

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We believe in sharing love and grace by seeking relationship with God and one another.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 12, 2021 The Reverend Candice B. Frazer, Rector The Reverend Andrew S. Brislin, Associate Rector

Organist/ Choirmaster: Rebecca B. Taylor Lector: Bill Garrett LEMs: Bill Cunningham and Laura Mielke Verger: Susan Copeland Acolytes: Team LUKE, Ways Holloway, Harper and Lily Mielke, and Erin Waggoner Ushers: Richard Cater, Michael McNair, Miland Simpler and Henry Weatherly Altar Guild: Debbie Hackett and Barbara Gaston AV Crew: Russell Bush and Riley Harrison, Sound Clark Waggoner, Camera

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II + 10:30 AM LIVESTREAM

Voluntary: *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier* (J. S. Bash) Introit: *Strengthen for service, Lord* (D. Williams)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Hymn **525** The Church's one foundation (Aurelia)





CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

The Celebrant says

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 S280 Glory to God in the highest (R. Powell)





Collect of the Day

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

First Reading

A Reading from the book of Proverbs

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.

At the busiest corner she cries out;

at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

Proverbs 1:20-33

"How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?

Give heed to my reproof;

I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you.

Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,

I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you,

when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.

Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord,

would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof,

therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices.

For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them;

but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.



Jerome Webster Meachen (b. 1930)



- 1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount / Zion, * which cannot be moved, but stands fast for / ever.
- 2 The hills stand about Je- / rusalem; * so does the LORD stand round about his people, from this time forth for / evermore.
- 3 A The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the / just, * so that the just shall not put their hands to / evil.
- 4 **B** Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are / good * and to those who are true of / heart.
- 5 **B** As for those who turn aside to crooked ways, the LORD will lead them away with the / evildoers; * but peace be upon / Israel.

Second Reading

James 3:1-12

A reading from the letter of James.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.



Sequence Hymn 654 Day by day dear Lord (Sumner)

Holy Gospel

Mark 8:27-38

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let

Words: Att. Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)

Muisc: Summer, Arthur Henry Biggs (1906-1954) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

Sermon

Nicene Creed

The Rev. Candice B. Frazer

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 III

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, our Presiding Bishop; Glenda our bishop; and Candice and Drew, our clergy; and all other bishops, priests, and deacons; *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments*.

We pray for Joe, our President; Kay, our Governor; Steven, our Mayor; and 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*.

We pray for Dianne Williams, Bill Mahoney, Jim Yoder, Sam Knight, Richard Norris, Chris Lewis, Al Cantrell, Ann Thorington, Sue Hicks, Violet Monson, Frances Hill, Edith Crook, Bill Wall, Betty Godbold, Sophie Xides, Ann Carmichael and Jane McConnell. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

We pray for those who have died and those in whose memory the altar flowers are given Mr. & Mrs. William Patrick Vogtle, Mr. & Mrs. Germer Petesch, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Ward Vogtle, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stone Weatherly, Mr. Borden Burr, Mrs. Anne Burr Givhan, and Mr. Robert Stone Weatherly, Jr. 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 the safety of our armed forces both here and abroad. We give thanks for for Ascension Day School.

Silence—the priest will offer a concluding collect.

Celebrant

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we might obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept*.

Leader 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 though our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us 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.

Announcements

Please see pages 14-16 for the prayer list and offerings for you by Church of the Ascension.

Giving is available on-line by going to our website and click on the "Give" link, or text the word "GIVE" to (833)901-2138 and follow as prompted.

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

Offertory Anthem: In boldness, look to God (arr. T. Foster)

Doxology Hymn 380 v. 3 (Old 100th)

CelebrantAll things come of thee, O Lord.PeopleAnd of thine own have we given thee. Amen

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving				
Eucharistic Prayer	$\cdot A$			
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 him thanks and praise.			

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 Hymn S129 Holy, holy, holy (R. Powell)

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:



The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 Celebrant then continues And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, We are bold to say

Officiant and People 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

Fraction Anthem Hymn S169 My flesh is food indeed (R. Urwin)



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.

Communion Anthem: You are the Christ, O Lord (R. W. Dirksen)

Communion Hymn Alleluia II 125; 18; Here I am, Lord; I have decided to follow Jesus

The Post Communion Prayer

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

The priest blesses the people, saying

The peace of the Lord which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the love of God and of Jesus Christ, his son. And, the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you this day and remain with you always. *Amen*.

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Hymn 675 Take up your cross, the Savior said (Bourbon)

Words: Charles William Everest (1814-1877), alt. Music: *Bourbon*, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859); harm. John Leon Hooker (b. 1944) Copyright ©1984, John Hooker. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Dismissal

Celebrant	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.	Alleluia.	Alleluia.
People	Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.		

