

were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

**Psalm 119: 105-112** *said, the People remain seated*

Your word is a lantern to my feet \*  
and a light upon my path.

I have sworn and am determined \*  
to keep your righteous judgments.

I am deeply troubled; \*  
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

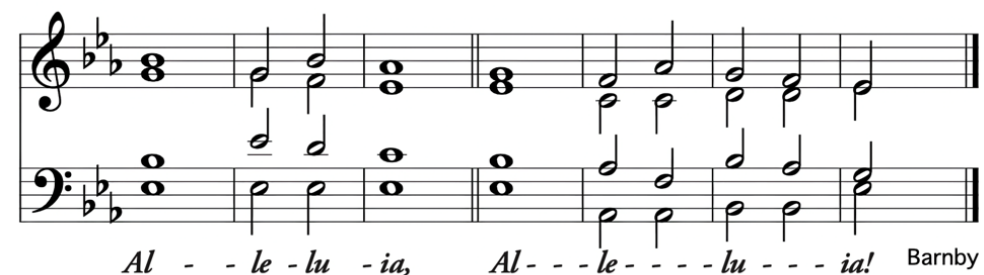
Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips, \*  
and teach me your judgments.

My life is always in my hand, \*  
yet I do not forget your law.

The wicked have set a trap for me, \*  
but I have not strayed from your commandments.

Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; \*  
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes \*  
for ever and to the end.



**Alleluia Verse** **all stand**

*Cantor* Alleluia, Alleluia

*All* Alleluia, Alleluia

*Cantor* The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower.  
All who come to him will live forever.

*All* Alleluia, Alleluia

**The Gospel** **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone

with ears listen!” “Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev’d Fr. Jake Schlossberg

**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.*

**Prayers of the People: Form V**

*Deacon or other 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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Jacob, our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, [especially \_\_\_\_\_], 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. **Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.  
**To you, O Lord our God.**

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 concludes with the absolution.*

**The Peace** *said*

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

**Welcome and Announcements**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory Anthem**

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* Dykes/arr. Mitchell  
Casey Robichaux, Stacy Shumaker, duet

**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.

**The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Altar, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues with Eucharistic Prayer B.*

...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.*

...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,

*People and Celebrant*

**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.**

**The Invitation to Communion**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Communion Hymns** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word* Hymnal 440  
*O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God* Hymnal 505

**Postcommunion Prayer** *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.*

**Final Blessing**

**Dismissal Hymn** *Ye servants of God* Hymnal 535

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

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

**Rector**  
*The Reverend Father Matthew Ainsley*

**Chaplain and Associate for Youth**  
*The Reverend Jacob Schlossberg*

**Deacon**  
*The Reverend Honey Becker*

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:** Our Vestry and Clergy- our brother, Joseph, Alison Higginbotham, Arthur White, Sterling Lejeune, Betsy Vigorito, Becky Slagle, Janet Limouze, Joe and Christina, Susan Oglesbee, Ann Jacobs, David Snyder, Janet Bernhardt, Jan Hamilton, Reese Forest, Fiona Chisholm, Peezie Alfred, Wendy Ortego, Perry Joseph, Gail White, Troy LeBouef, Ashlynn Broussard, Rick Onks, Lynette Newchurch, Neil Joseph, 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, Kit Gumbs, Carolyn Barker, Pat Vallery, Amber, Pauline, Donald Leger, Jr., Charles Lewis, Mike Comeaux, Carol Jane, Renee, Marc, Carolyn, Virginia Morrison, Graison Louviere, Landon Romero, Kate Graciana, Kathleen David, Mac Camille, Ann Shower, Steve Baker, Pete Peters, Luke Heggy, Remi and Joseph, Melissa Keane, Guy Ellison, Jr., Archie Ganucheau, David Mills, Susan Davis, Nick Domino, Charles Swett, Stephen Miller, John Perkins, Mona Fitzgerald Stephan, and friends and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Leonidas Polk Memorial in Leesville, Trinity in DeRidder, Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Church, and Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. (Names stay on the prayers list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.)

*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and loving memory*  
*Dr. Edward Halie Shwery*  
&  
*C. Buell Close, Jr, Father of Carl Reeves Close*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Summer in the circle:** Join us in the circle drive **after the 10 AM service** for a light refreshment each Sunday of the summer (June and July)!

**Attention Ascension Kids:** SPLASH into summer & SQUEEZE the day! **Thursday, July 16, 12-2 pm at the Pavillion on the downtown campus.** Come join the fun. Kids can enjoy the fun camp water slide, pizza and lemonade stations. **Please RSVP to the church office.** We hope to see you there.

**Children's Church:** Children's Church is on pause for the summer but stay tuned for all the summer fun we have planned!!

**Lectors:** Susan Davis  
**Ushers:** Mark Gremillion and Robert Sawvell  
**Acolytes:** Campbell Womack, Austin Adams,  
**Music:** Stacey Shumaker, Minister of Music and John Moore, Organist  
**Church Office Hours:** Monday -Friday: 9:00am -2:30pm

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Episcopal Church of the  
**ASCENSION**  
Lafayette, Louisiana  
Est. 1901

**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

July 12, 2026  
10:00 AM

**Prelude**

**Processional Hymn** *Judge eternal, throned in splendor* Hymnal 596

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

**The Collect for Purity** BCP 355

**Kyrie** *sung by all* Hymnal S-91  
Lord, have mercy upon us. *(repeat 3x)*  
Christ, have mercy upon us. *(repeat 3x)*  
Lord have mercy upon us. *(repeat 3x)*

**The Collect of the Day** *the People remain standing*  
*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you. *People:* **And also with you.**

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Old Testament** *The People sit.* **Genesis 25:19-34**

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there