



# The Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025 • 10 a.m. • Year C

**W**elcome to Church of the Ascension. We are an inclusive community that respects the dignity of every human being. Therefore, whoever you are in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability and wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome you and hope you will give us an opportunity to be your spiritual home. At this time, **masks are optional while you are inside.**

**T**he lit candle before the altar is “the Peace and Justice Candle.” It stands to proclaim our commitment against any kind of injustice, prejudice, or discrimination based on difference, and also our prayers for an end to war, violence, genocide, and gun violence.

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

### PRELUDE

*This Is My Father's World*  
Bailey Joy Myers, *piano*

Franklin L. Sheppard; Arr. Cindy Berry

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN HYMNAL 8

*Morning Has Broken*

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt.  
Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (1921-2007)

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass. \_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play! \_\_\_\_\_



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Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* God's mercy endures for ever. *Amen.*

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly  
love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### KYRIE

**WLP 840**

### *Kyrie Eleison*

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928-2019) from *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. One License, #A-729163.

*Leader* Ky - ri - e

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -

Chris - te

e e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i -

son. Chris - te e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -

e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

(o)

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

**Frank Malone, Lector**

**Exodus 3:1-15**

*A Reading from the Book of Exodus.*

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, «Moses, Moses!» And he said, «Here I am.» Then he said, «Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place

on which you are standing is holy ground.» He said further, «I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.» And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, «I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.» But Moses said to God, «Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?» He said, «I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.»

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.›» God also said to Moses, «Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.”

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

# **PSALM 63:1-8**

## **HYMNAL S 411**

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I / seek you; \*  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no / water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy / place, \*  
that I might behold your power and your / glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life it- / self; \*  
my lips shall give you / praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I / live \*  
and lift up my hands in your / Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and /fatness, \*  
and my mouth praises you with joyful /lips,

- 6 When I remember you upon my / bed, \*  
and meditate on you in the night / watches.
- 7 For you have been my / helper, \*  
and under the shadow of your wings I will re- / joice.
- 8 My soul clings to / you; \*  
your right hand holds me / fast.

## THE SECOND LESSON

Frank Malone, *Lector*

## 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

*A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

*People*      The Word of the Lord.  
                  **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GRADUAL HYMN

### *Jesus Remember Me*

Text: Luke 23:42, Taizé Community

Tune: Jacques Berthier, (1921-1994)

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The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the lyrics 'Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.' written below the notes. The score consists of two identical systems, each with a repeat sign at the end.

## THE GOSPEL

**Luke 13:1-9**

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*People* The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON

**The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, Rector**

*A moment of silence for reflection will follow the sermon.*

## THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and  
nailed to a tree.**

**A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.  
He descended into the earth to the place of death.  
On the third day he rose from the tomb.  
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,  
and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
Life-giving breath of the church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
Source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

*From the Abbey of Iona, Scotland (Celtic)*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE DURING LENT **Bob Cosby, Intercessor**

O God, we pray for all your people throughout the world. We pray especially today for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Joan, our Rector; Terri, our Deacon; Bailey, our Director of Music Ministries; Ana, our Nursery Supervisor; our Vestry; Lisa our administrative assistant, and all parish ministries and volunteers. In our parish prayer cycle, we pray for our following members Denise Young, Satchell and Kenzie; Marilyn Abbott; Annette Achille; Faye Adams; David and Leslie Agro and Keith Ecker; Monica Allen and MC Aquarone; and Jane Alperson. In our Diocese we pray in thanksgiving for the committees in our churches and for the people who say yes to be involved

and do the work to share the love of Christ. We also pray for The Annunciation (*March 25*), Chapel of the Annunciation, Church House and for all Parish Altar Guilds in the diocese. In the Anglican Communion we pray for Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our eyes, that we may see your glory in all creation and be good stewards of the earth, our island home.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our minds, that we may discern the mission to which you call us at Church of the Ascension, our spiritual home.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our feet, that we may take the Good News into our surrounding neighborhoods and communities. May we offer compassion, assistance, and generosity to those who are in any kind of need or trouble.

