

ASCENSION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2021
10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist Rite II



The Rev Mark W. McDonald, Rector

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The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, Bishop

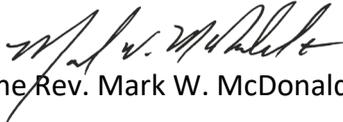
Welcome

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 AT 10:30AM**. Your safety is our first priority. We worship at a social distance, wearing masks, sitting apart from other family groups, maintaining 6ft distances where able, and offering only the host during communion. We thank you for joining us and for following these guidelines to help all remain healthy.

Our **NURSERY** is available from 10 to noon on Sunday mornings. The safeguarded staff has undergone sanitizing training and maintain a safe environment for your children.

Join us online for **SUNDAY SCHOOL**. The lessons are sent out with the virtual link on Sunday morning's. If you are not receiving the emails, please verify your email with the secretary.

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



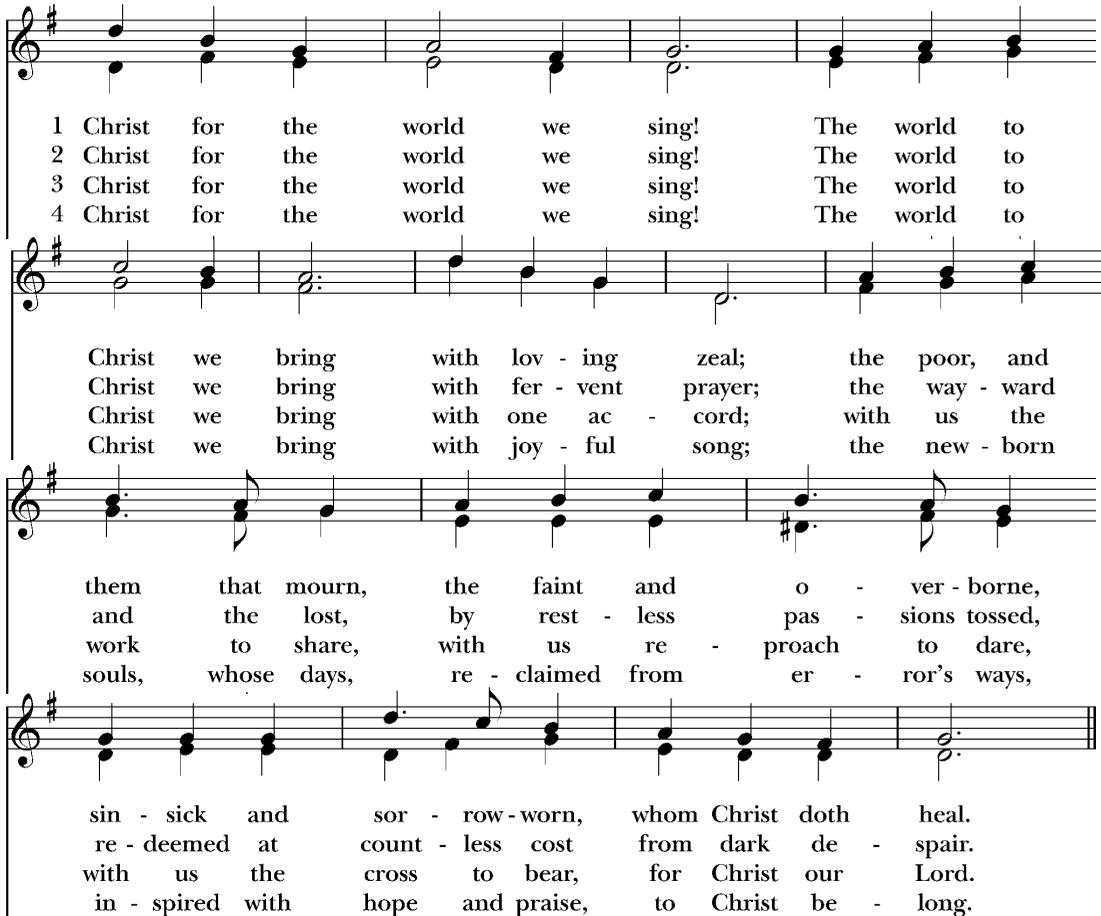
Welcome Visitors

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.

PRELUDE

The Word of God

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Christ for the world we sing (Moscow) (H 537)*



1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.*

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE

The following is said, all standing

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Jonah.

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 62:6-14

Remain seated. Please read Psalm responsively by half verse at the asterisk.

⁶For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
truly, my hope is in him.

⁷He alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

⁸In God is my safety and my honor; *
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

⁹Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

¹⁰Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

¹¹On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
all of them together.

¹²Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

¹³God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *
that power belongs to God.

¹⁴Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

The people sit.

