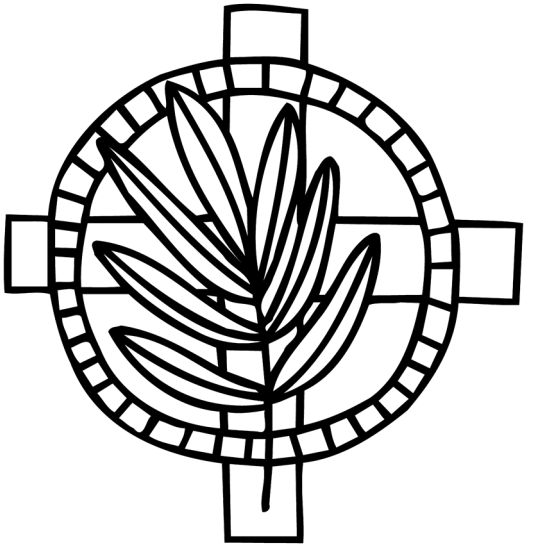
Ascension Episcopal Church

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026
10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist Rite II



The Rev Trent Pettit, Priest-in-Charge

2525 Seagler Road, Houston, TX 77042-3119
Telephone: 713-781-1330
Email: office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org
ascensionepiscopalchurch.org

Welcome

You've found home.

A church home, no matter your background, how you see God today, or how challenging your journey is right now, you belong here. At Ascension Episcopal Church, we strive to be a welcoming and safe place for all people to belong. We hope you encounter the radical love of God and the love of His church community right here. Love and joy are the byproducts of life with God and with each other. Come experience the beauty and love of Christ with us.

We are excited to get to know you; if this is your first time with us, scan this QR code, so we may get in touch with you after the service.

Mission Statement

It is the Mission of Ascension Episcopal Church to worship Jesus Christ, to love one another, and to prepare disciples to grow God's kingdom.

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY.

We offer two services; our **8:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE** is a Rite I Traditional Eucharist Service, without music and our **10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE** is a Rite II Contemporary Eucharist Service with organ and choral music.

Our **NURSERY** is available from 9:30 to noon on Sunday mornings. The safeguarded staff maintains a healthy and safe environment for your children.

From 9:30am to 10:15am, join us in person in the Church Library for **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL. CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** takes a summer break, but stayed tuned for fun summer events.

Voices of small children are always welcome.
Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.

From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-725275, and from CCLI license #287774. All music used with permission by St. James' Music Press #29371

