



The Second Sunday in Lent

3:30 p.m. Organ Recital

4 p.m. Choral Evensong &
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

March 1, 2026

Church of the Ascension

About the Service

Evensong is one of the jewels of Anglicanism. Evensong, also known as Evening Prayer (particularly when said rather than sung) is part of the Daily Office. The Daily Office is derived from the regular services of monastic communities in the early Church. At the heart of these services was the recitation of the Psalter, the songbook of the Bible. It remains the very core of the Daily Office in our day as well. By the late middle ages, the Daily Office was seen as the responsibility of the monks and clergy rather than an occasion for participation by all in the prayers of the community throughout the day. After the English Reformation, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556) reduced the eight monastic offices to the two services of Morning and Evening Prayer. These services were printed in vernacular English and intended for use by all members of the Church. At Church of the Ascension, Evensong is offered monthly during the choir term in conjunction with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is a devotional rite in which prayers and hymns are offered in praise to Our Lord, as we venerate the sacred mysteries of his Body and Blood. Benediction was introduced in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago in 1884, here at Church of the Ascension. Professor John Macquarrie (1919-2007) offers us the following thoughts about the service of Benediction: “Benediction’ is a beautiful word. It means a blessing, a greeting, and an expression of kindness and love. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is a service that makes real to us in an impressive way the fact that God is always reaching out to us, to bless, to strengthen, to assure us of his loving kindness toward us. The greatest blessing that God ever bestowed or could bestow was the sending of his Son. [At Benediction] a remarkable thing happens as we find ourselves saying the words of the Divine Praises: 'Blessed be God! Blessed be his holy Name!' We came seeking God's blessing, and now find that we are blessing God! This indeed is the goal of all our worshipping that we may come to love God better. And we cannot love God without loving our neighbor, so that in seeking God's blessing, we are praying that, in blessing us, he will make us a blessing to others.”

ORGAN RECITAL
David R. White, Organist
Sunday, March 1, 2026, 3:30 pm.

ANONYMOUS

Ach, was ist doch mein Leben (circa 1740)

OLIVIER-EUGÈNE MESSIAEN (1908-1992)

Subtilité des Corps Glorieux [1939]

Offrande au Saint-Sacrement [1928?] discovered, 1997

GEORG BÖHM (1661-1733)

Variations on *Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend'* IGB 16

Chorale

Var. I: *à 2 Clav.*

Var. II: *à 2 Clav. e cornetti*

Var. III: *Adagio*

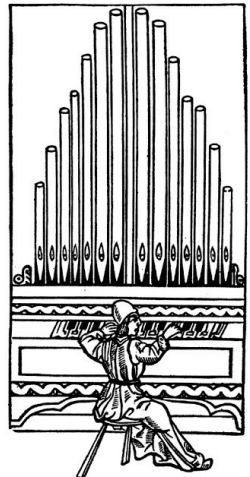
Var. IV: *à 3 Voci, per flauti*

Var. V: *Andante*

Var. VI: *in organo pleno*

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833-1897)

Chorale-Prelude and Fugue on *O Traurigkeit, o Herzeleid*
WoO 7 [1856]



Evensong


The Opening Sentence *Please stand as able.*

The Officiant begins with the following sentence of Scripture

Jesus said, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Mark 8:34


Preces

Officiant



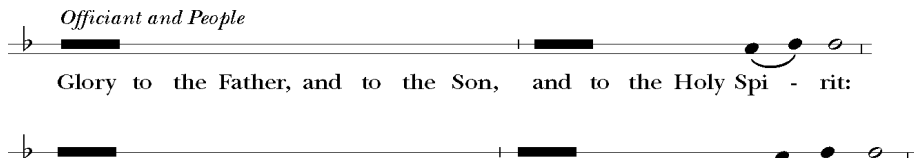
O God, make speed to save us.

