

ASCENSION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 26, 2023

10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist Rite II



The Rev Mark W. McDonald, Rector

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The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

www.epicenter.org

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, Bishop

Welcome

You've found home.

A church home, where whatever your background, however you see God today, no matter 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.

We're a multi-generational spiritual center, with grandparents, parents, singles, teens and children living out the central invitation from Jesus to Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World. We smile a lot around here, and it's authentic!

We believe that people desire relationships over religion; our Sunday services are engaging and hope-filled. And, I believe that fun and church worship are not mutually exclusive. Love and joy are the byproducts of life with God and with each other. Come see and experience the beauty and love of Christ with us.

Welcome home!



The Rev. Mark W. McDonald

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 10 to noon on Sunday mornings. The safeguarded staff maintains a healthy and safe environment for your children.

Join us in person in the Church Library for **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**, from 9:30am to 10:15am.

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

PRELUDE

The Word of God

Penitential Order

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 516 *Come down, O Love divine* DOWN AMPNEY

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,
and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;
O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place
and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People *His mercy endures for ever.*

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 351)

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

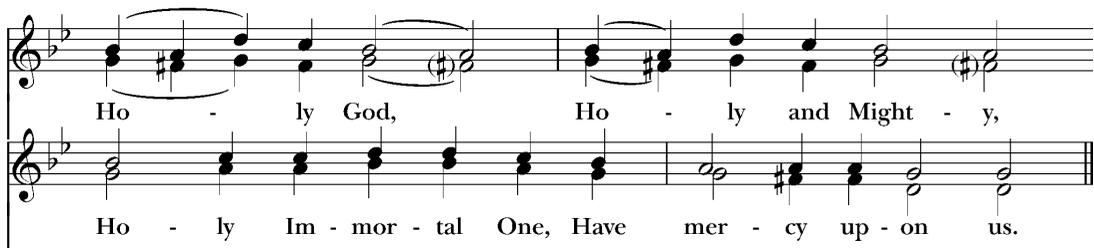
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

TRISAGION S 102

Holy God

ARCHANGELSKY

Repeated three times. Remain kneeling.



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

PSALM 130

Remain Seated.

The refrain is sung by the choir and congregation. The verses are sung by the choir

ALL: 

Lord, from the depths to you I cry; Lord, hear my prayer.

Verse 1: Lord, to the depths to you I cry, Saviour, Lord, my prayer receive;
Who can stand the press of sin? Those who in your grace believe.
Mark not all my sin and shame, Lest the burden break my heart.
Not my heart alone, but yours. Your great mercy shall endure. (*Refrain*)

Verse 2: Lord, for you my soul awaits; In your word my hope is laid;
As the sentries by the dawn for their patience are repaid.
Hope in God, O Israel; God, whose steadfast love is sure.
Who for us, redemption brings; God whose mercy shall endure. (*Refrain*)

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

The people sit.

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

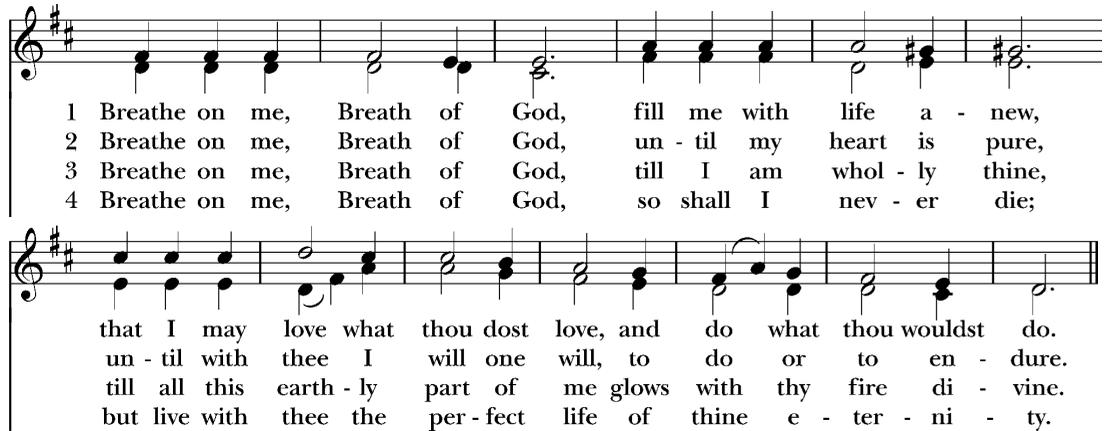
⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

All stand.


1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
 un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.
 till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
 but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 11:1-45*All stand.*

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON - THE REV. MARK W. MCDONALD+ (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.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM I (BCP p. 383)

Stand or kneel.