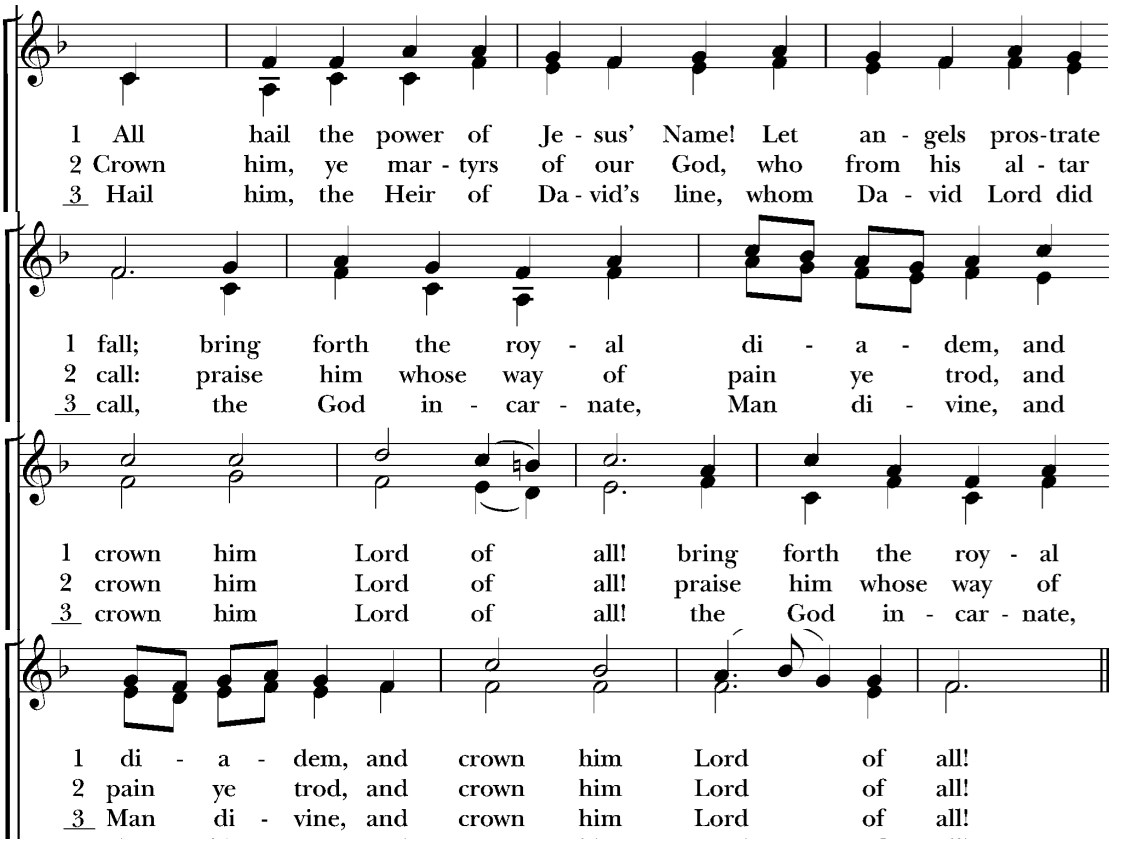
PRELUDE

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

Congregation Stands

ENTRANCE HYMN 450 *All hail the power of Jesus' Name* CORONATION



OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

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

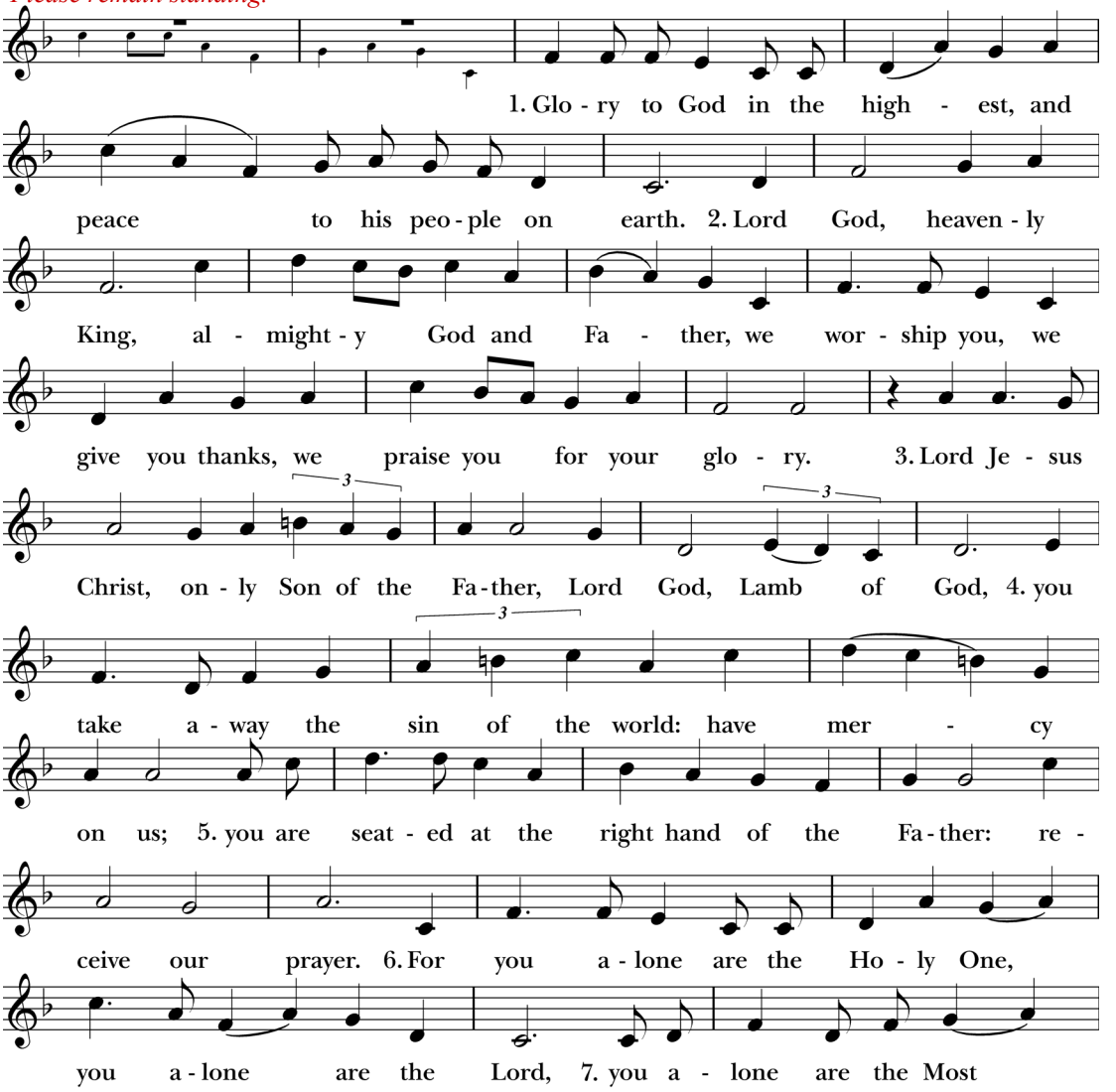
People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

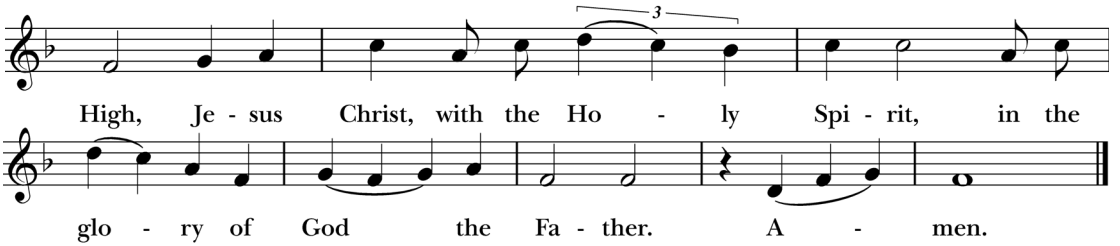
COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

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 S 280 *Glory to God* POWELL

Please remain standing.





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	*And also with you.*
Celebrant	Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21
The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

15 O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
16 Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
17 I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,

for you had filled me with indignation.
18 Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
19 Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
20 And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
21 I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

*Please read responsively by half verse at asterisk.**

1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.

3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

[4]I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

[5]I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.

[6]I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,

[7]Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

[8]LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

[9]Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; [10]love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. [11]Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. [12]Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. [13]Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
[14]Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. [15]Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. [16]Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. [17]Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. [18]If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. [19]Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." [20]No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." [21]Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