People



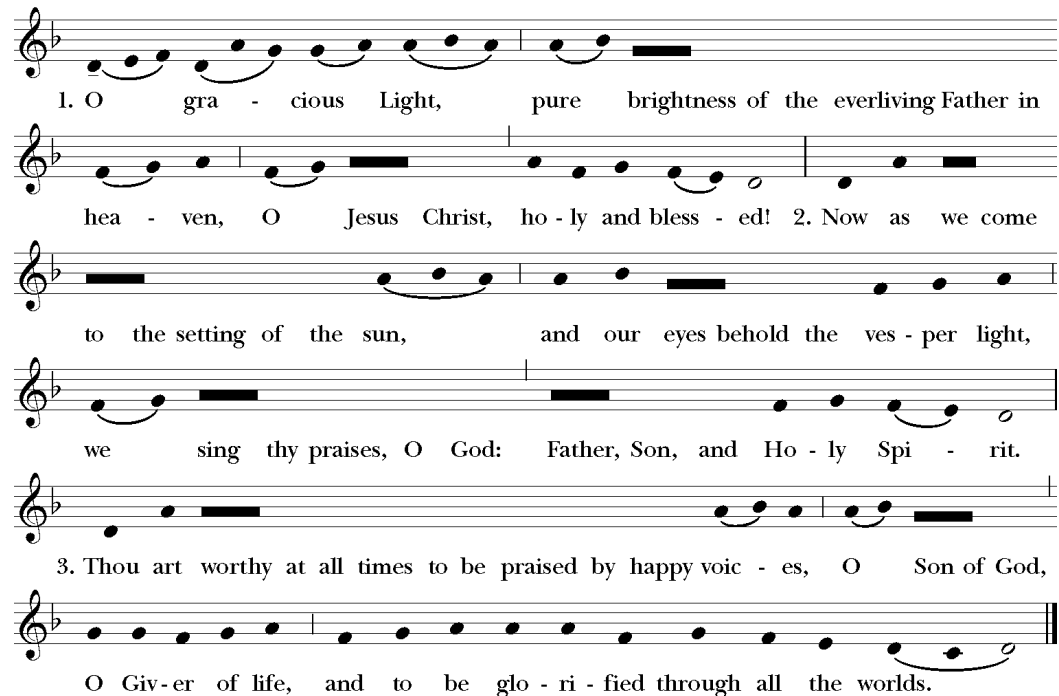
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*



1. O gra - cious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in
hea - ven, O Jesus Christ, ho - ly and bless - ed! 2. Now as we come
to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the ves - per light,
we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.
3. Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voic - es, O Son of God,
O Giv - er of life, and to be glo - ri - fied through all the worlds.

The People are seated as the Choir sings the Psalmody.

Psalm 8 *Domine, Dominus noster*

Chant: Joseph Corfe (1740-1820)

- 1 O LORD OUR GOVERNOR, how excellent is thy Name in all the world *
thou that has set thy glory above the heavens!
 - 2 Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength,
because of thine enemies*
that thou mightest still the enemy, and the avenger.
 - 3 For I will consider thy heavens, even the works of thy fingers *
the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained.
 - 4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him *
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?
 - 5 Thou madest him lower than the angels *
to crown him with glory and worship.
 - 6 Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands *
and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet;
 - 7 All sheep and oxen *
yea, and the beasts of the field;
 - 8 The fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea *
and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.
 - 9 O Lord our Governor *
how excellent is thy Name in all the world!
- 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.

Psalm 84 *Quam dilecta*

Chant: Sir Charles H. H. Parry (1848-1918)

- 1 O HOW AMIABLE are thy dwellings *
thou Lord of hosts!
- 2 My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord *
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she
may lay her young *
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house *
they will be always praising thee.

5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee *
in whose heart are thy ways.

6 Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well *
and the pools are filled with water.

7 They will go from strength to strength *
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Zion.

8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

9 Behold, O God our defender *
and look upon the face of thine Anointed.

10 For one day in thy courts *
is better than a thousand.

11 I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God *
than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

12 For the Lord God is a light and defence *
the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold
from them that live a godly life.

13 O Lord God of hosts *
blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

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.

The Lessons

The People are seated for the readings and stand as able for the Canticles.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 1:1-10

The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, to whom the word of the Lord came in the days of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. It came also in the days of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah until the end of the eleventh year of King Zedekiah son of Josiah of Judah, until the captivity of Jerusalem in the fifth month. Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to

“speak, for I am only a boy.” But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.” Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

The Lector concludes Here ends the reading.

Magnificat (*The Song of Mary*)

My soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm :

he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

Setting: William Byrd (c. 1540-1623) *Magnificat & Nunc dimittis* (Gregorian tones & fauxbourdons)

The Second Lesson

John 5:19-24

Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own but only what he sees the Father doing, for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing, and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell

you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and does not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

The Lector concludes Here ends the reading.

