



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

† Year A

Sunday, March 19, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Welcome 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 required for congregational singing.**

The 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

Depth of Mercy/Search Me, O God

Carl M. von Weber and Edward J. Hopkins; Arr. Cindy Berry

Bailey Myers, *piano*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

HYMNAL 493

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Azmon, Carl Gotthif Glaser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heayen.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, SLIGO PARISH

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The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

LEVAS 235

Lord Have Mercy

Music: Lena McLin, *Eucharist of the Soul*
Reprinted from *Eucharist of the Soul* (GC41)

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The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system contains the lyrics 'Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have'. The second system begins with a 'Fine' marking and contains the lyrics 'mer - cy. Christ have mer - cy,'. The third system contains the lyrics 'Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.' and ends with a 'D.C.' (Da Capo) marking. The music features various melodic lines with ties and rests, and includes triplets in the final system.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which
gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON**Liz Malone, Lector****1 Samuel 16:1-13***A Reading from the First Book of Samuel.*

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

*People***Thanks be to God.****PSALM 23****HYMNAL 663*****The Lord My God My Shepherd Is***

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of Psalm 23

Music: *Crimond*, melody Jesse Seymour Irvine (1836-1887); harm. Hymnal 1982

1 The Lord my God my shep - herd is; how
 2 To whole - ness he re - stores my soul and
 3 Yea, e - ven when I must pass through the
 4 Thou hast in grace my ta - ble spread se -
 5 Then sure - ly I can trust thy love for

1 could I want or need? In pas - tures green, by
 2 doth in mer - cy bless, and helps me take for
 3 val - ley of death's shade, I will not fear, for
 4 cure in all a - larms, and filled my cup, and
 5 all the days to come, that I may tell thy

1 streams se - rene, he safe - ly doth me lead.
 2 his Name's sake the paths of right - eous - ness.
 3 thou art here, to com - fort and to aid.
 4 borne me up in ev - er - last - ing arms.
 5 praise, and dwell for ev - er in thy home.

THE SECOND LESSON

Liz Malone, *Lector*

Ephesians 5:8-14

A Reading from The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
 Rise from the dead,
 and Christ will shine on you.”

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

THE GRADUAL HYMN
WLP 773

Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

Words: Michael Perry; ©1982, 1989 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188
Music: Sharpe, Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from Tunes for Grace; © 1997 Carl Haywood

1. Heal me, hands of Je - sus, and search out all my pain: re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je - sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je - sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je - sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and

store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

THE GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

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

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.”

Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Terri M. Murphy, Deacon

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)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Michael; Mariann our Bishop; Joan our Rector; Terri our Deacon; Bailey, our Director of Music Ministries; Creamilda, deacon; our deacon postulants Annemarie and Mary; and for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the People of God. In our Diocese we pray that each congregation be attentive to the areas of ministry described by the Vital Signs of Parish Health. And we pray for Chapel of the Annunciation at Church House; The Annunciation (*March 25*). In the Anglican Communion we pray for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the wellbeing of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We pray especially today for **Myrna ... *Vanessa ... *Virginia ... Gwendolyn ... Tina ... Zhane ... Dee¹ ... *Yvonne ... *Bob¹ ... *Buck ... Emily ... Joré Yvonne ... Janet ... Jessica D. ... *Keith ... Sean ... Craig ... Pat ... Geoff ... Bob ... *Luz ... Elizabeth ... Judy ... Jere ... *Maggie ... Carol¹ ... The Ingersoll Family ... *Bob² ... The Jeffers Family ... Andy ... *Maybelle ... Pat ... Dee² ... Thelma M. ... *Dana ... *Emmy ... David ... Martha ... Severn ... Robin ... Sam ... *Carol² ... *Martha ... *Joyce ... Ted ... The Tate Family ... *Emile ... Nancy ... *Joan ... Myrtle ... *Helen ... Libby ... Marie ... and *Jennifer.**

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

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

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.
Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. We pray for the following members of our parish: Ginger and Harper Baran and Family; Julia Barlow, Dan, and Lizzie Cremons; David, Jenny, Julia Bates, Anne LaVeque and Jake Wilson, King Peggy Bartels. And for those celebrating birthdays: Samuel Cornish Emery (3), Ben Dodds (6), and Mary Keegan.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant

Holy God, your knowledge of us exceeds what we grasp or see in any moment; you know us better than we know our selves. Now, help us to trust in your mercy, to see our selves in the light of your holiness, and grant us the grace that we may have true contrition, make an honest confession, and find in you forgiveness and perfect remission. **Amen.**

Deacon:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love bring you back to God, forgive you your sins, and assure you of God's eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Welcomed Home Again

The Chancel Choir

Based on the Folk Tune 'The Salley Gardens'
Words and Arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

OFFERTORY HYMN
HYMNAL 490

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Words: Kathleen Thomrson (b. 1934)
Music: *Houston*. Kathleen Thomrson (b. 1934)
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1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.
I want to look at Je-sus.
I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.
show me the way to the Fa-ther.
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo
Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

OFFERTORY WORDS

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

BLESSING OF THE AGAPE MEAL AT HOME

We thank you God for the abundance of your hand. The food that satisfies our hunger, and the drink that quenches our thirst. As we gather together, from near and far, we ask that you continue to bless our daily bread and the fruit of the vine, which we share when we come together as One Body in your Name. *Amen.*

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.**

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS
LEVAS 252

Holy, Holy, Holy

Music: Lena McLin, *Eucharist of the Soul*
Reprinted from *Eucharist of the Soul* (GC41)
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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power 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.

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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now in hope and confidence, let us pray as our Savior Christ has taught us,

**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 LEVAS 269

Lamb of God

Music: Lena McLin, *Eucharist of the Soul*
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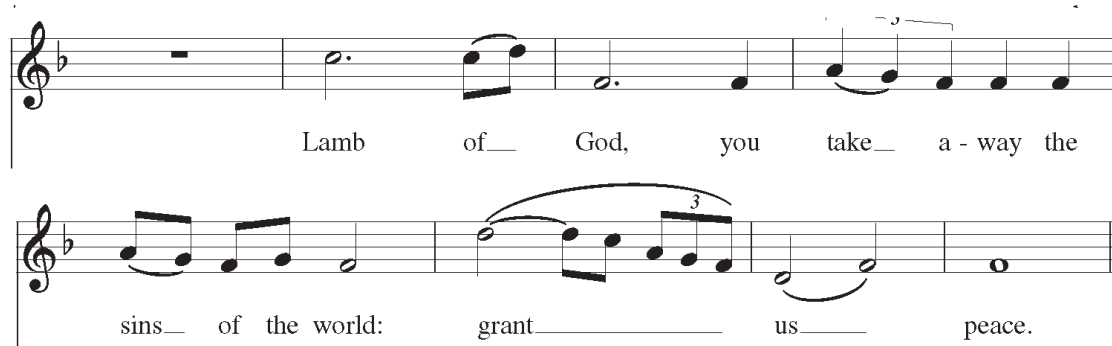
The musical notation is presented in four systems, each on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system contains the lyrics 'Lamb of God, you'. The second system contains 'take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.' The third system contains 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the'. The fourth system contains 'sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.' The notation includes various note values, rests, and a repeat sign at the end of the fourth system.

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.



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.

*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.*

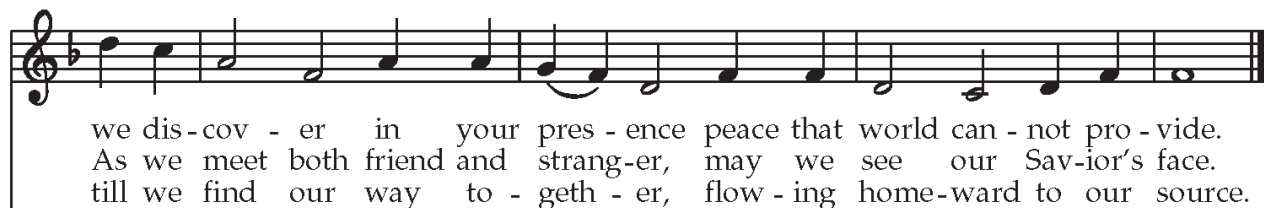
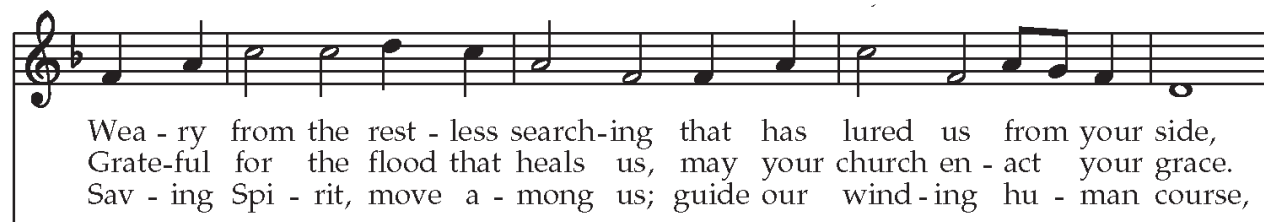
THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