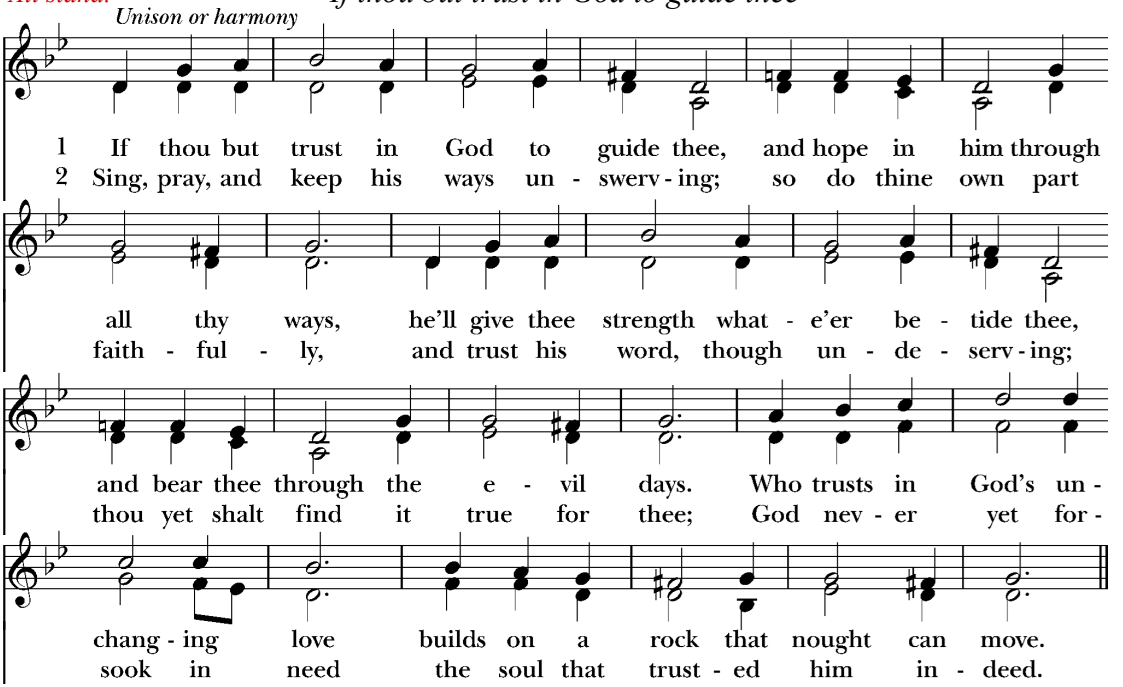
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN 635 WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

All stand. *If thou but trust in God to guide thee*



THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

[21]Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great
suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and
on the third day be raised. [22]And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,
saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." [23]But he turned and
said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are
setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

[24]Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them
deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. [25]For those who want to save
their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. [26]For what
will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will
they give in return for their life?

[27]"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and

then he will repay everyone for what has been done. [28]Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

THE SERMON (BCP P. 358)

THE CREED (BCP p. 358)

All stand.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 359)
Stand or kneel as you are able

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 Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Andy, Hector, Kai, Jeff, and Brian, our bishops; Trent, our Priest-in-Charge, and for all bishops and other ministers, and for our communion partner St. John the Divine;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially Dion, Sam, Nancy, CJ, Margaret, Sharon, Sayge, Pam, and those we pray for now

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 petitions

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.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)
The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and 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 (BCP p. 360)
All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
We are excited to get to know you; if this is your first time with us, scan this QR code, so we may get in touch with you after the service.

Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travel

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)
The Celebrant says

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. *Psalm 96:8*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *We Are the Lord's* *text K. Spitta; arr R Martin*

AT THE PRESENTATION H380, v3 OLD 100TH
From all that dwell below the skies

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving
EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B BCP P. 367
The People remain standing.

