



# The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost • Proper 17 • Year C

## Sunday, August 31, 2025 • 10:00 a.m.

**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.

**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

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
Bailey Joy Myers, *piano*

Traditional American Melody; arr. Chris Rice

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN HYMNAL 376

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)

Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

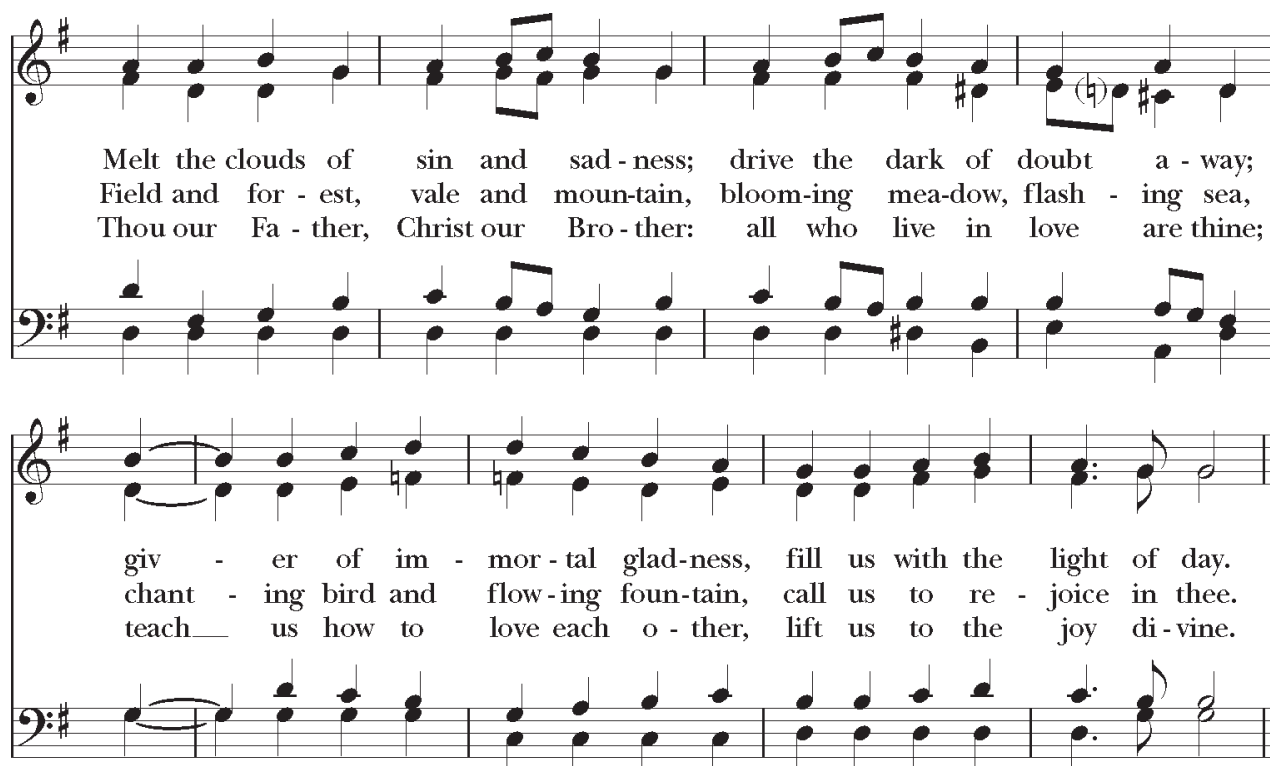
hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, SLIGO PARISH

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Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way;  
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mea-dow, flash-ing sea,  
Thou our Fa-ther, Christ our Bro-ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each o-ther, lift us to the joy di-vine.

