the Gifts

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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Then the celebrant adds a preface

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* Hymnal S-125

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 kneel. 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father.

Celebrant and People
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.*

The Sanctus *Sung by all* Hymnal S-125

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.

At the Breaking of the Bread
Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Anthem S-164
Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymns *This is the hour of banquet and of song* Hymnal 317
Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless Hymnal 343

Thanksgiving and Blessing *Said by all* BCP 366

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 *We will extol you, ever blessed Lord* Hymnal 404

Dismissal People respond: **Thanks be to God**

Postlude

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:
Our Vestry and Clergy- our brother, Joseph, Julian Christopher Buuck, Stephen, Sandie Jordan, Joyce McClellan, Christopher Anglin, Lynn, Charles Lutes, Gerald Delaunay, Mary McIntosh, Lisa Bordelon, Maggie Patin, Billy Hall, Hazel, Marvin, , Mary Fay Freshley, Michael Reed, Nicholas Blonski, Margret DeLarue, Catherine Elizabeth, Emily Taylor, Alison Higginbotham, Renee Reina, Dr Kerri Remmel, Rebecca Jayne, James Alan Vaughn, Sawyer Billeaud, Maddox, Louise Haddock, Father Gary Schexnayder, Miller, Nagham El Karhili, Kasey, Jack Larmier, David, Carlin Craig, Kasey, Sharon, Kristen, John Bateman, Arthur White, Lou Ann St. Julien, Sterling Lejeune, Sylvia Turner, Roxanne Myers, Andrew D., Mary Beth Tompkins, Donald Shaffer, Jack Seale, Noelle Freeland, Bart Freeland, Donna Hebert, Jim, Lazane Frost, Molly Zeringue, Jeanne Zeringue, Kevin Barry, Jan and Charles, Dusty Nassif, Ed Walker, Emily Marie, Miller King, Pat Fontenot, Paige, Alex Martin, Alicia, Maggie Johnson, Tolley Odom, Karen Anderson, Aimee White, Marion, Betsy Vigorito, Albert Freeman, Becky Slagle, Lynda Gaiennie, Alyssa Willson, Janet Limouze, Joe and Christina, Albert Davis, Myra Tener, Susan Oglesbee, Ann Jacobs, David Snyder, Penny Immel, Janet Bernhardt, Morgan Rutledge, Jake Rushing and family, Jan Hamilton, Reese Forest, Fiona Chisholm, Ella Mitchell, Peezie Alfred, Eddie and Rebecca LeBlanc, Brooks Citron, Mary Connor, Wendy Ortego, Karen Lavalais, David, Connor, Mona Stagg, Lillie Hardy, Susan Davis, friends and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Timothy’s in Alexandria, St. Paul’s in Winnfield, Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Church, and The Anglican Church of South America. (Names stay on the prayers list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.)

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jayne and Glenn Ashworth

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Welcome to Ascension! Please join us for coffee and breakfast in Coughlin Hall between services.

Like the Blues Brothers, we're "on a mission from God." But what is it? This Epiphany, join us for our **sermon and teaching series** on the mission of the Church. Our **Rector's Forum** will cover a different aspect of the church's mission each Sunday (10am, Coughlin).

Children's Sunday school (elementary school) and youth group (middle/high school) meet at 10am, with **Children's church** during the sermon and readings at the 11am service.

Coming up soon: our **youth group Super Bowl party** (Sun., Feb. 11, details TBA). Plus, Ascension Youth are asked to help with our Mardi Gras parking fundraiser for youth ministry, by helping clean after the Tues., Feb. 13 parade.

Ascension Women: Tuesday night Bible study and dinner meets each week at 6pm in Coughlin Hall.

Our **Epiphany Yoga Class** meets Saturdays at 10am in Coughlin Hall, Jan. 13-Feb. 10, led by Mthr. Emily. All ages and levels are welcome; invite a friend!

Ascension Men: Join us every Wednesday for lectionary Bible study: lunch the 1st, 3rd, and 5th weeks (12:15, Bon Temps Grill); and breakfast the 2nd and 4th (7:45am, Hub City Diner). *This week: Lunch Bon Temps Grill.* Each month, we serve a meal to the homeless at St. Joseph's Diner: to sign up, contact Louis Simon (louissimon221@gmail.com).

Our **February book club** selection is *How Far to the Promised Land*, by Esau McCaulley. Fr. Jordan will lead at 6:30pm, Thurs. Feb. 29, at Pour (Degaulle Sq.).

Lent is right around the corner! **Ash Wednesday** services will be at noon and 6pm on Feb. 14. **Lent Dinner and Discussion** will start up the following Wed., Feb. 21, 5:30pm in Coughlin.

Lectors: Sterling LeJeune **Ushers:** Jeff Straub and Kirk Headley **Greeter:** Ginger Norvell **Acolytes:** Aidan Stewart, Gavin Stewart, Stacey Singleton, and Christian Singleton **Music:** Tom Lyles, Minister of Music and John Moore, Organist, Emil Ivanov, violin, Stacy Cueva, cello, and Choir **Church Office Hours:** Monday -Friday– 8:30am –2:30pm



@Ascension-Lafayette

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The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

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Bishop
The Right Reverend Jacob W. Owensby, Ph.D.

Rector
The Reverend Joseph Daly

Vice Rector
The Reverend Jordan Hylden, Th.D.

Clergy Associate
The Reverend Emily Hylden

Chaplain
The Reverend Jacob Schlossberg

Deacon
The Reverend Honey Becker

Welcome

We welcome all those who have come to worship with us today, and please come back often. If you are searching for a church home, we invite you to join us in our worshiping and celebration of God’s love. Please fill out a “Communication Card” in the pew and drop it in the offering plate so that we can extend our hospitality to you beyond our doors.

All children are welcome in Church. The nursery is available for infants and toddlers. Please remember to silence your cell phone.

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4, 2024
11:00 AM

Prelude
Procession *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* Hymnal 423

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

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 BCP 215
Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: **And also with you.**

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*