

First Reading: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

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

Psalm 45: 1-2, 7-10 *Standing and read responsively by half verse*

My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.

You are the fairest of men; *
grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever.

Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
**a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.**

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.

Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir.

The Second Reading: James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act -they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Gradual Hymn *Book of books, our people's strength* Hymnal 631

The Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you,

and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

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 III

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 *Matt 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 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 Confession of Sin

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

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

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory *organ solo*

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 B

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; but chiefly we are bound to praise you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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 *Said together in unison*

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.

The people kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

**We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

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 *O Master let me walk with thee* Hymnal 660
Dear Lord and Father of mankind Hymnal 653

Thanksgiving and Blessing *Kneeling and 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 *Come, labor on* Hymnal 541

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



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You can support your parish with Venmo, the app that automatically deposits funds using your mobile device.



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, Alison Higginbotham, Renee Reina, Dr Kerri Rimmel, 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, Emily Marie, Miller King, Pat Fontenot, Paige, Alex Martin, Alicia, Maggie Johnson, Karen Anderson, Aimee White, Marion, Betsy Vigorito, Albert Freeman, Becky Slagle, Alyssa Willson, Janet Limouze, Joe and Christina, Albert Davis, Susan Oglesbee, Ann Jacobs, David Snyder, Janet Bernhardt, Morgan Rutledge, Jake Rushing and family, Jan Hamilton, Reese Forest, Fiona Chisholm, Peezie Alfred, Eddie and Rebecca LeBlanc, Brooks Citron, Mary Connor, Wendy Ortego, Karen Lavalais, David, Connor, Mona Stagg, Lillie Hardy, Susan Davis, Nash, Perry Joseph, Gail White, Katrina Marlena McKinnis, Nicole Wynn, Richard Bessent, Tron Thomas, Randy Harelson, Ronnie and Larry Garric, Marianna Cooney, Pat, Sherrye, Courtney, Judy, Sasha, Kelly and Dave Domangue, Troy LeBouef, Kory Bowman, Ashlynn Broussard, Finn, Caroline and Eddie, John Michael, Lizzie, Zoe Guidry, Mary Domingue, Beau Domingue, Courtney and family, Harry Bruder, Rick Onks, Lynette Newchurch, Neil Joseph, The family of Sr. Cpl. Segus Jolivet, Janice Batton, Jane Cecil, Chris Silva, Agnes Capello, Pam Michael, friends and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: The Bishop, the Bishop's Staff, the Standing Committee, The Diocesan Council, St. Jules Catholic Church, and The Anglican Church of Mozambique and Angola. (Names stay on the prayers list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.)

*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God an loving memory of
Jewell Parkerson Lowe, Joseph Arthur Roy II and Evelyn & James D. Parkerson
&
Eleanor Straub from her family*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Feast and Retirement Celebration for The Reverend Joseph Daly: *Thursday, October 24th at 6pm*, Come join us for our annual Fall Feast and the celebration of The Reverend Joseph Daly's retirement. The theme this year is a Down Home Barbecue. We hope to see you there!

Adult Bible Study - Sunday Mornings beginning September 8 Study of Galatians 10-10:45 am in the Owen Room Teachers: Mark Benge, Laurie Godshall, Doug Goings, John Griffin, Elizabeth Hesterly

Tuesday Bible Study — Tuesday evenings beginning September 10 Study of I Samuel 6-7:00 pm in the Owen Room Teachers: Laurie Godshall, Doug Goings, Elizabeth Hesterly, Sarah McNamara . Please bring your Bible and invite a friend.

Altar Guild: Altar Guild needs members! If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild or just want more info, please contact Susan Davis. email: manateemama@yahoo.com.

Mark your calendars! The ACW's annual Nada's Tea will be Sunday, October 6, 2-4pm at the home of Nanette Heggie. RSVP to the Church office: church.ascension@yahoo.com or 337-232-2732. All Ascension ladies, along with their mothers, daughters, and granddaughters are invited.

Wednesday Prayer and Healing Service: All are welcome to attend our weekly Eucharist at noon on Wednesdays, with a brief homily and dedicated time for anointing and prayer at the altar rail led by The Reverend Honey Becker.

Coffee with the Cleric: Every Tuesday at 4pm, all are invited to "office hours" with The Reverend Honey Becker at CC's Coffee on Johnston St. Come with questions, or just come to chat!

Children's Sunday school, youth group, and children's church. will be return Sunday, *September 8th at 10am*. We hope to see you there! Contact Susen Brown or Fr. Jake for more info.

Breakfast will return next Sunday, September 8th at 9:15am.

Ascension Men: The Ascension Men's group will be having a Bar-BQ social on *Thursday, September 19th from 6-8pm* in Coughlin Hall. All Ascension men are invited!

Join us for lunch the 1st and 3rd Thursdays (noon, church) and breakfast the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (7:45am, Hub City Diner). Each month (roughly!), we serve a meal to the homeless at St. Joseph's Diner: to sign up to serve, contact Louis Simon (louissimon221@gmail.com).

Dads' Basketball: Thursdays at 7:30 pm at the SMP campus. Contact Fr. Jake for more information.

Lector: Gail White **Greeter:** Ginger Norvell **Usher:** Jeff Straub and Kirk Headley
Acolyte: Austin Adams, Abigail Adams, Anna-Grace Adams, and Amelia Adams
Music: Tom Lyles, Minister of Music and Dennis Morrison, Organist **Office Hours:** M-F: 8:30am-2pm



The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

1030 Johnston Street,
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501
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www.ascensionlafayette.com

Bishop

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

Interim Rector

The Reverend Matt Woollett

Chaplain and Associate for Youth

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 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024
11:00 AM

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Rejoice, ye pure in heart!* Hymnal 556

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

All: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity *Standing*

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 *kneeling*

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

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.*