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 our thanks and praise.*

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

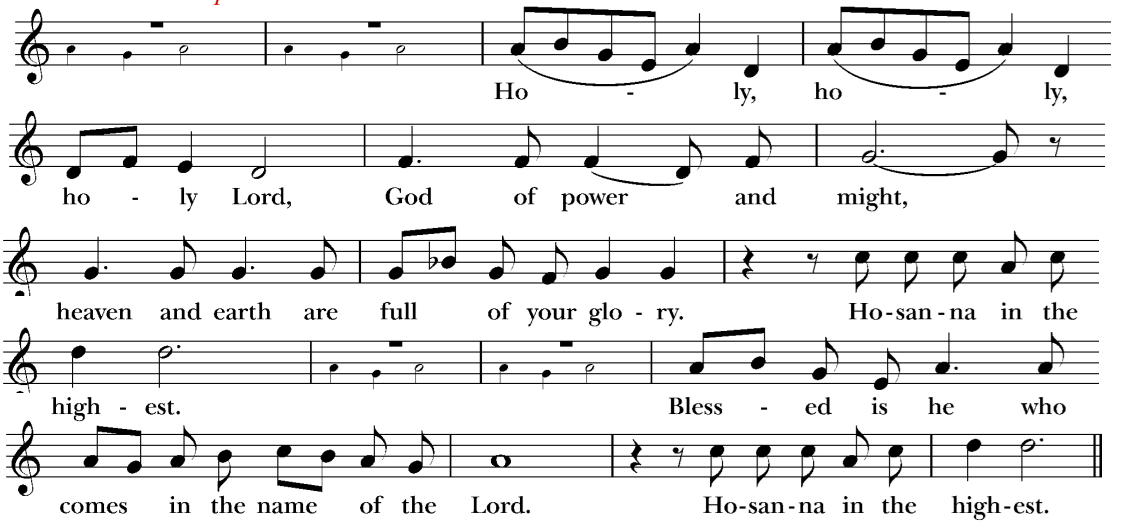
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 S 128 *Holy, holy, holy* MATHIAS

Celebrant and People



The People stand or kneel.

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." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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 [_____ and] 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

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)
People and Celebrant

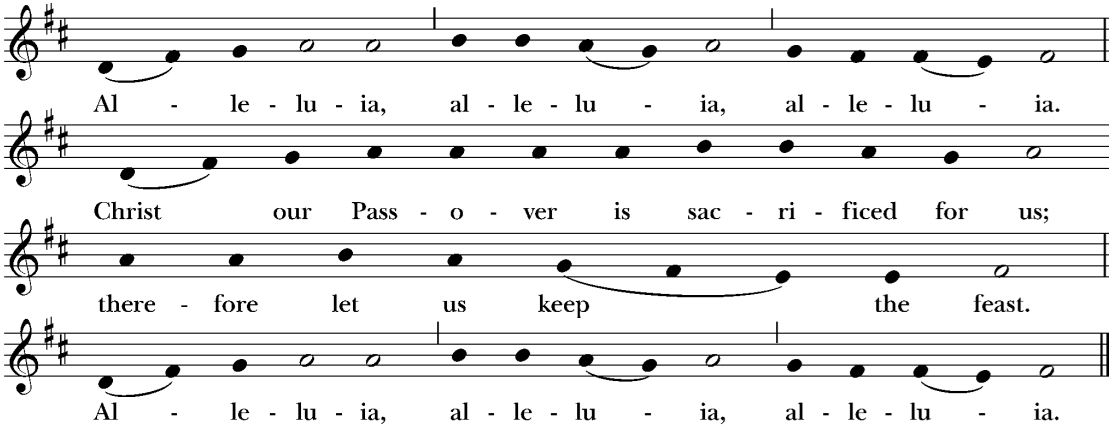
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM S 154 *Christ our Passover* HURD



