



Jesus said, "From the fig tree learn its lesson ..." German woodcut, late 15th century

The First Sunday of Advent

11 a.m. Solemn Mass + December 3, 2023
Church of the Ascension, Chicago

Sun	Dec. 3	The First Sunday of Advent
	9 a.m.	Sung Mass
	10 a.m.	Confession available
	11 a.m.	Solemn Mass
	4 p.m.	An Advent Service of Lessons and Carols
		Reception following in Wheeler Hall
Wed	Dec. 6	6:30 p.m. Said Mass: <i>Nicholas, Bishop of Myra</i>
Fri	Dec. 8	7 p.m. Immaculate Conception Sung Mass
Sun	Dec. 10	The Second Sunday of Advent
	9 a.m.	Sung Mass
	10 a.m.	Confession available
	11 a.m.	Solemn Mass and Rosary
Wed	Dec. 13	6:30 p.m. Said Mass

- Please join us for Coffee Hour in Wheeler Hall after the Mass.
- If you are a visitor, please consider completing one of the blue visitor cards in the pews.

Please silence all electronic devices that may distract you or others from worship.

Cameras in the church are for the purposes of live-streaming and/or recording our liturgies and music, but anyone in the church may be incidentally viewed.



ORGAN

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 645 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
(transcribed for organ, by the composer, from a chorale in Cantata BWV 140)

ENTRANCE RITE

When the sanctuary bell is rung, the People stand as the Ministers enter. The Altar, Ministers and People are aspersed, sprinkled with holy water, a reminder of our baptism as we prepare to worship God. During the Introit, the Altar is censed.

Hymn in Procession 61

WACHET AUF

Introit "Ad te levavi" (Ps. 25) Mode VIII

Ad te levavi animam meam: Deus meus in te confido, non erubescam: neque irrideant me inimici mei: etenim universi qui te exspectant, non confundentur. Ps. Vias tuas, Domine, demonstra mihi: et semitas tuas edoce me. V. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Ad te ...

Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul: my God, I have put my trust in thee, O let me not be confounded: neither let mine enemies triumph over me: for all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed. Ps. Shew me thy ways, O Lord: and teach me thy paths. V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Unto thee ...

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Celebrant may say

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 eleison

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Setting: Eleanor Daley (b. 1955) *Missa brevis* No. 4 (2002) first offering at Ascension

The Salutation and The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Isaiah 64:1-9a

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual “Universi qui te exspectant” (Ps. 25) Mode I

Universi qui te exspectant, non confundentur, Domine. V. Vias tuas, Domine, notas fac mihi: et semitas tuas edoce me.

For all they that look for thee shall not be ashamed, O Lord. V. Make known to me thy ways, O Lord: and teach me thy paths.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

When the Gospel procession moves towards the pews, the People stand.

Alleluia “Ostende nobis” (Ps. 85) Mode VIII

Alleluia, alleluia. V. Ostende nobis Domine misericordiam tuam: et salutare tuum da nobis. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. V. Shew us thy mercy, O Lord: and grant us thy salvation. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