**Hear us, O Christ**

Touch our hands, that we may do your work of love, justice, and peace. We pray especially for the oppressed, the marginalized, victims of gun violence, and those who subjected to the loss and ravages of war, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our hearts, that we may proclaim the depth of Christ's healing love and share it freely with those who are suffering from illness, grief, or difficult circumstances and transitions. We pray especially for

**Cianna ... Rey ... Cindy ... Christopher ... Pat ... Clyde ... Faven ... David ... \*Drew ... \*Vivi ... Tracy ... Paul ... Stuart ... Kester ... \*Keith ... Paula ... \*Catherine ... \*Kiki ... \*Gigi ... Gail ... Olivia ... Geoff ... Donna ... Ben ... Jere ... Vivian ... \*Maggie ... \*Tom ... Sheldon ... Joanne ... Linda ... Thelma ... Roland ... Trish ... Daniel ... Roger<sup>1</sup> ... Carlos ... \*Roger<sup>2</sup> ... Judy ... \*April ... Diana ... Robin ... Martha ... Ceil ... Jane ... \*Joyce ... Marcia ... Darion ... Joan and Family ... \*Ronald ... Jocelyn ... \*Libby ... Stuart ... \*Jennifer ... and Amy.**

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Enliven us with a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays: Maggie Howard and Shellie Williams.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Give rest to those who have labored in the vineyard and now find joy in your presence. we especially pray for those who have died.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

I invite you now to offer your petitions and thanksgivings, either aloud or in the silence of your hearts.

*Silence*

*Celebrant gives this closing prayer*

Holy God breathe your life-giving Spirit into every one of us and into this our spiritual home, fill us with courage, and empower us to join in Christ's mission and ministry for the spreading of the Gospel. Bless us as we begin anew, this journey of faith; and enable us to enliven your people through the living presence of Jesus Christ our Savior, in whose Name we pray. **Amen.**



*Deacon:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

**Most loving God,**

**arrest the false gods that have diverted us,  
show us the deceits that have blurred our vision,  
unmask the poverty of our goals and longings,  
expose the cheap values that parade as virtues,  
save us from permitting a rift between Christ and us,  
and deliver us from cheap guilt and trivial remorse.**

**Please bring us to an honest repentance, the forgiveness of sins, and the renewal of our faith and love. Through Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

*Adapted from the prayer by Bruce Prewer*

*The Celebrant declares God's mercy and forgiveness.*

## THE PEACE

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

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

***We Shall Be Known***

Words & Music: Karisha Longaker of MaMuse

***The Chancel Choir*** directed by **Bailey Joy Myers**

*We shall be known by the company we keep  
By the ones who circle round to tend these fires  
We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap  
The seeds of change, alive, from deep within the earth*

*It is time now, it is time now that we thrive  
It is time we lead ourselves into the well  
It is time now, and what a time to be alive  
In this Great Turning we shall learn to lead in love  
In this Great Turning we shall learn to lead in love*