Voluntary: Voluntary on "Engelburg" (C. Callahan)

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given in prayer and remembrance of Mr. and Mrs. William Patrick Vogtle Mr. and Mrs. Germer Petesch Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Ward Vogtle Mr. and Mrs Robert Stone Weatherly Mr. Borden Burr Mrs. Anne Burr Girhan Mr. Robert Stone Weatherly, Jr. **PRAYERS FOR ASCENSION**

PARISHIONERS: Dianne Williams, Bill Mahoney, Richard Norris, Sam Knight, Bill Wall, Jimmy Yoder, Ann Thorington, Chris Lewis, Al Cantrell, Sue Hicks, Violet Monson, Frances Hill, Jane McConnell, Betty Godbold, Sophie Xides, Edith Crook, Ann Carmichael.

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS: Laura Kate Ryan, Dale Calhoun, Dorothy Casey, JoAnn Boozer Ray, Katherine Anderson, Tyler Him, Hallie Wall, Mimi Sherril, Lucia Jimenez, Brian Kidwell, Fred Tyson, Mike Ecker, Mary Benedict Steindorff, Richard "PeeWee" Kohn

Adult Formation

Clergy Forum † Upper Room Icons: A Window Into God with Candice+ August 15 - September 19

Icons have long been used as a way of understanding God and what we believe about God. The use of Icons in worship can draw us nearer to God in our faith and offer us deeper ways of knowing who God is in our lives. This class will explore four Icons of Jesus' life: Nativity, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension as well as Jesus and his Friend, and the Trinity.

Bread of Life † Library Crazy Christians by Michael Curry August 15 - December 12

We need some Christians who are as crazy as the Lord. Crazy enough to love like Jesus, to give like Jesus, to forgive like Jesus, to do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with God—like Jesus. Crazy enough to dare to change the world from the nightmare it often is into something close to the dream that God dreams for it. And for those who would follow him, those who would be his disciples, those who would live as and be the people of the Way? It might come as a shock, but they are called to craziness. —from Bishop Curry's "Crazy Christians" address to the 2012 General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Indianapolis. Come find out what this craziness is all about!

CHILDREN'S FORMATION

3rd Floor Children's Wing

Godly Play † Sunday Mornings † 9:15am

Godly Play is a beautiful, Montessori based way of engaging children of all ages and even adults in the stories that form our faith. At Ascension we use it for our PreK and Kindergarten Sunday School class.

ELEMENTary † Sunday Mornings † 9:15am

1st thru 5th graders use the Episcopal Children's Curriculum published by Virginia Theological Seminary. It walks the children though three important ELEMENTS of our faith using themes with lessons that follow the liturgical year:

Shell = Baptism, Chalice = Eucharist Cross = Worship

Children's Church † Sunday Mornings † 10:30am

Children's Church resumes on the third floor this fall during the 10:30 service. The children will follow the cross to Children's Church from the Nave during the Gloria and will return at the peace. Participants parents are scheduled to attend a couple of times a year to help out.

Confirmation Class for Young People

Confirmation Class 6th and 7th graders, Sundays at 9:15 am Galilee Classroom, Third Floor Youth Wing Clark Waggoner and Christine Harrison Clower Making a mature confession of faith is a response to what and how we believe about Jesus and the church. It is a time to study and reflect on what the faith means to each person. At Ascension, we encourage our young people to begin that time of discernment in 6th and 7th grade. The class teaches young people not only what it means to be a Christian, but also what it means to be an Episcopalian. Contact Candice+ for questions or concerns.

EYC - EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY 3rd Floor Youth Wing, *Sunday Mornings at 9:15am Called By God* † Bethel Classroom † 8th Grade

This class will explore various Biblical figures and how they were "Called By God" and live out their life and faith as disciples. Young teens are offered a model for living out their own faith in the daily life at school, at home, and in their extra-curricular activities.

What is Evil? † Antioch Classroom † 9th-12th

Based off our Baptismal Covenant, this class will discuss the issues of evil as a cosmic force, an institutional sin, and in personal sin. Though there are no easy answers to this question, the conversation is structured to reinforce the loving goodness of God and his care and provision for us.

NEW!! SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

For all Teachers, Leaders, and Tutors (and parents)

The Episcopal Church nationwide uses a curriculum that help us establish boundaries and behaviors that help us keep our spaces safe not just for youth and children, but for everyone. All Sunday School teachers, church leaders and tutors or other volunteers with New Beginnings or any children/youth ministry are required to take this training online by September 8. We strongly encourage ALL PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, and anyone else who runs into kids in the halls of CoA, to take the training so we all have the same frame under which we structure our behavior and expectations in ministry. Please contact tiffany@coascension.org to begin the process or candice@coascension.org if you have questions or concerns.

If you have a history of abuse, you may want to council with your mental healthcare professionals or clergy if you are comfortable. The training may be triggering, and at the same time it is still extremely important for our community.



Text-to-Give is now available. Text the word "give" to 833-901-2138. To give from our website simply click the green "GIVE HERE" button. You can also contact Tracy Hinton, our Parish Administrator, at thinton@coascension.org or at 334-263-5520 to set up a bank draft. Or you can mail your contribution to us at Church of the Ascension; c/o Tracy Hinton; 315 Clanton Ave; Montgomery, AL 36104.

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