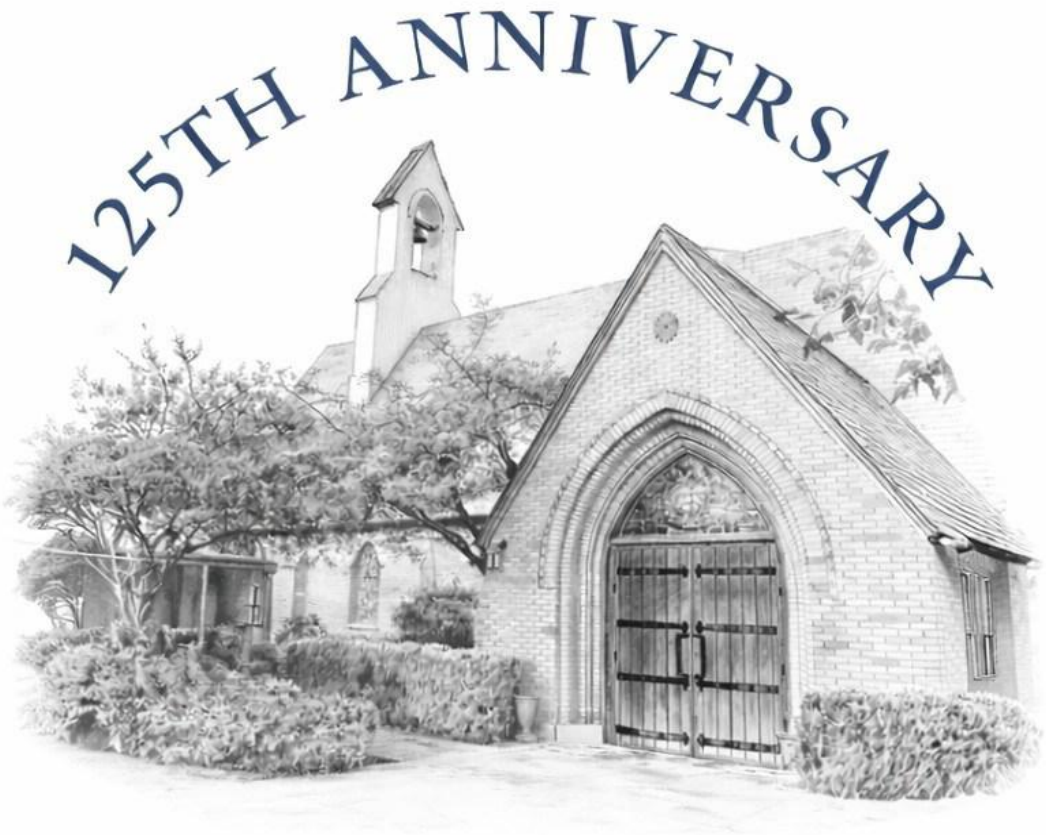


Episcopal Church of the

ASCENSION

Lafayette, Louisiana

Est. 1901

The Last Sunday after Pentecost

November 22, 2026

11:00 AM

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

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Crown him with many crowns* Hymnal 494

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

The Gloria *Glory to God sung* 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 MostHigh, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day *the People remain standing*

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Children dismiss for lessons and activities.

Old Testament **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

Psalm 100 *Sung by the choir, the People remaining seated.*

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Epistle **Ephesians 1:15-23**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Sequence Hymn *Lead on, O King eternal* Hymn 555

The Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and

you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

The Sermon The Rev'd Fr. 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

Deacon or other leader

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.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

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 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* Arr. Hopson

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 A BCP 361

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 A.

…Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

…All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, 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

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor Hymnal 307

O Food to pilgrims given Hymnal 309

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 *At the Name of Jesus* Hymnal 435

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

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR: Our Vestry and Clergy- 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 Clapp, Camille Petree, Ann Shower, Steve Baker, Pete Peters, Luke Heggy, Remi and Joseph, Melissa Keane, Guy Ellison, Jr., David Mills, Susan Davis, Nick Domino, John Perkins, Mona Fitzgerald Stephan, Sasha, Rita Driggers, Mike Immel, Phil Swift, Tom Bryant, Mona Coulter, Anna Catherine, Marc Powell, The Family of Steven Miller, Dumas, Joan Broussard, Rita Winski, Pam and Michael, Mike, The Family of Mark Broussard, Sr., Donny, Todd Wessinger, Claudia Beard, Lois Henry, Deb Harkins, Julian, Sophia, Gracie, Mia, and their mom, Mike Guidry and family, and friends, Carolyn Penny, Bill Myers, Becky Waldrop, The Hardy family, Steve Supple, Dorothy Goings, and family serving in the armed services. Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. James in Shreveport, St. Francis Episcopal Church for the Highlands in Shreveport, First United Methodist, and The Church of England. (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 I.W. Russek, Father of Myra R. Tener

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We ask that all **2027 pledge cards** be returned by **November 15**. Together, let us stay in prayer about how God is inviting each of us to use our time, talent, and treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish in the year ahead.

MomCo meets **select Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.** in the Owen Room (childcare provided) and**select Fridays at 8:00 a.m.** in the Robson Room. Come connect with other moms, grow in faith, and remember you don't have to do this alone. To learn more about Ascension Momco, **please visit:** canva.link/ascensionmomco

ECW Ladies Christmas Brunch
When: Saturday, December 5
Time: 11:30 AM
We are excited to host our first annual Ladies Christmas Brunch! The ECW is honored "to welcome Pam Damas, Father Matt's mom, as our guest speaker. Pam is traveling from Ohio to share a special devotional as we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Gospel of John - **Sundays 10:00 to 10:45 am** in the Owen Room. Teachers: Fr Matt Ainsley, Laurie Godshall, John Griffin, Elizabeth Hesterly

Tuesday Evening Bible Study: Genesis -**Tuesdays, 6:00 - 7:00 pm** in the Owen Room Teachers: Fr Matt Ainsley, Doug Driggers, Laurie Godshall, Elizabeth Hesterly, Sarah McNamara

Children's Church: Children's Church is on Sundays at the 11am service**. Dismissed after the Collect of the Day.**

Ascension Kids Upcoming Holiday Events: We will have Toy Drive in partnership with **The Gifting Grace Project** for homeless children in our community. We are happy to accept toy donations in the coming days between now and the Feast of St Nicholas event on Dec. 6th.
Sunday, Nov. 22 - Thanksgiving break, no Children's Church
Sunday, Nov. 29 - Thanksgiving break, no Children's Church
Sunday, Dec. 6 - ***Second Sunday of Advent & Feast of St Nicholas, 9:45-11:00am***
Saturday, Dec. 12 - * ***Merry Mission at The Vincent*** (a family caroling event with our school student body leadership/BETA), ***10:30am***
*save the date! details coming soon

Lector: Myra Tener **Greeter:** Jerie Olivier **Ushers:** Mike Immel
Acolytes: Wells Randall, Rex Randall, Julia Ziegler, Emilia Strohm
Music: Stacy Shumaker, Minister of Music and John Moore, Organist
Church Office Hours: Monday -Friday: 9:00am –2:30pm

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

venmo **@Ascension-Lafayette**