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever. *Amen.*

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

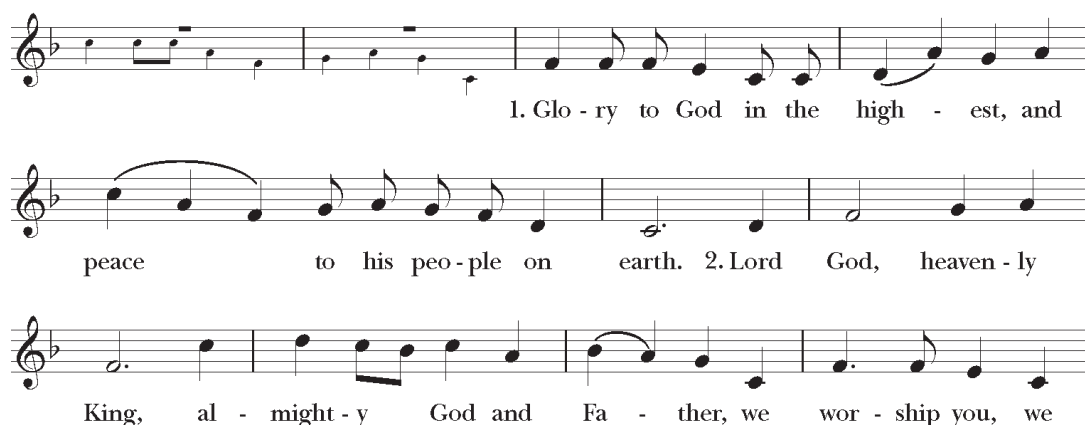
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly  
love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## SONG OF PRAISE

**HYMNAL S 280**

*Gloria in excelsis*

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly  
King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

**Jeanette Witter, Lector**

**Jeremiah 18:1-11**

*A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.*

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

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

**PSALM 139:1-5, 12-17**

**Jeanette Witter, *Lector***

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.**
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**
- 4 You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.**
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; \*  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, \*  
while I was being made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.**
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written in your book; \*  
they were fashioned day by day,  
when as yet there was none of them.**
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! \*  
how great is the sum of them!**
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; \*  
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

Jeanette Witter, *Lector*

## Philemon 1-21

*A Reading from The Letter of Paul to Philemon.*

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

The Word of the Lord.

People      **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GRADUAL HYMN

MHSO 20

## Celtic Alleluia

Words & Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker (b. 1947)

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*To be sung twice.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! \_\_\_\_

## THE GOSPEL

**Luke 14:25-33**

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON

**The Rev. Tim Malone**

*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 FORM VI** **Charlotte Brink, Intercessor**

**392**

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop; Mariann our Bishop; Joan, our rector; Terri, our deacon; Tim, our guest celebrant and preacher; Bailey, our Director of Music Ministries; Ana, Lisa, and Carmen, our parish staff; and our vestry. In our Diocese we pray for Campus Ministries and the students they serve, and the National Association of Episcopal Schools. Pray for all students and teachers. Labor Day (*September 1*). Pray for all who labor, those who are unemployed, those who seek jobs, and all who must work for less than a living wage. In the Anglican Communion we pray for The Church of the Province of South East Asia.

**For all who serve God in God's Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially *Peter ... Norma ... Tony ... Cindy ... Ashley ... Christopher ... Mike ... David ... Emily<sup>1</sup> ... Alenda ... \*Heidi ... \*Vivi ... Judith ... Olivia ... \*Keith ... John ... Emily<sup>2</sup> ... Sean ... Lelicia ... Geoff ... Jere ... The Hargraves Family ... The Haines and Harrigan Family ... The Hernan Family ... \*Maggie ... \*Brandon ... Bruce ... Martina ... The Jennings Family ... Joe ... Linda ... Carlo ... Minda ... Thelma ... Trish ... Roland ... Alex ... \*Sharon ... Joy ... Venus ... Carlos ... Barbara ... Astrid ... Robin ... Raymond ... The Seme Family ... Karen ... \*Martha ... Ceil ... \*Joyce ... \*Joan ... The Thomas Family ... \*Libby ... and Glenn.*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Today we pray for the following members of our parish: Heidi Nelson and Scott, Brandon and Annarose Harris; William O'Brien; Grace Ogden; Grant, Liana, Marielle, and Julian Orndoff; and Chris Parker and Addison and Gloria Hunt. And for those celebrating birthdays: Monica Maxon, Enid LaGesse, Anne Coyle, Nora Howard, and Judith Blackistone.  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, especially Patrice Botha, sister of Jeanette Witter, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