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

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

All stand.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON - THE REV. MARK W. MCDONALD

THE NICENE CREED

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 - FORM III - BCP P. 387

The People may Stand or Kneel

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop;
Andy, our bishop; Mark our Rector and for all bishops, priests and deacons:
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joe, our president, Greg, our Governor, Sylvester, our Mayor, and for
all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We pray for: Frank, Ana Lupe, Cathie, Alice, Frances, Todd, Landon, John, Dion,
Michelle, Albert, Cory, David, Mary, John, James, Sheryl, Jack & Jean, Gina, Jean,
Leyna, Bobby, Kathryn, Shannon, Lance, Lucia, Barbara, Angela, Carissa, Pete,
Maria Isabel, C.J., Margaret, Mary, Mary, Howard, Henry, David, Melissa,
Anthony, Valerie, Kelley, and those known privately to us.

We invite your prayers at this time.

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

We pray for peace in the world. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of Bangladesh, and in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas Cycle of prayer, we pray for San Francisco de Asis of Austin, SoCo of Austin, St. Alban's of Austin, and St. Christopher's of Austin.

We invite you to offer your prayers and thanksgivings

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

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do
your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant then 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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 front of this bulletin. Let us connect with you!

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Please Be Seated

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Amazing Grace

arr by John Ness Beck

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B (BCP p.367)

The People Stand

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.*

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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 (BCP p. 362)

Celebrant and People

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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,

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

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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION (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

At this time there will be no wine offered. In order to maintain proper health protocols, we ask that you wait for the ushers to release you to come forward to receive the host. We thank you for your patience and ask that you maintain a minimum distance of 6ft from others. Father Mark will hand you the host and you are asked to return to your seat as directed by the ushers, we apologize that we cannot offer the altar rail for prayers at this time. Thank you so much for your understanding.

COMMUNION HYMN *One Bread, One Body* (LEVAS 151)

§

One bread, — one bod-y, —
 — one Lord of all, — one cup of
 bless - ing which we bless. — And we, — though
 man - y, — through-out the earth, — We are one
Last time ⊕
 bod - y in this one — Lord. —
 1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
 2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
 3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and
 1. free, wom - an or man, —
 2. works, one in the Lord —
 3. grown, gath - ered to one —
D.S.
 1. — no more. — One
 2. — of all. — One
 3. — for all. — One
 ⊕ **CODA**
 Lord. —

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please Kneel or Stand. After Communion, the Celebrant says

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.

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN *There's a wideness in God's mercy (Beecher)* (H 470)

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice, which is more than lib-er-ty.
there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
and the heart of the E-ter-nal is most won-der-ful-ly kind.

There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more gra-cies for the good;
There is plen-ti-ful re-demp-tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more faith-ful, we should take him at his word;

there is mer-cy with the Sa-vior; there is heal-ing in his blood.
there is joy for all the mem-bers in the sor-rows of the Head.
and our life would be thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

DISMISSAL

In order to prevent congestion at the dismissal, we ask that everyone stay in their pew during the recessional hymn and the ushers will dismiss each pew moving from the back to the front, from the inner aisle of the church to the outer aisles. Please wear your masks as you exit the church, do not stop to visit in the narthex, and remain 6ft apart at all times.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Announcements

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of Almighty God in thanksgiving for his many blessings.

ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting is today at 12:30. The Zoom link was sent this morning in the Sunday morning email along with the service announcement, bulletin, and Sunday School Lesson. We will send a reminder text with the link approx. 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. You are all encouraged to attend. The documents will be posted online, so you are able to follow along.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are (finally!) building a newer and more up to date directory!! We will be listing each person's name, address, phone number, and email. The only people who will have access to this directory are members of Ascension. Please contact the church office if you do NOT want your information included.

DON'T FORGET THE FLOWERS!

Sign up to donate flowers each Sunday, by contacting Ann Burton (713) 782-6572 and/or emailing the church office at office@ascensionepisopalchurch.org. with your dedication. The cost is \$100, which may be dropped in the offering plate, dropped by the office, or paid online.

	January 24, 2021	January 31, 2021	February 7, 2021
	<i>Third Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</i>
Vestry of the Week	Jim Anderson and Dipo Ogunmesa	Nigel Hypolite and Allison Garcia	Elizabeth Till and Pam Schwabrow
Altar Guild	DiPuma	Cole	Sutton
Lessons	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20 Psalm 62:6-14	Deuteronomy 18:15-20 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28 Psalm 111	Isaiah 40:21-31 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39 Psalm 147:1-12, 21c
Ushers	Edwin and Jolie Murvee	Gemma Williams and Needed Volunteer	Cristina Mattern and Margo Kaplan
Lector/Intercessor	Ken Kingdon	Allison Garcia	Pam Schwabrow
Stream Team	Cooper	Carol Sempira	Cooper