Deacon The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the

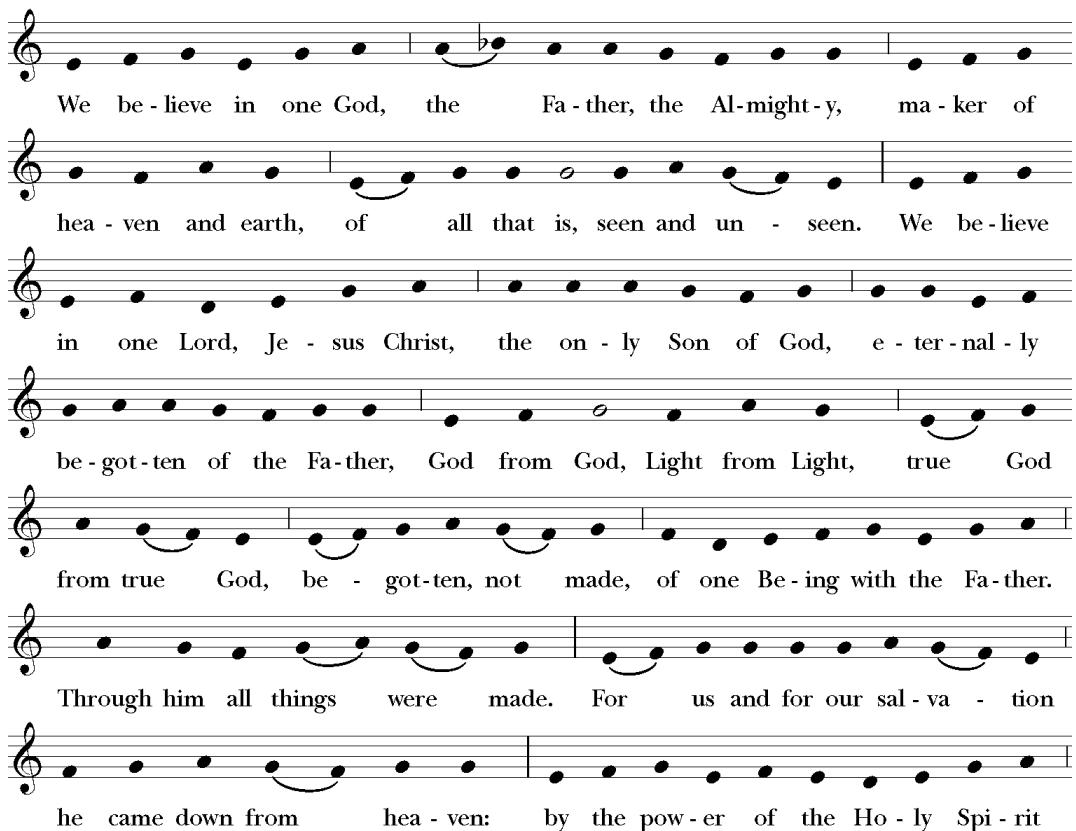
angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

The Sermon

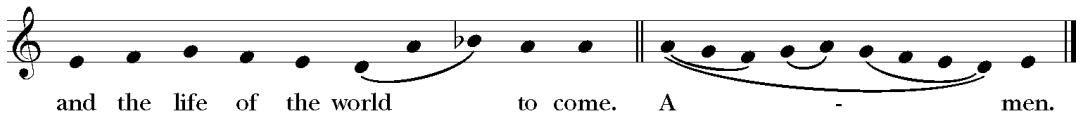
The Rev. Meghan Murphy-Gill

The Nicene Creed (S-104 Contemporary) *Please stand as you are able.*



We be - lieve in one God, the Fa - ther, the Al-might - y, ma - ker of
hea - ven and earth, of all that is, seen and un - seen. We be - lieve
in one Lord, Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, e - ter - nal - ly
be - got - ten of the Fa - ther, God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, be - got - ten, not made, of one Be - ing with the Fa - ther.
Through him all things were made. For us and for our sal - va - tion
he came down from hea - ven: by the pow - er of the Ho - ly Spi - rit

he be - came in - car - nate from the Vir - gin Ma - ry, and was made man.
For our sake he was cru - ci - fied un - der Pon - tius Pi - late;
he suf - fered death and was bur - ied. On the third day he rose a - gain
in ac - cord - ance with the Scrip - tures; he a - scend - ed in - to hea - ven
and is seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther. He will come a -
gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing and the dead, and his king - dom
will have no end. We be - lieve in the Ho - ly Spi - rit, the Lord,
the giv - er of life, who pro - ceeds from the Fa - ther and the Son.
With the Fa - ther and the Son he is wor - shiped and glo - ri - fied.
He has spo - ken through the Pro - phets. We be - lieve in one ho - ly
cath - o - lic and a - po - sto - lic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism
for the for - give - ness of sins. We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead,



Prayers of the People

Form VI (BCP p. 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 just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Paula our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

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



Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory "Ad te Domine levavi" (Ps. 25) Mode II

Ad te Domine levavi animam meam: Deus meus, in te confido, non erubescam:
neque irrideant me inimici mei: etenim universi qui te exspectant, non confundentur.

Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul: my God, I have put my trust in thee, O let me not be confounded: neither let mine enemies triumph over me: for all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed.

Offertory Motet

Setting: Ludovico Balbi (c. 1545-1604) *Ad te levavi*

Offertory Hymn 73

ST. STEPHEN

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B (BCP p. 367)

Orate Fratres *Please stand as you are able.*

Celebrant Pray, beloved, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.

Celebrant Amen.