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

*Silence*

*Deacon*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence*

## CONFESSION

**God of all mercy, we know that we have fallen short: We turn our backs when we could embrace; we remain silent when we could speak; we speak when we could listen. When we could fling the door open, instead we close it; when we could be open hearted, instead we judge. Forgive us, O God, and strengthen us to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE ABSOLUTION

## THE PEACE

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

*People* And also with you.

## WELCOME AND BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY HYMN

WLP 812

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

Words & Music: Daniel L. Schutte

*Unison*

The musical score is written for a unison voice part in G major (one sharp). It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line and corresponding lyrics. The lyrics are arranged in three columns. The first system includes three numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system includes the words 'save.', 'way.', and 'save.' on the left, and 'I who made the stars of night, I will break their hearts of stone, Fin - est bread I will pro - vide' on the right. The fourth system continues the lyrics. The fifth system includes the words 'light to them?', 'word to them.', and 'life to them.' on the left, and 'Whom shall I send?' repeated three times on the right. The sixth system is the refrain, which includes the words 'Here I am, Lord.', 'Is it I, Lord?', and 'I have'.

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will  
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn a -  
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will

save. I who made the stars of night,  
way. I will break their hearts of stone,  
save. Fin - est bread I will pro - vide

I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my  
Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my  
Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my

light to them? Whom shall I send?  
word to them. Whom shall I send?  
life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have

heard you call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

### OFFERTORY WORDS

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

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

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARIST PRAYER B

*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 God thanks and praise.**

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

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

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

And so, we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we sing,



# SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

## HYMNAL S 129

## *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

*The people stand, kneel, or sit.*

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



Therefore, according to his command, O God,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer this 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, in hope and confidence, let us pray as our Savior Christ has taught us,

### 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

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

### FRACTION ANTHEM

#### HYMNAL S 163

#### *Lamb of God*

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

### THE INVITATION

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

*No matter where you are on your walk of faith, this is Christ's table and all are welcome to the Feast.  
Gluten-free wafers available upon request.*

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

MHSO 52

#### *All Who Hunger Gather Gladly*

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six lines of music, each with three staves of lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many notes beamed together. The lyrics are arranged in three columns, with the first column aligned under the first staff, the second under the second, and the third under the third. The final line of music ends with a double bar line.

All who hun - ger gath - er — glad - ly; — ho - ly — man - na  
All who hun - ger, nev - er — stran - gers, seek - er, — be a  
All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, — Je - sus — Christ is

is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and — wan - d'ring.  
wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and — roam - ing. —  
liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and — long - ing. —

Here in — truth we will be fed. You that yearn for  
Here, in — joy we keep the feast. We that once were  
Here, in — peace we have been fed. Blest are those who

days of — full - ness, all a - round us is our — food.  
lost and — scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.  
from this — ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

Taste and — see the grace e - ter - nal. —  
Taste and — see the grace e - ter - nal. —  
Taste and — see the grace e - ter - nal. —

Taste and — see that God is good.  
Taste and — see that God is good.  
Taste and — see that God is good.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993) © GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].  
All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

*Verse 1*

1. You shall cross the bar-ren des-ert, but you shall not die of thirst. You shall wan-der far in safe-ty though you do not know the way. You shall speak your words in for-eign lands and all will un-der-stand. You shall see the face of God and live.

*Refrain*

Be not a-fraid. I go be-fore you al-ways. Come, fol-low me, and I will give you rest.