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, the Presiding Bishop, Andy, our Bishop, Hector, our Bishop Assistant, Mark, our Rector, for all clergy and people, for the Anglican Church of South America, and for St. Paul's of Navasota, St. Peter's of Brenham, St. Philip's of Hearne, and St. Thomas' of College Station, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Joe, our President, Greg our Governor, Sylvester our Mayor, and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the city of Houston, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, we especially pray for Isabella, Cathie, Alice, Frances, Phyllis, Landon, Dion, Jim, John, Albert, Cory, Todd, Stephanie, John, James, Ellen, Greg, Jack, Kathy, Lucia, Jean, Bobby, Dennie, Lance, Katy, Lucia, Angela, Pat, Olive, Carissa, Kelley, Laura, Pete, Hillary, Maria Isabel, C.J., Margaret, Mary, Ann, Valerie, and those known privately to us. We invite you to offer your prayers and thanksgivings at this time.

(Prayers are offered at this time, followed by silence)

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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

Prayers for Birthdays & Anniversaries and those who are Traveling

If you are a visitor or guest, please scan the QR code in the announcements section of this bulletin and give us your contact information. Let us connect with you!

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Dry Bones

arr. by Mark Hayes

*There was a man named Ezekiel who lived many years ago.
He was carried away by the Spirit of the Lord to a valley full of old, dry bones.
Then Ezekiel asked the Lord most High,
"Can these bones ever be revived?"
After pondering this question, this is what he said,
"Only the Lord God knows."
So the Lord commanded Ezekiel to speak unto the bones,
"Now hear the word of the Lord!"
Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones."
Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones."
Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones.
Now hear the word of the Lord!"*

*Ezekiel connected dem dry bones.
Ezekiel connected dem dry bones.
Ezekiel connected dem dry bones.
Now hear the word of the Lord.*

*So bones were connected by the power of the Lord when Ezekiel spoke the command.
But the bones had no breath, so the Lord God said,
"Call the wind from across the lands."
Then Ezekiel called to the spirit in the winds to revive those bones on the ground.
With a mighty sound those bones rose up and began to walk around!*

*Ezekiel connected dem dry bones.
Ezekiel connected dem dry bones.
Ezekiel connected dem dry bones.
Now hear the word of the Lord.*

*The toe bone connected to the foot bone.
The foot bone connected to the ankle bone.
The ankle bone connected to the leg bone.*

*The leg bone connected to the knee bone.
The knee bone connected to the thigh bone.
The thigh bone connected to the hip bone.
The hip bone connected to the back bone.
The back bone connected to the shoulder bone.
The shoulder bone connected to the neck bone.
The neck bone connected to the head bone.
Now hear the word of the Lord!*

*Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around.
Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around.
Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around.
Now hear the word of the Lord.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP pg. 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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy

MATHAIS

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The People stand 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 169

My flesh is food indeed

URWIN

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -
 deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my *All*
 flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My
 flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love God and for those who hope to love God more. So, come, you who have faith and you who have doubts. Come if you have been here often, and come if you have not been here long. Come if you have followed, and come if you have stumbled. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is Christ's will that those who seek him will meet him here at God's table. Come!

AT THE COMMUNION

- *All baptized Christian welcome to receive communion.*
- *To receive communion, place your right hand inside of your left to receive the bread.*
- *To receive a gluten free wafer please place your palms together.*
- *You may then either drink from the cup or dip the bread into the wine.*
- *If you do not wish to receive communion, cross your hands over your chest to receive a blessing.*

COMMUNION HYMN 335

I am the bread of life

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

1	I	am	the	bread	of	life;_____	they	who
2 (The)	Bread	that_____	I	will	give_____	is	my	
3 (Un-)	less_____		you	eat_____	of	the		
4	I	am	the	re -	sur -	rec -	tion,_____	
5 (Yes,)	Lord,_____	we	be	-	lieve_____	that_____		



1 come to me shall not hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world, and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of Man and
 4 I am the life. They who be -
 5 you are the Christ, the



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat of this bread, they shall live for
 3 drink of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve in me, e - ven if they
 5 Son of God who has



1 me un - less the Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er. they shall live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die, they shall live for ev - er.
 5 come in - to the world.

Refrain



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



up, and I will raise them up on the



last day.

2 The
 3 Un- day.
 4 —
 5 Yes,

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

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.*

BLESSING

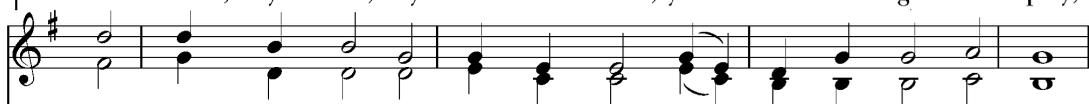
The Priest blesses the people.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 493*O for a thousand tongues to sing*

AZMON



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 heav'n.

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Joe Ann Kindgon with the help of the Altar Guild made a delightful Chicken Tortilla Soup. The Reflection of the Kingdom of Heaven was illuminating. We had a wonderful group attend the soup suppers for the duration of Lent, but alas, we draw to a close. Please join us for our last soup supper, where Todd and Cindy Breton are considerably making Stuffed Pepper Soup and Fr. Mark will be giving an Introduction to the Enneagram.