Sursum Corda

The musical notation consists of three staves of music. The first staff shows the Celebrant's part: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff shows the People's part: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff shows the Celebrant's part: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff shows the People's part: "It is right to give him 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, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Setting: Eleanor Daley (b. 1955) *Missa brevis No. 4* (2002) first offering at Ascension

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Celebrant

There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

And we offer our 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, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed

be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our

dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,

as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People

There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof.

People But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

Setting: Eleanor Daley (b. 1955) Missa brevis No. 4 (2002) first offering at Ascension

† All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion, and all may come forward. Those who are not baptized or who do not wish to receive may indicate a desire for a blessing by crossing arms on the chest upon approaching the priest. If you prefer not to receive the Chalice, please cross your arms on your chest and remain until the minister has said the words of reception, “The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.” If you require a gluten-free host, put your right hand over your heart.

- Please alert an usher if you need the Sacrament brought to you in the pew.

Communion “Dominus dabit” (Ps.85) Mode I

Dominus dabit benicitatem: et terra nostra dabit fructum suum. Ps. Benedixisti Domine terram tuam, avertisti captivitatem Iacob. V. Remisisti iniquitates plebis tuae, operuisti omnia peccata eorum. V. Mitigasti omnem iram tuam, avertisti ab ira indignationis tuae. V. Converte nos Deus salutum nostrarum, et averte iram tuam a nobis. V. Gloria Patri.

The Lord shall shew loving-kindness: and our land shall give her increase. Ps. Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land, thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob. V. Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people, and covered all their sins. V. Thou hast taken away all thy displeasure, and turned thyself from thy wrathful indignation. V. Turn us then, O God our Savior, and let thine anger cease from us. V. Glory be.

Communion Hymn 615

ST. FLAVIAN

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Advent Blessing

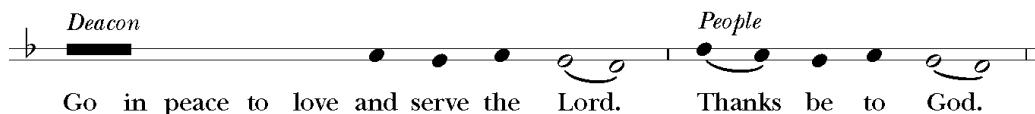
May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

The Dismissal

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.



Recessional Hymn 68

LLANGLOFFAN

ORGAN

Kommst du nun Jesu vom Himmel herunter BWV 650

Johann Sebastian Bach

(transcribed for organ, by the composer, from an aria in Cantata BWV 137)



Please do remember your financial offerings to the church. At this time, they may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also write a check and mail it to the church or make a gift by scanning this QR Code.

Ascension Prayer List

For our prayers: Robert Baily, Lee Gould, Lillian Alexander, Stephanie Henderson, Charlie Boemer, Robert Pischke, Derek Petite, Florence Jones Clanton, David Schrader, Leslie Smebak Gormley, Jim Drury, Rachel Smolinski, Sarah Reece Glanman, Suzanne Dines, MB Hwang, Juanita Malone, David S. Jones, Richard Francis Tracz, Victor Fernandez, Claire Green, Beth Hall, Sue Lenz, Brenda Martins

Birthdays: Ruby Woods, 12/4; Thom Ehlen, 12/6; David E. Reeves, 12/6; Marlea Edinger, 12/6

Requiescat in pace: Len Kraig; Linda Packard, *Priest*; Marvin Files, 10/16/2023; Richard Clark Taylor, 12/3/1989; Vincent Hector, 12/7/2017; Frances Joseph, 12/9/2015

Many thanks to those who serve:

The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Celebrant*; The Rev. Charles Farrell, *Deacon*;
The Rev. Meghan Murphy-Gill, *Preacher*; MB Hwang, Patrick Johnston, Victoria Dvonch,
Adam Bronson, David A. Robertson, Dan Stell, Nancy Pardee, Andrew Smith, *Acolytes*;
Christopher Raymond, *Lector*; George Panice, Gary Alexander, *Technology*; Claire Green,
Marlea Edinger, Roberta Dawson *Ushers*, LaVerne Saunders, *Coffee Hour*

The Choir of the Ascension

Soprano Carolyne DalMonte, Alexia Rivera, Lydia Walsh-Rock

Alto Miya Higashiyama, Amy Johnson, Cassidy Smith

Tenor Enrico Bellomo, Damon Cole, James Judd, Tyler Lee

Bass Matthew Brennan, Ian Prichard, Peter Wesoloski

Music Acknowledgements

The Nicene Creed (S-104) Plainsong Mode 4; **Credo I**; adapt. Mason Martens © 1984. **The Lord's Prayer**

(S 119) Plainsong; adapt. C. Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) © 1985, Church Publishing, Inc. **Acclamation**

(S 78); **Sursum Corda** (S 120); **Memorial Acclamation** (S 136);

Alleluia, Christ our Passover (S 152); **Dismissal** (S 174); © 1985 Church Publishing Inc.