VOICES FOUND 96

Healing River of the Spirit

Words: Ruth C. Duck, from *Circles of Care: Hymns and Song* © 1996 The Pilgrim Press
Music: *Beach Spring*, from *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*



HYMNAL 664

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23

Music: Resignation, American folk melody



1 My Shep - herd will sup - ply my need, Je - ho - vah
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres - ence
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me



is his Name; _____ in pas - tures fresh he
 is my stay; _____ one word of thy sup -
 all my days; _____ oh, may thy house be



makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.____
 port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.____
 mine a - bode and all my work be praise.____



He brings my wan - dering spi - rit back when I for -
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my
 There would I find a sett - led rest, while o - thers



sake his ways, _____ and leads me, for his
 ta - ble spread; _____ my cup with bless - ings
 go and come; _____ no more a stran - ger



mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.____
 o - ver - flows, thy oil a - noints my head.____
 or a guest, but like a child at home.____

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, we thank you for feeding us with spiritual food of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to remember you made us from the dust of the earth. Now raise us up and help us turn toward you with open hearts, beholding your glory, that by your grace we may serve the world in your Name and receive everlasting life. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

Return to God with all your heart: remove the burdens of the poor, let the oppressed go free, and speak evil no more. Offer your food to the hungry and care for the afflicted, and your light will break forth like the dawn. And as you do so, may the blessing God: Creator, Christ, and Spirit, be upon you this day, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD

LEVAS 184

Blessed Assurance

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)
Music: Phoebe P. Knapp (1839-1908)

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! — O what a
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, — Vi - sions of
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, — I in my

1. fore-taste of glo - ry di - vine! — Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
2. rap - ture now burst on my sight; — An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest; — Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

1. God, — Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood. —
2. bove — Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. —
3. bove, — Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love. —

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, Prais - ing my
sav - ior all the day long; This is my sto - ry, this is my
song, Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long.

POSTLUDE

Basse et Dessus de Trompette ou de Cornet séparé, en Dialogue

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)

Bailey Myers, organ

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH COMPOSER SPOTLIGHT:

Lena McLin - born in Atlanta, Georgia on September 5, 1928 - is a prolific music teacher, composer, author, and pastor. At the age of 5, she began to study music with her famous uncle Thomas Dorsey, the "Father of Gospel Music," and accompanied his choir at the Pilgrim Baptist Church in Chicago. She went on to receive her B.M. in piano and violin from Spelman College in Atlanta, and then received her M.M. from the American Conservatory of Music, Chicago. McLin taught music in the Chicago public high schools for 36 years, nurturing hundreds of young singers and musicians. She is also a renowned composer of a wide range of music, including cantatas, masses, solo and choral arrangements of spirituals, anthems, rock operas, soul songs, works for piano and orchestra, and electronic music. Our service music this month (*Kyrie*, *Sanctus*, and *Fraction Anthem*) is from *Eucharist of the Soul*, written in 1972 by Lena McLin.



Ruth Elaine Schram (born in 1956) wrote her first song at the age of twelve, and her first choral piece was published twenty years later, in 1988. In 1992, she became a full-time composer and arranger and now has over 2,000 published works. Over seventeen million copies of her songs have been purchased in their various venues, and she has been a recipient of the ASCAP Special Award each year since 1990. In addition to her choral music for church and school choirs, she also has written songs for television shows. Schram now lives in Birmingham, Alabama with her family.



Easter Flowers 2023

*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

In thanksgiving for

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 3rd**. Thank you.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS • MARCH 19, 2023

2023 LENTEN SERIES

Theme: "Take the Plunge: Dive Deeper into your Faith"

ONLY TWO WEDNESDAYS LEFT: MARCH 22, AND 29, 2023

There will be two (2) opportunities to participate.