*Verse 2*

2. If you pass through rag-ing wa-ters in the sea, you shall not drown, If you walk a-mid the burn-ing flames, you shall not be

harm'd. If you stand be-fore the pow'r of hell and  
 death is at your side, know that I am with you through it  
*To refrain Verse 3*  
 all. *To refrain* 3. Bless-ed are your poor, for the  
 king-dom shall be theirs. Blest are you that  
 weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh. And if  
 wick-ed men in-sult and hate you all be-cause of me,  
 bless-ed, bless-ed are you!  
*Final Refrain*  
 Be not a-fraid. I go be-fore you al-ways.  
 Come, fol-low me, and I will give you  
 rest.

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of mercy, by whose grace alone we are accepted and equipped for your service: stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE BLESSING

## DISMISSAL

## PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD

### HYMNAL 438

### *Tell Out My Soul*

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926), alt.  
Music: *Woodlands*, Walter Greated (1877-1949)



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!  
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!  
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!  
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;  
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.  
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.  
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

## POSTLUDE

### *Down to the River to Pray*

Arr. Mark Hayes/Douglas E. Wagner  
Tune: *The Good Old Way*, Traditional American Melody

Bailey Joy Myers, *organ*

## Announcements • August 31, 2025

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### FIRST FRIDAY Solidarity Sing!

Friday, September 5 • 7 p.m.

@ Church of the Ascension in the Parish Hall



Lift your voice and love your neighbor with **Church of the Ascension, Carpe Diem Arts, Tommy's Pantry, and Silver Spring & Takoma Park Mutual Aid!** Come at 6:30 to connect with neighbors, discover ways to get involved in the community, and take small action steps to meet local needs. Reserve your free ticket at <https://firstfridaysing.eventbrite.com>

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### September Sundays!

*September 7* – Welcome Back Sunday and Sunday School Starts!

*September 14* – Rector Search Town Hall in Parish Hall 11:30 am.

Lunch provided. Childcare and lunch provided for children in Lower Level.

*September 21* – Ministry Fair – come see what you're called to do - info sheets provided and questions answered one-on-one! Parish Hall 11:30 am.



*September 28* – Baby Shower for Bailey and Kevin! Parish Hall 11:30 am.

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### Baby Shower for Bailey, our Minister of Music, and her husband, Kevin Grasel (baby's due date early November) Sunday, September 28 at Coffee Hour



This casual community event is **OPEN TO ALL**. No presents required. For those who are interested, a gift link: <https://my.babylist.com/mrpsauvwf> or open your camera app and scan the QR code to access the link 📱



### An Urgent Appeal for HAITI:

Earlier this summer, **Bishop Mariann** sent a donation of \$5000 to Episcopal clergy in Haiti who provide sanctuary for communities threatened by gang violence. Another donation, this time from EDOW members, will be sent in early September. Read more and donate at [bit.ly/EDOWHaiti](http://bit.ly/EDOWHaiti). Additionally, parishes and individuals in EDOW are invited to connect with the **Haiti Advocacy Ministry**, an initiative led by deacons, priests, and lay people with a long history of working in Haiti. This group shares information and resources, offering mutual support and prayers to address the dire situation in a place much loved by those who know it well. For more information, please contact [Karen Wires](#), chair.

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## October Coffee Hour Hosts Wanted!

Please Spread the joy!



Sign up using the sign-up sheet on the Parish Hall bulletin board or scan the QR code (also includes instructions).  
Email or call Lisa Middleton with questions office@ascensionsilverspring.org or 301-587-3272.



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## Introducing Music Boosters!

Do you love our music program at Ascension? Are you looking for a fun and impactful way to show your support? You don't have to sing a note to make a difference! Ascension Music Boosters is a new group supporting our Music Ministries through planning, organizing, and creative ideas. Whatever your skills — coordination, hospitality, enthusiasm, or arm strength — we need you! Help us keep the music strong. Become a booster!

*First meeting Sunday, September 21 at noon in the Choir Room!*

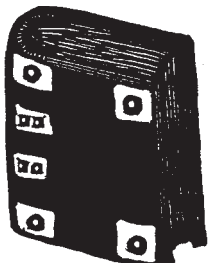


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## BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Which bishop wrote the majority of the collects in our prayer book?

