

The Collect of the Day BCP 215
Celebrant: The Lord be with you People: **And also with you**

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Celebrant dismisses the children for Children's Church.

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

Psalm 24:7-10 *Read responsively by half verse*

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

"Who is this King of glory?" *

"The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle."

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

"Who is he, this King of glory?" *

"The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Hebrews 2:14-18

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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

The Gradual Hymn *How lovely is thy dwelling place* Hymnal 517

The Gospel : Luke 2:22-40

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be

opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. All: **Praise be 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 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 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.

Almighty God, who has blessed and sustained us through the years, grant us the strength to meet the days ahead with steadfastness and patience; look graciously on this parish and school family, and send forth your Holy Spirit to guide the search committee, the vestry, and the whole community of Ascension, that we may receive a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, care for your people, and equip us for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Doxology

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 BCP 361

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 Celebrant Continues *with people kneeling* BCP 362

Celebrant: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith;
All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again**

The Celebrant Continues BCP 363

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.**

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 *Let all mortal flesh keep silence* Hymnal 324
Before thy throne, O God, we kneel Hymnal 574

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 *Christ is made the sure foundation* Hymnal 518

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, Alison Higginbotham, Renee Reina, Dr Kerri Remmel, Rebecca Jayne, James Alan Vaughn, Sawyer Billeaud, Maddox, Louise Had-dock, 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 Free-land, Bart Freeland, Donna Hebert, Jim, Lazane Frost, Molly Zeringue, Jeanne Zeringue, Kevin Barry, Jan and Charles, Dusty Nassif, 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, 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 Marlana 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 Bow-man, Ashlynn Broussard, Finn, Caroline and Eddie, John Michael, Lizzie, Mary Domingue, Beau Domingue, Courtney and family, Harry Bruder, Rick Onks, Lynette Newchurch, Neil Joseph, The fami-ly of Sr. Cpl. Segus Jolivette, Janice Batton, Jane Cecil, Chris Silva, Agnes Capello, Pam Michael, Ki-met Coldiron, Randy Morgan, Rachelle Morgan, Carolyn Barker, Danielle, Alexis, Jon, Ashley, Eddie, Caroline, Finn, Hannah Murphy, Natalie Hesterly, Mac, Francis LeBlanc, Karen Cox, Joe and Amy, Dim Berger, Claire, Donald Leger, Freda Keller, Jillian Schossberg, Beau Soulier, Kathleen David, Ed Keller, William Keller, Gili Menashe Robinson, Kate and Mark, Jo and Lee Cox, Donny, Elliot, Donny, Ricky Stutes, Phyllis Bouchereau, Bailee Slagle, Dixie Huval, friends and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Postulants, Our Lady of Wisdom Catho-lic Church, and The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. (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

Confirmation classes for youth ages 12 and up will begin the First Sunday in Lent (March 9th) and run approximately 12 sessions. If interested, contact the Church office or visit our website for more information.

Rector's Forum: A new Rector's Forum highlighting outreach ministries, will be beginning on Sunday, Feb. 16th at 10 am in Coughlin Hall. For the complete schedule and dates see our website, call the office, or refer to the post in the enews. We hope you can join us!

Ascension Sunday School, Youth Group, and Children's Church: Children's Church is celebrated each Sunday during 11am Eucharist, children are dismissed during service by the celebrant. All Children are invited to participate in the Children's liturgy at the 11am Eucha-rist. There will not be 10am Sunday School until further notice.

Tuesday Bible Study: Meets Tuesday evenings, 6-7:30 pm in Coughlin Hall. We will contin-ue the study of 1 Samuel. Teachers: Laurie Godshall, Doug Goings, Elizabeth Hesterly, Sarah McNamara. Please bring your Bible and invite a friend.

Ascension Men: We will meet for breakfast Wednesday, Feb 5 at Hub City Diner at 7:45 am. The following week we will meet for brown bag lunch in the Robson Room at the Church, Thursday, Feb 13 at 11:45 am. And We continue to study the Book of Acts, generally alternat-ing breakfast, and lunch each week. Join us every week or drop in for a single session. You are always welcome! Also- 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).

Adult Bible Study: The Sunday Morning Bible is on Sundays at 10am. We will begin the study of Philippians. Teachers: Mark Benge, Laurie Godshall, Doug Goings, John Griffin, Elizabeth Hesterly

Lectors: TBA

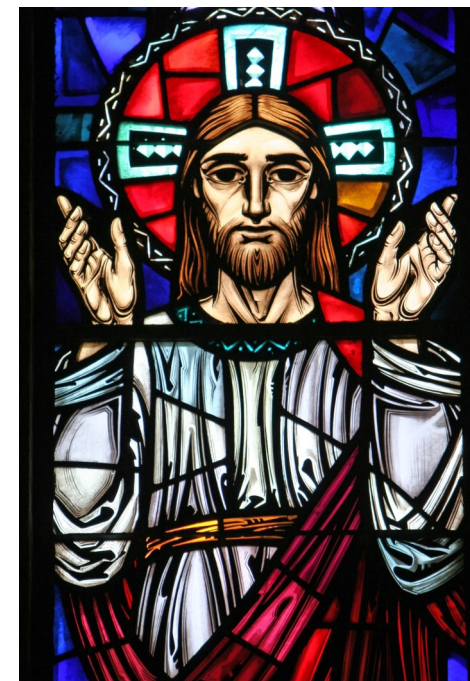
Acolytes: Andre Goudeau, Henri Goudeau, Martha Odom, Margaret Odom

Ushers: Jeff Straub and Robert Sawvel

Greeter: Ginger Norvell

Music: Tom Lyles, Minister of Music and Dennis Morrison, Organist and Choir

Church Office Hours: Monday -Friday- 8:30am -2:30pm



**The Episcopal Church
of the Ascension**

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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.

*The nursery is available for infants and toddlers.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

The Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025
11:00 AM

Prelude

Procession *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* Hymnal 436

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, heaven-ly 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.*



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