INVITATION (BCP p. 364)
The Celebrant says

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

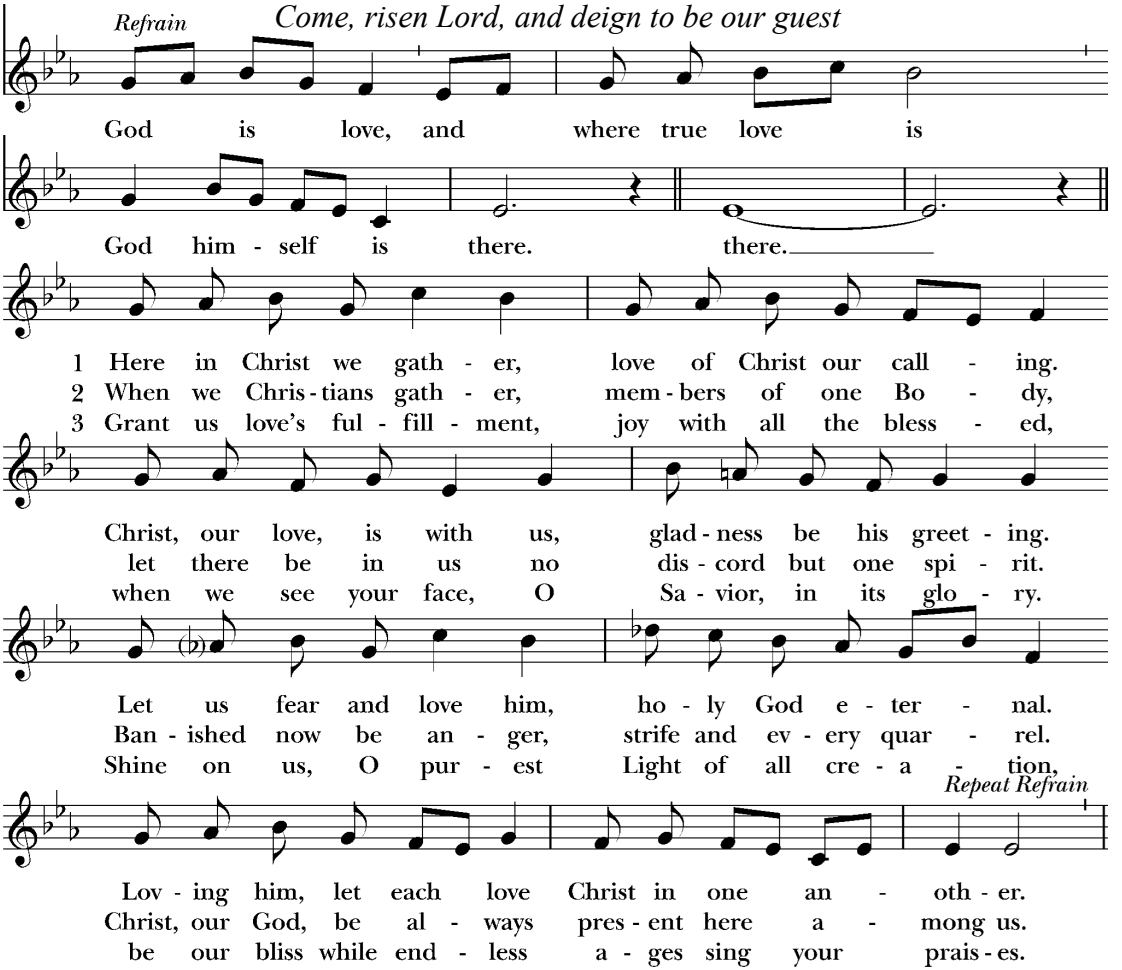
INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All who are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who come forward in faith and are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church, are welcome to do so on this occasion. If you prefer to receive a blessing, simply come forward and cross your arms over your chest.