What even IS a collect?



\*\* Join us for a ten-week course using the framework of the book *Praying Shapes Believing* (2016, revised edition) to examine the central document of the Episcopal Church, *The Book of Common Prayer*. We will read the BCP in



manageable pieces, discussing its history, theological context, and what the future holds. We will meet on Monday evenings, beginning at 6 pm with a shared potluck meal, then begin our conversation at 6:30, going until 8 pm.

Email **Anne LeVeque** - [anne.leveque@gmail.com](mailto:anne.leveque@gmail.com) - for more information and a schedule of classes. Class begins **September 15th** and goes through **November 17th**.

\*\* **In addition, during Advent**, we will do a special in-depth 4 week course on the Eucharist, following the same format. We will begin on December 1st and go through December 22nd.



# Search Committee Update

This summer, the Search Committee (consisting of the elected members of the Vestry) has adopted the **Search Process schedule** you can find on Ascension's website in the Rector Search section ([ascensionsilverspring.org/rector-search/](http://ascensionsilverspring.org/rector-search/)). It is subject to change as events and accomplishments impact the timing.

In addition, the Search Committee is developing an **all-parish survey** to be issued in September. Responses to the survey will provide crucial information on Ascension's current strengths, challenges, and growth opportunities. These aspects all impact the kind of next rector and future we envision for Ascension. The Rev. Dr. Anne-Marie Jeffrey, the Diocese's Canon for Congregational Vitality, is actively supporting the Committee in this process. For more information about how we're thinking about parish vitality, please see Vital Signs of Parish Health also in the Rector Search section of Ascension's website

Finally, mark your calendars for a special coffee hour after the **10 am service on Sunday, September 14**, when the Rev. Anna Olson from the Diocese joins us in a all-parish town hall to go over the search process. Questions welcome!

Feel free to contact your wardens with any questions or comments you have about the process.

**Jane Alperson** [seniorwarden@ascensionsilverspring.org](mailto:seniorwarden@ascensionsilverspring.org)

**Leticia Read** [juniorwarden@ascensionsilverspring.org](mailto:juniorwarden@ascensionsilverspring.org)



## OUR MISSION

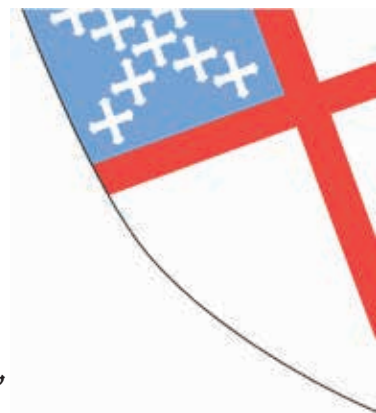
We are an inclusive community of faith grounded in the way of life revealed in Jesus Christ.

## OUR VISION

We welcome all.

We join in joyful worship and offer opportunities for everyone to discern and share their spiritual and leadership gifts.

We seek justice and peace, and we build community through prayer, action, and sharing our resources.





# Mustard Seed Ministry Opportunities August 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!

- **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 Free 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.
- **Little Free Pantry:** This box is located at the Sunday School entrance. This is a free pantry where non-perishables are left for neighbors in need. Please drop off what you can.
- **Feed the 5,000:** With a \$10 donation to Shepherd's table you can help provide casseroles to feed the food challenged. Donate at <https://www.shepherdstable.org>
- **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.
- **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)

## *This Month's Highlighted Ministry*



## Tommy's Pantry

Volunteer to help at Ascension on Saturdays to prep and distribute food to those in need.

For more information contact [tommyspantry@gmail.org](mailto:tommyspantry@gmail.org) or Libbie Griffin at [libbiegriffin@gmail](mailto:libbiegriffin@gmail).

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

Homeless Ministry team visitations resumed August 3.

