

Reader: **A reading from the Book of Malachi 4:1-2a**

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

Psalm 98 *Standing and read responsively by half verse*

Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Reader: **A reading from the second Letter to the Thessalonians 3:6-13**

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

Gradual Hymn *Help us, O Lord, to learn* Hymnal 628

The Holy Gospel of Luke 21:5-19

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

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you

will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

The Sermon The Rev'd Matthew Ainsley

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 Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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 *Awake My Soul* Craig Courtney

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 BCP 367

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* Hymnal S130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, 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*

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 *Jerusalem, my happy home* Hymnal 620
 Come, we that love the Lord Hymnal 392

Thanksgiving and Blessing *Kneeling and in unison* 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 Hymn *Thou, whose almighty word* Hymnal 371

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

Postlude

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR: Our Vestry and Clergy- our brother, Joseph, Alison Higginbotham, Arthur White, Sterling Lejeune, Betsy Vigorito, Becky Slagle, Alyssa Willson, Janet Limouze, Joe and Christina, Albert Davis, Susan Oglesbee, Ann Jacobs, David Snyder, Janet Bernhardt, Jan Hamilton, Reese Forest, Fiona Chisholm, Peezie Alfred, Wendy Ortego, Perry Joseph, Gail White, Kelly and Dave Domangue, Troy LeBouef, Ashlynn Broussard, Rick Onks, Lynette Newchurch, Neil Joseph, Randy Morgan, Rachelle Morgan, Ed Keller, William Keller, Gili Menashe Robinson, Donny, Elliot, Emily Chapin, Kelly, Carol Hamilton Hunt, Brenda Privat, James, Evie, and Malaina, Margaret DeGruy, Mark Weems, Lara McKinnis, the Family of Quinten, Kit Gumbs, Carolyn Barker, Pat Vallery, Catherine McGowen, Dorothy Goings, Amber, Pauline, Sandie Jordan, Allyson Bruner, Donald Leger, Jr., Sasha, Charles Lewis, Mike Comeaux, Dollie San Filippo, Carol Jane, Renee, Marc, Carolyn, Virginia Morrison, Graison Louviere, Tom & Jillian, Mark & Frevet, Stephanie, Landon Romero, Kate Graciana, Tom Bryant, Kathleen David, Mac Camille, Ashton, Lauren Immel Meyers, and friends and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: All Canterbury ministries and Chaplains: Iglesia Episcopal La Esperanza De Familia Unidas in Monroe, Trinity in Natchitoches, Wesley United Campus Ministry, The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria. (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
Cal Odom and Jim and Tolley Odom*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vestry is looking for members! Please prayerfully consider serving the church you love in this way. If you have any interest, please contact the church office and a Vestry member will be happy to reach out to you to discuss further.

Save the Date: *The Installation of Father Matthew Ainsley* as Rector. Tuesday, December 9, 6pm at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension. Celebrant: The Right Reverend Jacob W. Owensby, Ph.D. Preacher: The Reverend Father David S. Bumsted. Reception in Coughlin Hall immediately following the service.

Ascension Men: We will meet for brown bag lunch in the Robson Room at the Church, Thursday, November 20 at 11:45 am and the following week there will be breakfast on Wednesday, November 26 at 7:45 am at Hub City Diner. We will be studying the Book of James, generally alternating breakfast, and lunch each week. Join us every week or drop in for a single session. You are always welcome!

Ascension Youth Group, and Children's Church: Children’s Church is each Sunday during the 11am service. Engaging Liturgy of the Word lessons, songs and activities, and a joyful time of learning Episcopal traditions made just for kids.

Tuesday Bible Study: Continues each Tuesday evening from 6-7pm in the Owen Room. We will begin study of 1 Kings. Teachers: Doug Driggers, Laurie Godshall, Doug Goings, Elizabeth Hesterly, Sarah McNamara. Please bring your Bible and invite a friend.

Adult Bible Study: Please join us for a study of the Gospel of Mark, every Sunday, at 10:00 am in the Owen Room. Teachers: Laurie Godshall, Doug Goings, John Griffin, Elizabeth Hesterly. All are welcome.

Lector: Laurie Godshall
Greeter: Carol Goings
Usher: Jeff Straub and Mark Gremillion
Acolyte: Austin Adams, Abigail Adams, Anna-Grace Adams, Amelia Adams, Rosalina Dasilva
Music: Stacy Shumaker, Minister of Music and John Moore, Organist
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:00 am—2:00 pm



**The Episcopal Church
of the Ascension**

1030 Johnston Street,
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501
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Bishop
The Right Reverend Jacob W. Owensby, Ph.D.

Rector
The Reverend Matthew Ainsley

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 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025
11:00 AM

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Awake, my soul* Hymnal 11

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.**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



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