PARISH WORKDAY

Join us on **April 1st** for some landscaping and campus clean-up. Those who sign-up and attend the workday will be treated to lunch. So bring your rakes, shovels, and hardworking attitudes, and let's welcome spring! Scan the QR code to sign-up.



EASTER MUSIC NEEDS UNDERWRITERS



Please make an offering to help underwrite the Easter Musicians. They were wonderful at Christmas and we look forward to a repeat performance. Donations may be dedicated in memory of, in honor of, in thanksgiving for, etc., and will be acknowledged in the Easter orders of service. Donations will be accepted through Easter, but in order for the dedication to appear in the bulletin, it must be received by the office no later than April 3rd. Please email the church office (office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org).

DONATE A LILY

There are no flowers on the Altar during Lent. However, come Easter, the Altar will be overflowing with beautiful Easter lilies. Please donate a lily and write your special dedication in the flower book or send it to Ann Burton at apb53@comcast.net. Cost is \$25. Thank you.



	March 26th	April 2nd	April 9th
	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
Vestry of the Week	Troi Malveaux and Carol Goulet	Pam Schwabrow and Carroll Prasad	Mike Black and Todd Breton
Altar Guild	Dipuma	Cole	Sutton
Lessons	Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45	Liturgy of the Palms: Matthew 21:1-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, The Liturgy of the Word, Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 26:14- 27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54	TBD
Ushers	Todd and Cindy Breton	Liz and Chad Goodman	Alayne and Warren Bryant
8 am Lect./Intercessor	Dick Stabell	Carroll Prasad	Glenn Criswell
1030am Lect./Intercessor	Tex Wariboko	Pam Schwabrow	Todd Breton
Stream Team	Cooper McDonald	Charlie Goodman	Cooper McDonald
Post Service Coffee	Joni, Elizabeth, and Roxanne	VOLUNTEER	Mike & Sharon Black and Isaac Griesbaum

Your Current Vestry

To Annual Meeting of 2024– Pam Schwabrow, Carroll Prasad, Troi Malveaux, Jackie Bergquist
To Annual Meeting of 2025– Mike Black, Todd Breton, Funmi Falayi, Carol Goulet
To Annual Meeting of 2026 - Tom Sutton, Joan Harwood

<p>Staff:</p> <p>The Rev. Mark McDonald, Rector</p> <p>Alice Serralta, Organist Choirmaster</p> <p>Linda Parks, Bookkeeper</p> <p>Samantha King, Office Administrator</p>	<p>mark@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org</p> <p>alice@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org</p> <p>finance@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org</p> <p>office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org</p>
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Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 2nd, ^(N)

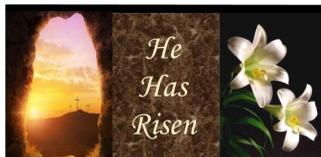
8:00am Rite I, with Palms and Reading of the Passion
10:30am Rite II, with Palm Procession
and Reading of the Passion

Maundy Thursday, April 6th, ^(NR)

6:30pm Foot washing and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 7th,

6:30pm Evening Service here at Ascension ^(NR)



Easter Sunday

April 9th,

Flowering of the cross at both services

8:00 am Rite I Worship with Communion ^(NR)

10:30 am Rite II Worship with Communion
and Easter Music Ensemble ^(N)

Join us after the 10:30am worship,
on the school playground for an **EGG HUNT**

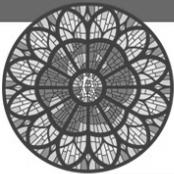
COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Who: **YOU**

When: **Sat., April 22, 2023**

**SELL YOUR
OWN STUFF &
YOU
KEEP THE
PROFITS!!**

HOSTED BY:



ASCENSION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Here are the details:

- \$25 to reserve a space in Ascension's Parking Lot (approx. 18' x 8').
- Scan the QR code to reserve up to four adjacent spaces. (If you need more than four spaces, contact us.)
- You keep all the proceeds you make.
- Ascension's Parking Lot will be open for Vendor set up on April 22nd from 6AM to 8AM; and for customers from 8AM to 2PM.
- Ascension will donate unwanted/unsold items to West Houston Assistance Ministries (WHAM). Just place them in the collection area.
- All Vendors will be responsible for cleaning their space and exit the lot by 3 PM.
- BBQ, Burgers, Hot Dogs, and beverages will be sold at the event as well as tasty treats from the Ascension Episcopal Church Bake Sale.



SCAN HERE

(AND FOR MORE INFORMATION.)

Still have questions? Email us at office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org



Welcome Visitors

Please take a moment to let us know who you are!! Scan the QR code to the left and fill out the form. This will allow us to connect with you and get to know you and your family.

Giving

A quick and 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.



***Thank you for
worshipping with us.
Have an amazing day!***