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The Church of the Ascension
1133 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610

312.664.1271

office@ascensionchicago.org
www.ascensionchicago.org

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of Chicago

The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, Rector
(cdelatorre@ascensionchicago.org)

The Rev. Meghan Murphy-Gill, Curate
(mmurphygill@ascensionchicago.org)

The Rev. Charles F. Farrell, Deacon Associate

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Gary Lawler

The Rev. Dr. Robert Petite

The Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins

Benjamin Rivera, Choirmaster
(brivera@ascensionchicago.org)

David White, Organist
(benbritten@yahoo.com)

David Schrader, Organist Emeritus

LaVerne Rollé Saunders
(SeniorWarden@AscensionChicago.org)

David Reeves
(JuniorWarden@AscensionChicago.org)

Ian Barillas-McEntee, Jim Lo Bello,
Ken Cozette, Marlea Edinger, Sean Hansen,
David A. Robertson, Elizabeth Simpson,
Joshua Simpson, Sam Sommers (Clerk, Vestry

Gary Alexander, Communications and Technology
MB Hwang, Verger

George Panice, Facilities Manager
(gpanice@gmail.com)

Nathanael Deward Rahm BSG, Parish Office
(office@ascensionchicago.org)

Join us this afternoon at 4 p.m. for
An Advent Service of Lessons & Carols



The Cestello Annunciation, Sandro Botticelli, 1489, Florence, Italy

with The Choir of the Ascension



Welcome to worship at the
Church of the Ascension
An Anglican-Episcopal parish in the
city and Diocese of Chicago

SOME WHO HAVE GATHERED HERE TODAY may have traveled from afar and visited before. Church of the Ascension has long been a destination for those who feel blessed by the Anglo-Catholic worship here. Others may have made a shorter trip, and those here for the first time may ask, "What's Anglo-Catholic?" The term refers to two aspects of our history and ongoing faith and worship.

Anglican churches are those in the tradition of, and with ongoing ties to, the Church of England. (In the United States we are mainly called Episcopalians.)

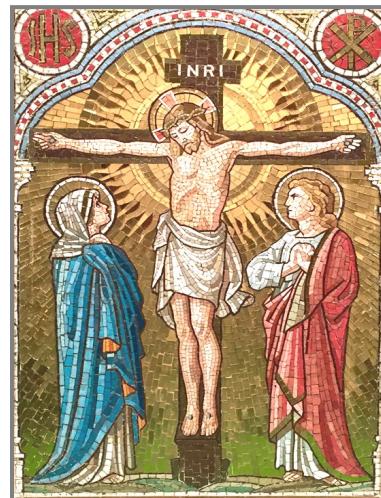
The 'Catholic' part of our identity is evident all around us here, in the church interior and in our worship.

- + We value and relish liturgy and music that engage and nourish the heart the mind and all the senses.
- + Our reverence for the sacrament of the Eucharist, the Mass, Christ's Body and Blood, is emphasized by the architecture of the space and many elements of our worship.
- + We have a strong sense of taking part, as Christ's people, in the Communion of Saints, including Blessed Mary and our patron saint, Michael the Archangel. Our faith is inspired and sustained by remembering the lives and witness of those who are now eternally with God.

We hope and pray that our sense of grateful, divine fellowship translates to our welcome of all and to faithfulness in the ministries that we share beyond our life of worship.

Your questions about our parish community, our worship and other ministries may be found by inquiring with our clergy or parishioners, or on our website – www.ascensionchicago.org.

Thank you and bless you for joining us.



The mosaic on the door of the altar tabernacle, Church of the Ascension

- **All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Communion.** Others are welcomed to come forward at the time of Communion to receive a blessing.
- **Please join us for Coffee Hour in Wheeler Hall** after the Mass.
- **If you are a visitor**, please consider completing one of the blue visitor cards found in the pews.
- **Live-Streaming** of select liturgies is available on Facebook and YouTube. Links for these can be found on our website Home page.
- **Please ask an usher about a parking permit** if your car will be in our parking lot after 1:30 pm today.