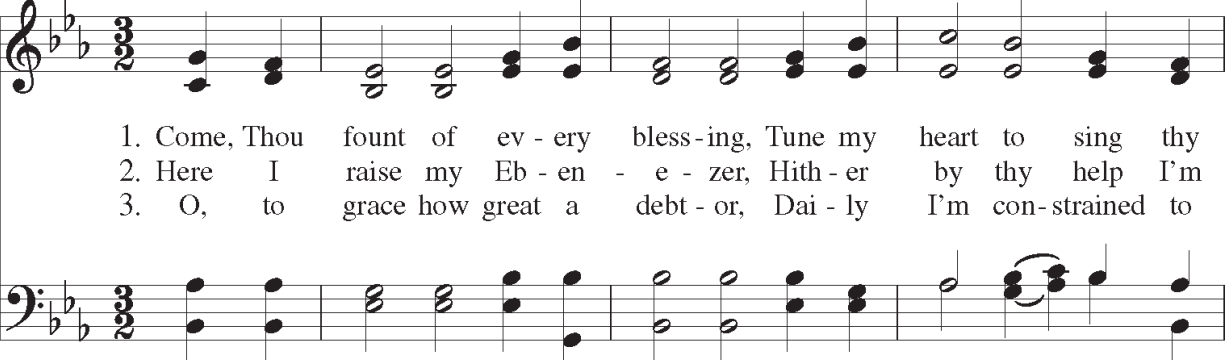
# OFFERTORY HYMN

## LEVAS 111

## *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790)

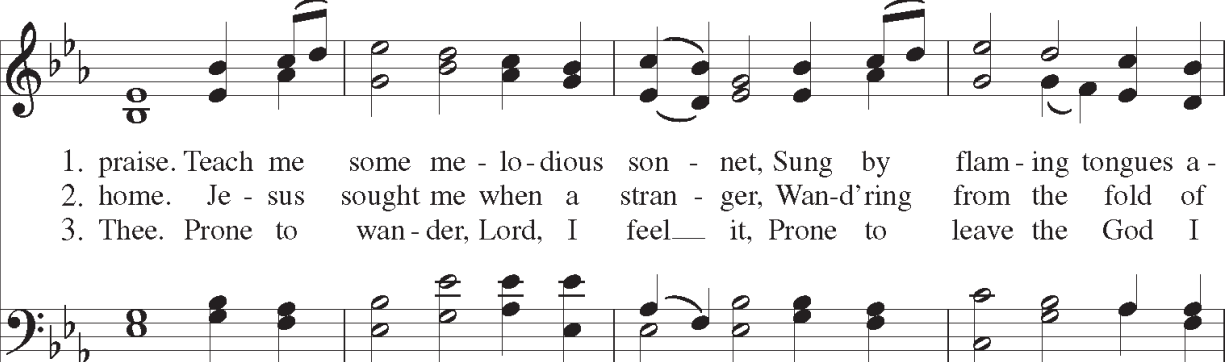
Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Songs of Praise*, Ham. ©1992



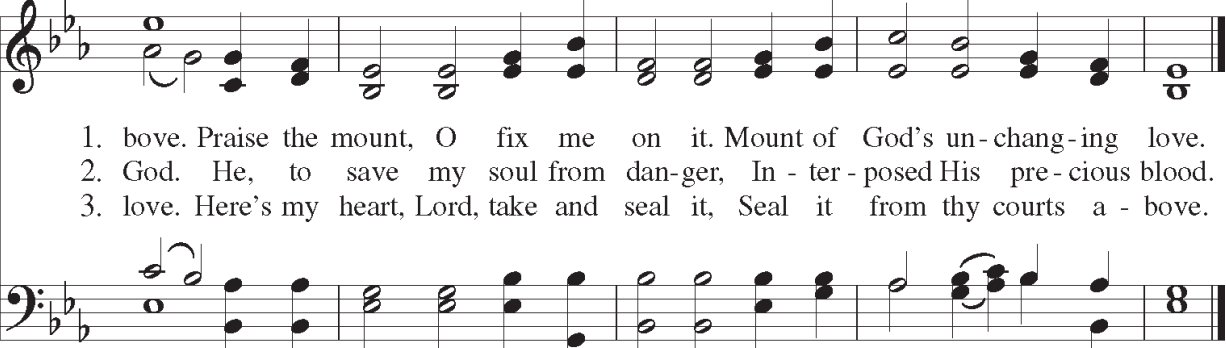
1. Come, Thou fount of ev - ery bless-ing, Tune my heart to sing thy  
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm  
 3. O, to grace how great a debt - or, Dai - ly I'm con - strained to



1. grace; Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas-ing, Call for songs of loud-est  
 2. come; And I hope, by thy good pleas-ure, Sure-ly to ar - rive at  
 3. be; Let that grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan-d'ring heart to



1. praise. Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, Sung by flam-ing tongues a -  
 2. home. Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan-d'ring from the fold of  
 3. Thee. Prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel— it, Prone to leave the God I



1. bove. Praise the mount, O fix me on it. Mount of God's un-chang-ing love.  
 2. God. He, to save my soul from dan-ger, In - ter - posed His pre-cious blood.  
 3. love. Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, Seal it from thy courts a - bove.

## OFFERTORY WORDS

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

## THE EUCHARIST PRAYER

*Celebrant* God is with you.

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

*Celebrant* Open wide your hearts

*People* **We open them to God..**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of your creation, you are the source of all love and mercy. We are inspired by your abiding presence in all times and places. If we climb to the highest mountains, you are there. If we fall into the depths of the valleys, you are with us. Your care knows no bounds.

We thank you for Jesus, who lived among us, showing us who you truly are and walking your way of love and justice. In Jesus the oppressed are empowered, voices are given to the voiceless, all are welcomed, and even those who were outcast are invited to the table.

When we fail to follow your way, sinning against you, our neighbors, or ourselves; you offer us forgiveness and transformation, so we may be led anew to your way of love; made true to us in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, your beloved and our brother.

Therefore, with all the people of faith in every time and place, we glory in your love and praise you in song:

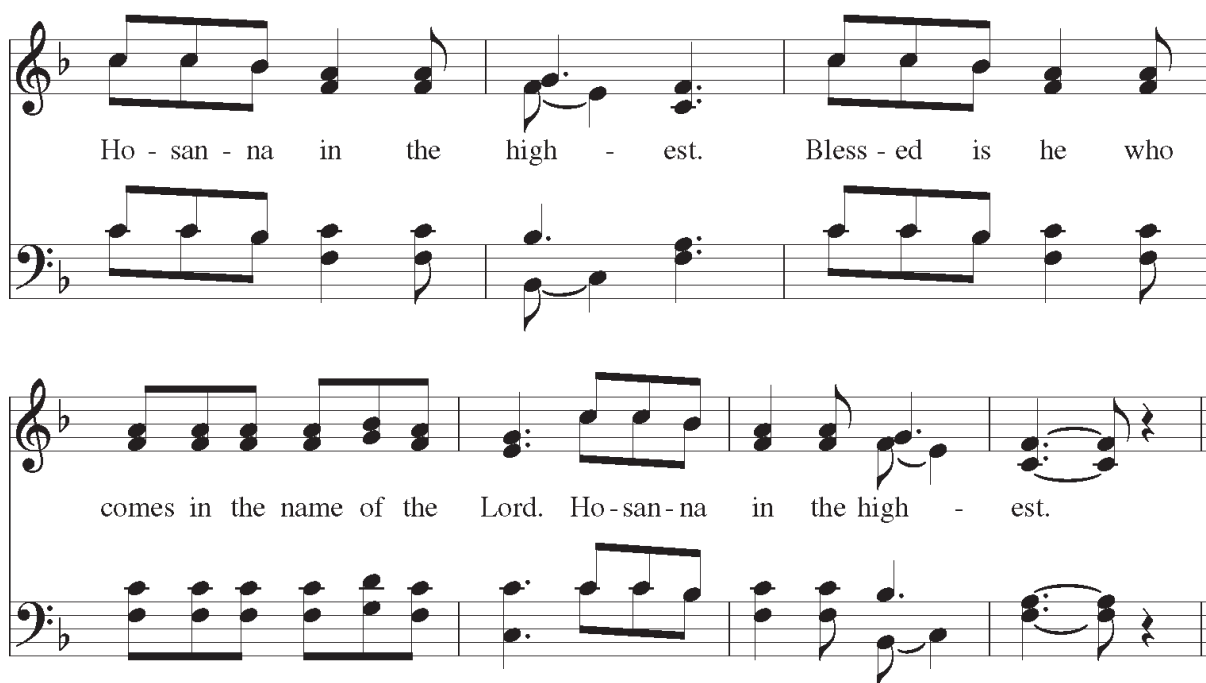
## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS WLP 857

### *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928-2019)  
from *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. One License, #A-729163.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 6/8 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Treble clef, with the Bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



*ThThe people kneel or stand.*

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; 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 all, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Holy and abiding God bless this community, and this bread and wine, the meal we share. By it may we be nourished by your unbounded love and grace and invited anew into your kingdom. ***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.***

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

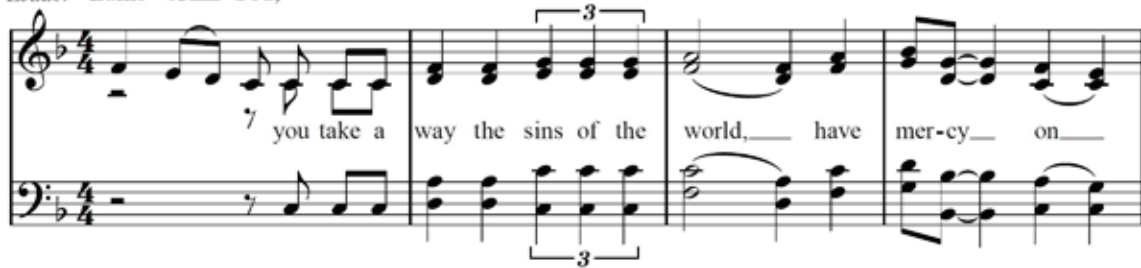
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!  
**Therefore let us keep the feast!**

## FRACTION ANTHEM

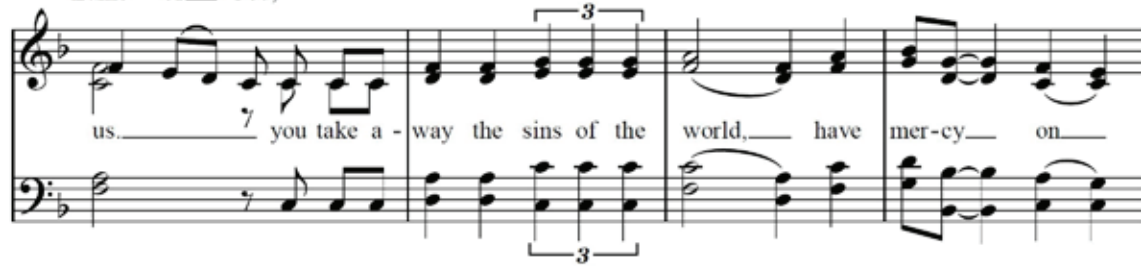
### *Lamb of God*

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928) from *Freedom Mass*.  
Based on traditional African melodies. One License, #A-729163.