10:00 AM - In person OR

6:30 PM - By Zoom (*Watch for the link.*)



Each week we will be exploring questions of faith. Participants will have several questions to choose from to reflect upon. These questions will be posted in advance in Friday's SSE. As a congregation, we will be invited to reflect upon these weekly Lenten questions even if you cannot attend the series.

March 22nd Session:

Reflection Questions to Choose From:

Share an experience when your faith sustained you in a particularly difficult time or when your faith enabled you to help another person going through a difficult time.

Christ taught us to forgive others as we have been forgiven. When in your life have you asked God or another person for forgiveness? Did you feel forgiven? Why or why not?

Jesus teaches us to love our neighbor as our self. Share a story of a time in your life when this was especially challenging. How did you respond?

All welcome to share in this exciting opportunity to deepen our faith.

***Saturday, March 25 • 8 p.m.,
The Origins Concert Series***

(A Hub for Adventurous Music Seekers) presents WINDS!

Hear the wild splash of the Wuorinen wind quintet, a bucolic alphorn solo, a new piece for flute and owl sounds, a pastoral quintet by Milhaud based on a castle near his home, and the melding of Brazilian & Baroque in music of Villa-Lobos. Meet the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and French horn group at a reception after the show. Suggested donations at the door or on Eventbrite are \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth 18 and under. More info at originsconcerts.org.



Call for Campfire Stories and Save the Date for Virtual Saturday, April 29th Event!

Please save the date for our upcoming event, ***Country Roads: A Night in West Virginia!***, a virtual fundraiser for The Church of The Ascension on Saturday, April 29 from 6:30 to 7:30pm.

Mark your calendars and be on the look-out for an event invitation email with the details coming soon!

This is our annual fundraiser which helps us meet our financial needs throughout the year that are not met through our member pledge campaign. A fun part of the event will be singing and story-telling, so we are soliciting your best short campfire stories now! The best campfire stories (thrilling, funny, spooky, goofy, true, or made up) will be selected to be featured during the event!

Please submit a written or recorded draft of your story to **Bailey Myers** at baileyjoymyers@gmail.com or upload using this link <https://u.pcloud.com/#page=puplink&code=tDxkZ8M92UsBPYSfsWnCyuLeCCRI6Rx37> or a file-sharing method of your choice.

Questions about the submission, please email **Bailey Myers** at baileyjoymyers@gmail.com.

Gratefully,

Your illustrious event committee: **Jane Alperson, Chris Parker Hunt, Marilyn Abbott and Bailey Myers**

Mustard Seed Ministry Opportunities • March 2023



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

- **Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind**, located on Georgia Ave., Silver Spring is seeking volunteers to record for the blind, as well as those who will help the visually impaired with a variety of tasks. For more info, contact Jocelyn Hunter at jhunter@clb.org or call 301-589-0894.
- **Tommy's Pantry**, volunteer to help at Ascension on Saturdays to prep and distribute food to needy neighbors. For more info contact tommyspantry.org or Libbie Griffin 240-593-1143 or libbiegriffin@gmail.com
- **Casserole Ministry**. Shepherd's Table asks that rather than making a casserole for Shepherd's Table, you donate the cost of making one (\$10), to Shepherd's Table. Please let Carol Schwobel know of your donation. Cjs_skye@hotmail.com¹
- **Drop off a \$10.00 Giant or Safeway food cards or granola bars** at services or in the mail slot in Ascension House. These are needed for street ministry. *
- **Join a street ministry team!** We are looking for people to join our team especially for the every other Wednesday patrol. On the first and third Wednesdays of the month, they go out from 10-11 p.m. to distribute gift cards to the homeless in the area.
- **Diaper Ministry** to benefit Greater DC Diaper Bank and Silver Spring/Takoma Park Mutual Aid. Please drop off items at Church on Sunday mornings. For more info contact Laura Schattschneider at les291@nyu.edu; Drew Snyder at drewsnyder@pobox.com or Jess Quaranto at jess.quaranto@gmail.com
- Want to help a child stay in school in Ecuador? The cost is a minimal \$22/month. Joan and I worked with these people when we were there, and every penny goes to the child's educational costs. To donate to Education = Hope, go to educationequalshope.org/ecuador.html
- Volunteer to welcome busses arriving from the border! For info on how you can help, please contact Amy Hammond at migranthelpdmv@gmail.com

In February, you donated:

1. \$485 = 60 casseroles to Shepherd's Table
2. \$1,540.00 in grocery cards were given to the homeless through our street ministry.
3. 1100+ diapers to the Diaper Ministry

Serving Today

Sunday, March 19, 2023 • Fourth Sunday in Lent

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein
Preacher: The Rev. Terri Murphy, Deacon
Assisting: The Rev. Creamilda Yoda, Deacon
Sunday Warden: Leticia Read

8:00 AM Service

Lector: Tom Jacobson
LEM: Luz Guiab

10:00 AM Service

Director of Music Ministries: Bailey Myers
Lector: Liz Malone
LEMs: Fred Paul

Ushers & Greeters: Bill Schauman and Jacki Smith
Live-Stream Team: Steve Fromyer, Barb Menard,
 and Heidi Clark

Serving Next Week

Sunday, March 26, 2023 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Daniel Darko
 The Rev. Terri Murphy, Deacon
Assisting: The Rev. Creamilda Yoda, Deacon
Sunday Warden: Joe Simpich

8:00 AM Service

Lector: Susan Poling
LEM: Garrett Keeler

10:00 AM Service

Director of Music Ministries: Bailey Myers
Lector: Mary A. Kelly
LEMs: Fred Paul and Deborah Percell
Ushers & Greeters: Chuck McCarter and Jim Wolf
Live-Stream Team: Monica Allen and Bill Schauman

PARISH STAFF

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein
 240-476-9772 • revdrjeb@comcast.net
Deacon: The Rev. Terri M. Murphy
 ReverendTerri@aol.com • 240-535-3703
Director of Music Ministries: Bailey Myers
 1-715-304-7202 • baileyjoymyers@gmail.com

THE VESTRY OF ASCENSION

- Chris Parker Hunt ('25), Senior Warden • Leticia Read ('26), Junior Warden
- Karen MacPherson ('25), Secretary
- Jane Alperson ('26) • Theo Emery ('24) • Denise Franklin ('25)
- Anne LeVeque ('24) • Chuck McCarter ('24)
- Joe Simpich ('25) • Joan Thomas ('24)
- 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 and
 The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, revdrjeb@comcast.net

Special Thanks to Chris Chang and Astrocasters for helping make our live
 stream possible by providing our streaming server and cota.live site!



For peace and an end to violence and terrorism everywhere.

Our Parish Cycle of Prayer:

Ginger and Harper Baran and Family
 Julia Barlow, Dan, and Lizzie Cremons
 David, Jenny, Julia Bates, Anne LaVeque and Jake Wilson
 King Peggy Bartels

For those celebrating birthdays:

March 21: Samuel Cornish Emery (3)
 March 22: Ben Dodds (6), Mary Keegan

In our Diocese:

We pray that each congregation be attentive to the areas of
 ministry described by the Vital Signs of Parish Health.

Chapel of the Annunciation, Church House
 The Annunciation (March 25)

In the Anglican Communion:

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

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):

Myrna Ajavon, *Vanessa Bowling Ajavon, *Virginia Allen,
 Gwendolyn Alexander, Tina Arnold, Zhane Belmontes,
 Dee Wood-Bowling, *Yvonne Boyd, *Bob Brown,
 *Buck Buckingham, Emily Cedrone, Joré Yvonne Chumbley,
 Janet Duncan, Jessica D., *Keith Ecker, Sean Fitzsimmons,
 Craig Gordon, Pat Grant, Geoff Grub, Bob Gough,
 *Luz Guiab, Elizabeth Haines, Judy Haveman, Ben Heffer,
 Jere Herzenberg, *Maggie Howard, Carol Humphrey,
 The Ingersol Family, *Bob Jacobs and Barbara Ryan,
 The Jeffers Family, Andy Jury, *Maybelle Kagy, Pat Latin,
 Dee Lehman, Thelma M., *Dana Sussman-Martin,
 *Emmy Medina, David Meyer, Martha Roberts, Severn Savage,
 Robin Schueneman, Sam Shum, *Carol Schwobel,
 *Martha Smith, *Joyce Sterling, Ted Stewart,
 The Tate Family, *Emile and Nancy Thomas, *Joan Thomas,
 Myrtle Thompson, *Helen Van Doren, Lesley Vossen,
 Libby Williams, Marie Woodley, *Jennifer Woods

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