Nunc dimittis (*The Song of Simeon*)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles : and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

Setting: William Byrd (c. 1540-1623) *Magnificat & Nunc dimittis* (Gregorian tones & fauxbourdons)

Please remain standing, as able, for the Apostles' Creed and the Prayers.

The Apostles' Creed (Monotone)

Officiant and People together

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

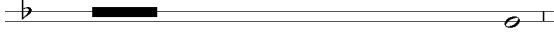
the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

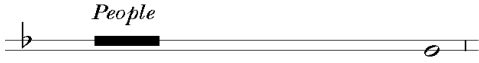
— o — o —

A - men.

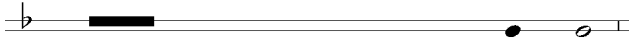
The Suffrages



V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;



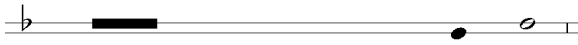
R. And grant us thy salva-tion.



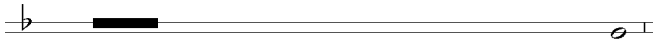
V. Endue thy ministers with right-eous-ness;



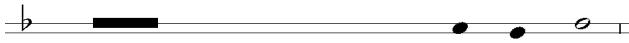
R. And make thy chosen people joy-ful.



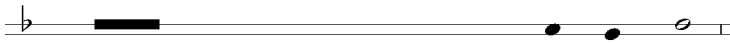
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;



R. For only in thee can we live in safe-ty.



V. Lord, keep this nation un-der thy care;



R. And guide us in the way of jus-tice and truth.



V. Let thy way be known up-on earth;



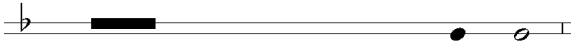
R. Thy saving health among all na-tions.



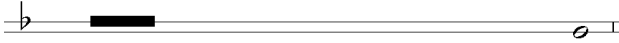
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot-ten;



R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta-ken a-way.



V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;



R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spi - rit.

Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Sunday

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, who dost manifest in thy servants the signs of thy presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another thine abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People are seated for the Anthem.

Motet

Herr, auf dich traue ich, Laß mich nimmermehr zu Schanden werden, Errette mich nach deiner Barmherzigkeit, Und hilf mir aus. Neige deine Ohren zu mir, und hilf mir; Sei mir ein starker Hort, Ein Hort, dahin ich immer fliehen möge, Der du hast zugesaget mir zu helfen.

Lord, I trust in you, Let me never be ashamed; Deliver me in your mercy And assist me. Incline your ear to me and help me; Be a strong refuge for me, A refuge to which I may always flee, Which you have promised to me for my aid.

Setting: Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672) *Herr, auf dich traue ich* à5
Psalm 71:1-3a

The People stand, as able.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we thine unworthy servants

do give thee most humble and hearty thanks

for all thy goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for thine inestimable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,

give us that due sense of all thy mercies,

that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;

and that we show forth thy praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives,

by giving up our selves to thy service,

and by walking before thee

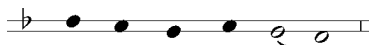
in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

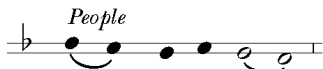
to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Concluding Versicle and Response



Let us bless the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

The Grace

The Officiant concludes with the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

Office Hymn

CAPE WARRENTON



1. Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit, cleansed by the blood of
2. Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit, dead in the tomb with
3. Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit, marked with the sign of



Christ our King: _____ heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
Christ our King: _____ one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
Christ our King: _____ born of the Fa - ther, we are his



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now _____ God's praise we sing! _____
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now _____ God's praise we sing! _____
chil - dren, joy - ful - ly now _____ God's praise we sing! _____

At the Adoration

As the bells are rung, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed; the People kneel in adoration.

O salutaris Hostia

HERR JESU CHRIST

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (Soprano and Bass) and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 O sav - ing Vic - tim, o - pening wide the
2 All praise and thanks to thee a - scend for

gate of heaven to us be - low, our foes press on from
ev - er - more, blest One in Three; O grant us life that

ev - ery side, thine aid sup - ply, thy strength be - stow.
shall not end in our true na - tive land with thee.

Meditation

Tantum ergo

TANTUM ERGO SACRAMENTUM



5 There-fore we, be - fore him bend - ing,
6 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing



this great Sac - ra - ment re - vere;
to the Fa - ther and the Son,



types and sha - dows have their end - ing,
hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



for the new - er rite is here;
while e - ter - nal a - ges run;



faith, our out - ward sense be - friend - ing,
ev - er too his love con - fess - ing



makes our in - ward vi - sion clear.
who from both with both is One.