*Leader* Lamb of\_\_ God,



Lamb of\_\_ God,



Lamb of\_\_ God,



## THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God, for you, the beloved people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died, for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*No matter where you are on your walk of faith, this is Christ's table and all are welcome to the Feast.*



## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMNAL 685

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,  
3 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

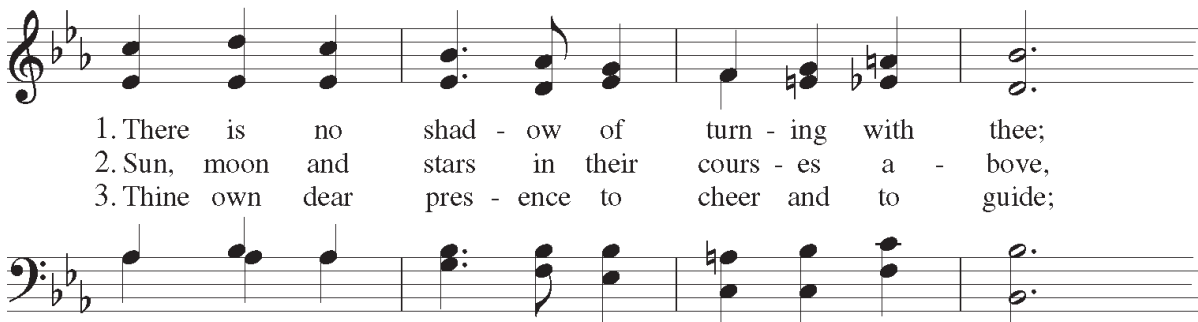
let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,  
all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;  
when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.  
in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

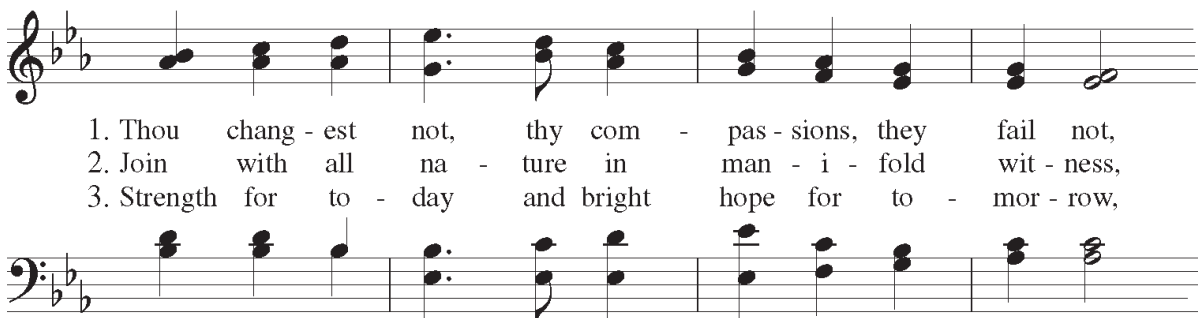





1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,  
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



1. There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;  
 2. Sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
 3. Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



1. Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not,  
 2. Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness,  
 3. Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



1. As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 2. To thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.  
 3. Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed,

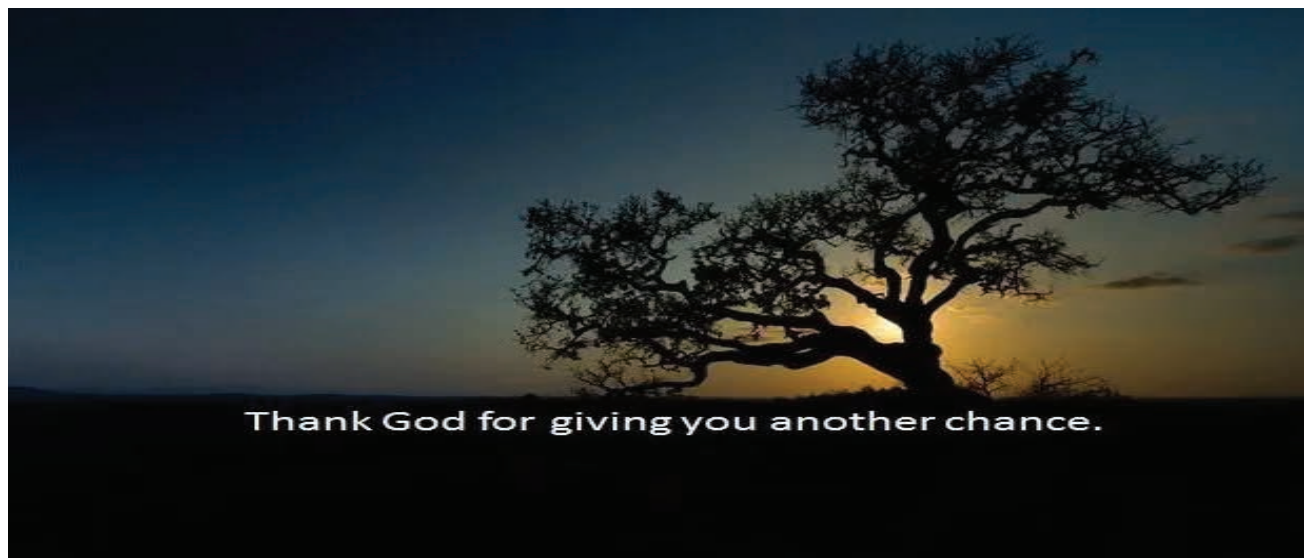
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

### POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

BLESSING

DISMISSAL



PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD  
LEVAS 12

*We're Marching to Zion*



1. Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known;— Join  
2. Let those re - fuse to sing Who nev - er knew our God;— But  
3. The hill of Zi - on yields A thou - sand sa - cred sweets— Be -  
4. Then let our songs a - bound, And ev - 'ry tear be dry;— We're



1. in a song with sweet ac - cord, Join in a song with sweet ac -  
2. chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, But chil - dren of the heav'n - ly  
3. fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, Be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly  
4. march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, We're march - ing thro' Im - man - uel's



1. cord, And thus sur - round the throne, And thus sur - round the throne.—  
2. King, May speak their joys a - broad, May speak their joys a - broad.—  
3. fields, Or walk the gold - en streets, Or walk the gold - en streets.—  
4. ground, To fair - er worlds on high, To fair - er worlds on high.—



We're march - ing to Zi - on, Beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful



We're march - ing on to Zi - on,

Zi - on; We're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on,  
Zi - on, Zi - on,

The beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

## POSTLUDE

### *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Tune: *Wondrous Love* from *Southern Harmony*, 1835; Arr. Anna Laura Page

Bailey Joy Myers, *organ*

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH COMPOSER SPOTLIGHT

The service music this month (Kyrie, Sanctus, and Fraction Anthem) is from the South African inspired *Freedom Mass* by **Betty Carr Pulkingham** (1928-2019). Both the Gloria and Fraction Anthem are set to the tune *Thuma Mina (Send Me, Lord)*, a Zulu prayer song, while the Sanctus is set to the protest song *Asikhatali*. Born in Burlington, North Carolina, Betty Carr Pulkingham received a B.S. in Music in 1949 from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and did graduate studies at the Eastman School of Music. She was a founding member of the Anglican religious order *The Community of Celebration*, and also traveled widely with *The Fisherfolk*, an outreach music ministry connected with the Community of Celebration. A well-known composer and arranger, Pulkingham co-edited and published a number of songbooks and books on worship and served on the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Church Music from 1988-1994. She died in Austin, Texas on May 9, 2019 at the age of 90.



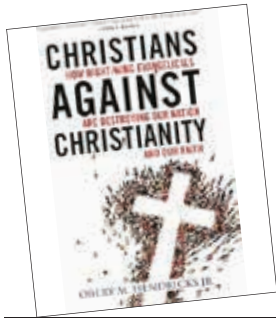
# Announcements • March 23, 2025

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## MONDAY NIGHT SERIES ON *THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER*



Anne LeVeque is leading a lively adult education class on *The Book of Common Prayer* through mid-April. The class is structured around the book *Praying Shapes Believing*, revised edition, by Ruth Myers and Leonel Mitchell. However, you do not have to purchase or even read it to participate. We meet in Ascension House at 6 - 8 pm, starting with some refreshments — bring some food to share, if you like. Please email [anne.leveque@gmail.com](mailto:anne.leveque@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



## Lenten Series

Consecutive Wednesdays • 10-11:30 am • Ascension House  
Continuing March 26, 2025

Topic: *Christians Against Christianity: How Right-Wing Evangelicals are Destroying our Nation and our Faith*

(from the book by Obery M. Hendricks, Jr.)

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## ELDERBERRIES RE-LAUNCH SUNDAY, MARCH 30 WITH REV. JOAN!

Stop by the *Elderberries* get-together on Sunday, March 30, 11:30 am, in the Parish Hall. Rev. Joan will share with us her experiences in the art of pilgrimage — the good, the bad, and the sublime!