- *The Bread will be placed in the palm of your hand. Please consume it upon receiving.*
- *To receive from the Wine, gently hold the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips.*
- *If for any reason you are unable to receive both the Bread and the Wine, please know that the Church teaches that the fullness of the Sacrament is received in either element.*
- *Gluten-free hosts are available at the altar rail upon request.*
- *If you are not baptized but want to be, please speak with the priest-in-charge.*

COMMUNION HYMN 306

SURSUM CORDA



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

Stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace,

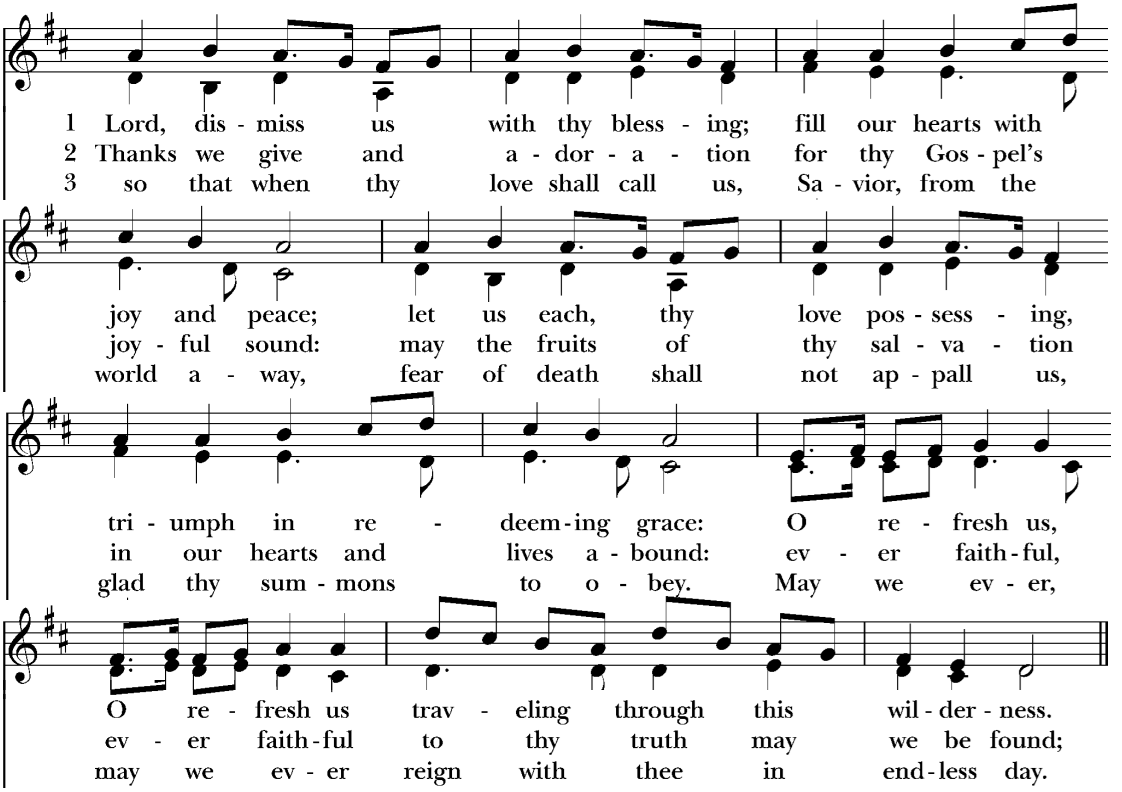
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING (BCP p. 366)

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN 344 *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing* SICILIAN



DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Priest	Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People	*Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE

Announcements

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of the Almighty God by Ann Paulus in thanksgiving for His many blessings and in honor of Carrie, her granddaughter's 23rd birthday.

Children's Bridge Worship | Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Beginning Sunday, September 13th, our youngest worshippers are invited to take part in Children's Bridge. Before the Gospel, children will join the service leaders at the front of the church and process to the narthex for a dedicated children's time, returning at the Peace. This is one more way we're working to welcome and support young families at Ascension!

Youth Acolyte Training

All youth, acolytes, and those who want to be, are invited to a brief acolyte training right after the 10:30 service on September 13. Whether you've served many times or are lighting a candle for the very first time, you are welcome. We'll gather in the Nave for hands-on practice, followed by a pizza lunch and time for questions.