Officiant Thou gavest them Bread from Heaven.

People **Containing within itself all sweetness.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy Passion: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, world without end. **Amen.**



The Benediction of The Blessed Sacrament

As the Officiant makes the sign of the Cross over the People, all pray silently.

The Divine Praises

The People repeat each phrase after the Officiant.

Blessed be God.

Blessed be his holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be his most sacred heart.

Blessed be his most precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the comforter.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

Blessed be God in the hearts of his faithful people.

The Celebrant reposes the Blessed Sacrament.

As the Tabernacle door is closed; the bell rings, and all stand as able to sing the following antiphon and psalm.

Psalm 117 *Laudate Dominum*

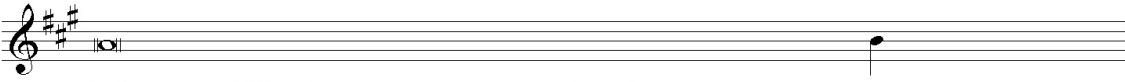
Cantor *All*




Let us for ev - er a - dore_____ the Most Ho - ly Sac - ra - ment.



O praise the Lord, all ye na - tions; praise him, all ye peo - ples.



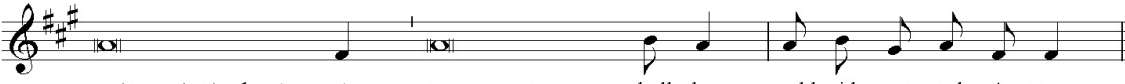
2. For his merciful kindness is ever more and more toward us;



and the truth of the Lord endureth for ev - ver. Praise the Lord.



V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost.



As it was in the **begin - ning** is now and ever shall be: world with - out end. A - men.



Let us...

The People remain standing as the Ministers depart.

ORGAN

Prière (après la bénédiction) [1985]

Olivier-Eugène Messiaen (1908-1992)

A dessert reception in the narthex follows Benediction.

Many thanks to those who serve:

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Martins, *Officiant*; The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Deacon*;
Christopher Raymond, *Lector*; MB Hwang, Gary Alexander, *Technology*

Choir of the Ascension

Soprano Carolyne DalMonte, Nini Marchese, Alexia Rivera

Alto Miya Higashiyama, Amy Johnson, Sarah Ponder, Cassidy Smith

Tenor Damon Cole, Steven Wilson

Bass Matthew Brennan, Ed Frazier Davis, Ian Morris, Ian Prichard



Please do remember your financial offerings to the church. You may write a check and mail it to the church or make a gift by scanning this QR Code.

Music Acknowledgements

CAPE WARRENTON Words: The Rev. Michael Seward (1932-2015); Music: David R. White (b. 1959)
HERR JESU CHRIST Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878), alt.
Music: melody from *Canticonale Germanicum*, 1628; adapt and harm. Johan Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
TANTUM ERGO SACRAMENTUM Words: Att. St. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); ver. *Hymnal 1940*,
rev.; Music: Plainsong, Mode 5, *Zisterzienser Hymnar*, 14th C.
Preces (S26); **Salutation and The Lord's Prayer** (S28); **Suffrages A** (S22); **Concluding Versicle and
Response** (S31) © 1985 Church Publishing Inc. **Phos hilaron** (S27); Melody © the Estate of Victor Judson
Schramm; **Laudate Dominum** with antiphon (Ps. 117) Traditional plainsong melody, Mode V.
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WELCOME TO THE
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
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CHICAGO, IL 60610
312. 664. 1271
office@ascensionchicago.org
www.ascensionchicago.org



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

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION is a parish in the Episcopal Church, a province of the Anglican Communion within the Catholic Church. Our Christian life and worship is rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. As an Anglo-Catholic parish we praise, worship, and adore our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, rejoice in the Communion of Saints, and relish in the beauty of liturgy and music. Thank you and bless you for being with us this day.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of Chicago*

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

Assisting Clergy

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The Rev. Gary Lawler
The Rt. Rev. Daniel Martins
The Rev. Dr. Robert Petite
The Rev. Christopher Poore

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Adam Bronson (*Clerk*), Jim Lo Bello,
Alexis Sarkisian,
Rebecca Boylan, Jay Jacot, Guido Moret