And enjoy some refreshments as well! Questions? Contact Annette Achille [achille2125@verizon.net](mailto:achille2125@verizon.net) or Marilyn Abbott, [imrahome@aol.com](mailto:imrahome@aol.com)



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## COFFEE HOUR HOST SLOTS OPEN

PLEASE PREPARE THE JOY IN ~~MARCH 30~~ •  
~~APRIL 6, 13, & 27~~ & ~~MAY!~~

The new sign up sheet is now available on the bulletin board in the back of the parish hall. Sign up to host and scan the new QR code for instructions. Email or call Lisa Middleton with questions [office@ascensionsilverspring.org](mailto:office@ascensionsilverspring.org) or 301-587-3272.

If you want to be matched with a co-host, add your name to the Looking for a Co-Host sign-up sheet or email Lisa Middleton at [office@ascensionsilverspring.org](mailto:office@ascensionsilverspring.org)

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## Ladies Night Out!

Monday, March 24 • 6 pm

All women of Ascension will be heartily welcomed to this fun event! At El Gavilan on Flower Ave., just west of El Golfo.! Please let Rev. Terri know if you plan to come!





# Mustard Seed Ministry Opportunities March 2025

Ascension's Mustard Seed Ministry offers simple moments of ministry that are easy to complete. Don't know what to do to combat the need you see all around you? Choose one or more of the Mustard Seed opportunities below!

- **Diaper Ministry:** Donate diapers and wipes to benefit Silver Spring/Takoma Park Mutual Aid. Drop your diapers and wipes off in the Gathering Space on Sunday mornings, for more info contact Laura at [les291@nyu.edu](mailto:les291@nyu.edu) or Drew at [drewsnyder@pobox.com](mailto:drewsnyder@pobox.com)
- **Tommy's Pantry:** Volunteer to help at Ascension on Saturdays to prep and distribute food to those in need. For more information contact [tommyspantry.org](http://tommyspantry.org) or Libbie Griffin at [libbiegriffin@gmail.com](mailto:libbiegriffin@gmail.com)
- **Homeless Street Ministry:** Please consider donating a \$10 Giant or Safeway gift card to our homeless ministry. Give the homeless the gift of the simple dignity to purchase something without having to ask for a few coins! Place the card in the offering plate or in the mail slot at Ascension House. Donations are also needed to the Deacon's Discretionary Fund to keep this vital ministry going.
- **Help to maintain the beauty of Ascension's grounds** by volunteering to help with yard work, gardening, etc. Please contact [leticiatr@verizon.net](mailto:leticiatr@verizon.net) to volunteer.
- **Little Library.** Fill our little library by dropping off books. The box is in front of the church...or drop your donations in the plastic bin in the gathering Space.
- **Shepherd's Table:** Feed the 5,000 with a \$10 donation to Shepherd's Table you can help provide casseroles to feed the food challenged.
- **PenPal Project for the Incarcerated:** Join Interfaith Action for Human Rights to become involved. Email Rabbi Chuck Feinberg at [penpal.iahr@gmail.com](mailto:penpal.iahr@gmail.com) for more info.
- **Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind:** Volunteer at their Silver Spring office to assist sight challenged neighbors. For more info call them at 301-589-0894.

## This Month's Highlighted Ministry Blessing Box

This box is located at the Sunday School entrance. This is a free pantry where non-perishables are left for needy neighbors. Please drop off what you can.

### ***Last month's donations:***

Food cards distributed by the Street Ministry Team totaled \$1205.

Diaper Bank Donations totaled 307 diapers and 80 containers of wipes.







# Easter Flowers 2025

*This is an opportunity to remember those you love and to contribute to the Easter decorations in the church.*

Your name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please PRINT)*

Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of

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In thanksgiving for

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***A \$25 contribution is requested.***

*More than one person/family may contribute as a unit.*

*Please return this form with a check or cash, by putting it in the offering plate or sending it to the church office no later than **Monday, April 14**. Thank you.*





***Serving This Week***  
**Sunday, March 23, 2025**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, Rector  
 The Rev. Terri M. Murphy, Deacon  
*Altar Guild:* Hunter Howe, Jeanette Witter,  
 Deborah Percell, and Stacy Cooper

**8:00 AM Service**

*Sunday Warden:* Brenda Freeman/Tom Jacobson/Leticia Read  
*Lector/Intercessor:* Tom Jacobsen  
 LEM: Fred Paul

**10:00 AM Service**

*Sunday Warden:* Dick Marks  
*Director of Music Ministries:* Bailey Joy Myers  
*Lector:* Frank Malone  
*Intercessor:* Bob Cosby  
 LEMs: Buck Buckingham and Cathy Eliot  
*Ushers & Greeters:* Kathleen Fulton and Addison Hunt  
*Coffee Hour:* Matt and Alina Ptaszynski & Family