*Serving This Week*  
**The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**August 31, 2025 • Proper 17**

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev. Tim Malone

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:* Jocelyn Lindsay

*LEM:* Garrett Keeler

**10:00 AM Service**

*Sunday Warden:* Shellie Williams

*Director of Music Ministries:* Bailey Joy Myers

*Lector:* Jeanette Witter

*Intercessor:* Charlotte Brink

*LEMs:* Cathy Eliot and Charlotte Brink

*Ushers & Greeters:* Addison Hunt and Jim Wolf

*Tech Team:* Lia Kvatum and Violet Connell Kvatum

*Serving Next Week*  
**The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**September 7, 2025 • Proper 18**

*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:* Susan Galvan

*LEM:* Fred Paul

**10:00 AM Service**

*Sunday Warden:* Cathy Eliot

*Director of Music Ministries:* Bailey Joy Myers

*Lector:* Libbie Griffin

*Intercessor:* Annie Brown

*LEMs:* Kevin Connell and Buck Buckingham

*Ushers & Greeters:* Addison Hunt and Bill Schauman

*Tech Team:* Barbara Menard and Heidi Clark

*Coffee Hour:* Welcome Back Sunday, the Vestry

**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 Alperson ('26), *Senior Warden* • Leticia Read ('26), *Junior Warden*  
• Karen MacPherson, *Secretary*

• Cathy Eliot ('27) • Brenda Freeman ('28) • Tom Jacobson ('28)

• Robert Jones ('28) • Anne LeVeque ('26) • Dick Marks ('28)

• Deborah Percell ('27) • Andreas Smith ('27) • Shellie Williams ('28)

• Leona Cosby – *Treasurer* • Fred Paul – *Assistant Treasurer*

treasurer@ascensionsilverspring.org

To submit a prayer request or  
add birthdays, anniversaries, and other thanksgivings  
to the Sunday prayer list, please email:  
Jennifer Woods, knitpick@mac.com

The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, revdrjeb@comcast.net

# Prayers

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

## Our Parish Cycle of Prayer

Heidi Nelson and Scott, Brandon and Annarose Harris

William O'Brien

Grace Ogden

Grant, Liana, Marielle, and Julian Orndoff

Chris Parker and Addison and Gloria Hunt

*For those celebrating birthdays this week*

*August 31:* Monica Maxon

*September 2:* Enid LaGessee

*September 3:* Anne Coyle, Nora Howard

*September 5:* Judith Blackistone

### *In our Diocese*

Campus Ministries and the students they serve

National Association of Episcopal Schools

Pray for all students and teachers

Labor Day (*September 1*) Pray for all who labor,  
those who are unemployed, those who seek jobs,  
and all who must work for less than a living wage.

### *In the Anglican Communion*

The Church of the Province of South East Asia

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

### *For people in need of healing*

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

*Peter Amindon*, Norma and Tony Argo, Cindy Bean,

Ashley Beilstein, Christopher Blackwall, Mike Cassilo,

David Cato, Emily Cedrone, Alenda Chang, \*Heidi Clark,

\*Vivi Clayton, Judith Curtis, Olivia DeGuzman, \*Keith Ecker,

John Eliot, Emily Fitzsimmons, Sean Fitzsimmons,

Geoff Grub, Jere Herzenberg, The Hargraves Family,

The Haines and Harrigan Family, The Hernan Family,

\*Maggie Howard, \*Brandon Howe, Bruce Hutton,

Martina Jennings and Family, *Joe Liebman*, Linda LeVeque,

Carlo Manalo, Minda Manalo, Thelma Manalo,

Trish Martzolf, Roland Maynez, Alex Mercado,

\*Sharon Murphy, Joy Orevik, Venus Pope, Carlos Rigor,

Barbara Ross-Robey, Astrid Schmidt-Nielson, Robin Schueneman,

The Rev. Greg Seme and Family, Raymond Sisan, Karen Sisk,

\*Martha Smith, Ceil Snyder, \*Joyce Sterling,

\*Joan Thomas and Family, \*Libby Williams, Glenn Woodley,

### *For those who have died:*

Patrice Botha, sister of Jeanette Witter

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