LEM, Readers, Intercessor Training

Calling all readers, lay eucharistic ministers, intercessors, and anyone who feels drawn to serve in our altar party. Whether you are a seasoned veteran or stepping forward for the first time, this training is for you! We will gather in the Nave right after the 10:30 service on September 20 for a walk through of our Sunday ministries and an opportunity to refresh our shared practices.

Small Groups

Interested in joining a neighborhood small group at Ascension? We're exploring the idea of putting two types of groups—mixed-age and young-family—that would bring together people from Ascension Church and School and St. John the Divine for Bible study, prayer, meals, friendship, and service. This is also a great opportunity to invite our neighbors to share life with us at Ascension. We will provide curriculum (conversational teaching on the Book of Acts) and discussion questions.

Interested or know others who would be? Contact Rev. Trent: tpettit@sjd.org

Awaken!

Discover what it means to be a church filled with the Holy Spirit and sent into the world. Awaken '26 takes place Sept. 17 - 20, building on the joy of last year's inaugural weekend with expanded Thursday and Saturday evening gatherings. This weekend works in conjunction their Sunday morning study and fall small group study. Small groups remain at the heart of Awaken '26 because spiritual renewal isn't meant to happen in isolation. If you're not already part of one, we'll gladly place you in a group when you register. Use the QR code to register, or learn more.

Ascension Renewal Prayer Group !

The Ascension and St John the Divine Prayer Group meet in the church library every Tuesday, 12:15 - 12:45, prior to the Ladies Bible Study. ALL are welcome and encouraged to attend, so if you are nearby, on your lunch break, or have a free moment, PLEASE meet in the church library from 12:15 to 12:45. We have provided a Zoom link to those who would like to join but can't do so in-person. Please find it in the Happenings, or email the church office to get it!

,	***August 30th***	***September 6th***	***September 13th***
	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*	*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*
Vestry of the Week	Dave Bergquist and Pam Schwabrow	Amy Criswell and John Searle	Tom Downs and Volunteer
Altar Guild	Smith	Dipuma	Cole
Lessons	Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28	Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20	Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35
Ushers	Volunteer	Cristina Mattern and Margo Kaplan	Al Crosby and Loretta Law
8 am Lect./Intercessor	Ken Kingdon	Tom Downs	Glenn Criswell
1030 am Lect./Intercessor	Pam Schwabrow	Ngozi Adimora	John Searle
Acolyte	Chloe Schwabrow	Enoch Falayi	Lonimi Falayi
Stream Team	Raul Magaña	Tom Downs	Mike Black
Post Service Coffee	Roxanne Haase and Elizabeth Sloan	Cristina Mattern and Margo Kaplan	Al Crosby and Loretta Law

PRAYERS

To make prayer requests, please write your request on the prayer card available in the narthex and drop it in the plate. You may also update, add, or remove prayer requests by sending an email to office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org.

In addition to praying for the members of our Ascension family as we did during the communion, we also pray for peace in the world.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of the Province of the West Indies and in the Diocese of Texas Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Martin's of Copperas Cove, St. Paul's of Waco, and St. Thomas' of Rockdale.

Pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation: The Adimora-Nweke Family, Jack, Beatrice, Alice, Sharon, Alan and Ann, Joanna, David, Ronnie, Dion, Sam, Cory, Stephanie, Cora, Ellen, Jim, Jack, Ray, Lucia, Angela, Sayge, Pat, Olive, Maria Isabel, CJ, Margaret, Nancy, Pam, Megan, Ann, Valerie, and those known privately to us.

Pray for our college students: Robert Downs, Nifemi Falayi, Charlie Goodman, Madeleine Mattern, Max Murvee, Temi Ogunmesa, Miriam Rafaat

Giving

A quick an easy way to give to the church!! If you would like to give your pledge, make a donation, contribute to specialty music or flower campaigns, or any other reason, simply scan the QR code to the right, make your contribution, and leave a message as to what it is for.

It was great to see you.
Have a great week!