***Serving Next Week***  
**Sunday, March 30, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, Rector  
 The Rev. Terri M. Murphy, Deacon  
*Altar Guild:* Kate Rohrbaugh, Leona Cosby,  
 Brenda Freeman, and Maria Pracher

**8:00 AM Service**

*Sunday Warden:* Brenda Freeman/Tom Jacobson/Leticia Read  
*Lector/Intercessor:* Susan Galvan  
 LEM: Morna Holden

**10:00 AM Service**

*Sunday Warden:* Barb Menard  
*Director of Music Ministries:* Bailey Joy Myers  
*Lector:* Youth  
*Intercessor:* Youth  
 LEMs: Kevin Connell and Cathy Eliot  
*Ushers & Greeters:* Blaise Anthony Strandquist

**PARISH STAFF**

*Rector:* The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein  
 240-476-9772 • revdrjeb@comcast.net  
*Deacon:* The Rev. Terri M. Murphy  
 revterrimurphy@gmail.com • 240-535-3703  
*Director of Music Ministries:* Bailey Joy Myers  
 music@ascensionsilverspring.org  
*Administrative Assistant:* Lisa Middleton  
 office@ascensionsilverspring.org

**THE VESTRY OF ASCENSION**

• Jane Alpersen ('26), Senior Warden • Leticia Read ('26), Junior Warden  
 • Karen MacPherson, Secretary  
 • Cathy Eliot ('27) • Brenda Freeman ('28) • Tom Jacobson ('28)  
 • Robert Jones ('28) • Dick Marks ('28) • Barb Menard ('27)  
 • Deborah Percell ('27) • Andreas Smith ('27) • Shellie Williams ('28)  
 • Leona Cosby – Treasurer • Fred Paul – Assistant Treasurer  
 treasurer-ascension@comcast.net

To submit a prayer request or  
 add birthdays, anniversaries, and other thanksgivings  
 to the Sunday prayer list please email:  
 Jennifer Woods, [knitpick@mac.com](mailto:knitpick@mac.com) and  
 The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, [revdrjeb@comcast.net](mailto:revdrjeb@comcast.net)



*For peace and an end to violence and terrorism everywhere.*

**Our Parish Cycle of Prayer**

Denise Young, Satchell and Kenzie  
 Marilyn Abbott  
 Annette Achille  
 Faye Adams  
 David and Leslie Agro and Keith Ecker  
 Monica Allen and MC Aquarone  
 Jane Alpersen

*For those celebrating birthdays this week*

March 27: Maggie Howard  
 March 29: Shellie Williams

*In our Diocese*

We pray in thanksgiving for the committees in our churches  
 and for the people who say yes to be involved and  
 do the work to share the love of Christ.

The Annunciation (March 25)

Chapel of the Annunciation, Church House  
 All Parish Altar Guilds in the diocese

*In the Anglican Communion*

Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

For those with HIV/AIDS everywhere, but especially in  
 Africa.

*In the World*

All with the COVID-19 virus and all who have died.

*For people in need of healing*

(\*indicates a member of the parish; *italics*, new this week):

Cianna Ajavon, Rey Arteche, Cindy Bean,  
 Christopher Blackwall, Pat Boothe, Clyde Brewster,  
 Faven Brewster, David Cato, \*Drew and Vivi Clayton,  
 Tracy Dieter, Paul Draper, Stuart Draper, Kester Duncan,  
 \*Keith Ecker, Paula Fangboner, \*Catherine & Kiki Feissner,  
 \*Gigi Gilmore, Gail Goldberg, Olivia Guvman, Geoff Grub,  
 Donna Hebert, Ben Heffer, Jere Herzenberg, Joanne,  
 Vivian Hill, \*Maggie Howard, \*Tom Jacobson, Sheldon Jones,  
 Linda LeVeque, Thelma Manalo, Roland Maynez,  
 Trish Martzolf, Daniel Moodie, Roger<sup>1</sup> Philip, Carlos Rior,  
 \*Roger<sup>2</sup> Rohrbaugh, Judy Sasmore, \*April Schrock,  
 Diana Schroeder, Robin Schueneman,  
 \*Martha Smith, Ceil Snyder, Jane Stern, \*Joyce Sterling,  
 Marcia Talley, Darion Thomas, \*Joan Thomas and Family,  
 \*Ronald Whalen, Jocelyn Williams, \*Libby Williams,  
 Stuart Williams, \*Jennifer Woods, Amy Zieler

*Please take the Prayer List home for use in daily prayers.*