



## *Church of the Ascension*

*May 10, 2020*

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

**To find the video, go to YouTube and search for Ascension Lakewood**

### **Opening Acclamation**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

### **The Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **A reading from Acts**

**7:55-8:3**

But Stephen was filled with the Holy Spirit. He looked toward heaven, where he saw our glorious God and Jesus standing at his right side. Then Stephen said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right side of God!"

The council members shouted and covered their ears. At once they all attacked Stephen and dragged him out of the city. Then they started throwing stones at him. The men who had brought charges against him put their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

As Stephen was being stoned to death, he called out, "Lord Jesus, please welcome me!" He knelt down and shouted, "Lord, don't blame them for what they have done." Then he died.

Saul approved the stoning of Stephen. Some faithful followers of the Lord buried Stephen and mourned very much for him.

At that time the church in Jerusalem suffered terribly. All of the Lord's followers, except the apostles, were scattered everywhere in Judea and Samaria. Saul started making a lot of trouble for the church. He went from house to house, arresting men and women and putting them in jail.

## Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- <sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame; \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- <sup>2</sup> Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.
- <sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- <sup>4</sup> Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.
- <sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth.
- <sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
- <sup>16</sup> Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

## A Reading from John

14:1-14

Jesus said to his disciples, "Don't be worried! Have faith in God and have faith in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together. You know the way to where I am going."

Thomas said, "Lord, we don't even know where you are going! How can we know the way?"

"I am the way, the truth, and the life!" Jesus answered. "Without me, no one can go to the Father. If you had known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him."

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need."

Jesus replied:

Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don't you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father? Don't

you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me? What I say isn't said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things.

Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do. I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father. Ask me, and I will do whatever you ask. This way the Son will bring honor to the Father. I will do whatever you ask me to do.

## **The Sermon**

*Rev. Vincent Black*

Let us pray.

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The Blessing**

*Good and gracious God, we pray for all who have yet to know of your love and mercy. May the Church of the Ascension be so inspired by your Holy Spirit that it may serve as a beacon of hope and a witness to the gospel for all people. Grant that we may continually grow in our own knowledge and love of you as we strive to use all that we have and all that we are to follow and imitate your beloved son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

We go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

† † †

At 11am all are invited to join in conversation about today's lessons and sermon followed by a virtual coffee hour.

Join the online meeting: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/revvincentblack>  
Online meeting ID: revvincentblack

Dial-in number (US): (425) 436-6300

Access code: 593523#

For additional assistance connecting to the meeting

text "Help" to the Dial-In number above. Message and data rates may apply.

**Please keep these people in your prayers today and all week long:**

**Our Spiritual Leaders:**

+Michael -our Presiding Bishop; +Mark -our Bishop;  
+Bill, and +Arthur -our Assisting Bishops;  
+Vincent -our Priest; Noah -our seminarian

**Those for whom prayers have been requested:**

Doug Amberman  
Martha Amer  
Bobby Armbrust  
Debbie Armbrust  
Ferdinand Afumbom  
Endrit Bala  
Tuggie Ballard  
Cathy Barbato  
Beck family  
Raymond Black  
Teddi Black  
Carolyn Borsini  
Larry Carey  
Tom Clark  
Steve Conrad  
Karen Cooper  
Linda Cramer  
Carol Culp  
Robert Dibb  
Joe Farkas  
Don Farrell  
Anne Ferguson  
Bill Fickinger  
Ella Jane Fowerbaugh  
Linda Gardner  
Martha Hartman  
Pat Hendy  
Diane Jackson  
Lisa Jones  
Beverly Kliber  
Kristen Kowalsick

Delores Kulunigan  
Barbara Kutza  
Susan Latham  
Marilyn Little  
June Madden  
MaryAnne  
Lois Melchoire  
David Meschter  
Mueller family  
Nancy Murphy  
Mike Neill  
Corey Niebes  
Sabrina Pewitt  
Mursay Pratt  
Laine O'Donnell  
Keith Robinson  
Miriam Schantz  
Delores Schew  
Pat Scheetz  
Rachel Sexton  
Roselle Sgambellone  
Naomi Singer  
Wendi Stemple  
Jonathan Tallman  
Corky Thacker  
Jeanette Triplet  
Mimi Verberg  
Betty Weber  
Brenda & Jaimie Wells  
Bill Wofford

## Those We Know in the Military

Bill Bobowicz  
Stephen Cline  
Jason Hildebrandt  
McDowell (Mac) Jones

Sydney Kline  
Jason Strater  
Brendon

## The Departed

Nancy Dittebrand  
Bill Hopple  
Bonnie O'Donnell  
Ron Oleksiak

Victor Ruggiero  
Thomas Scheidecker  
Bob Tremlin  
Ed Watts

## Pledges and offerings to the Church.

Please mail in your pledges/financial offerings so we can continue with the ministries of the church as well as meet our financial obligations.

*or*

YOU CAN USE PLASTIC TO DONATE TO THE CHURCH!

At [theascensionshop.com](http://theascensionshop.com) you can use plastic to donate to the church. Credit and debit cards are accepted. One time, Weekly, Bi-Weekly, and Monthly contributions can be entered. All contributions will show on your annual statement. Just take a look! (With thanks to theascensionshop creator Michael Crowdes; send questions to [crowdes@gmail.com](mailto:crowdes@gmail.com).)

### Church of the Ascension

13216 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
216.521.8727  
[www.ascension-lakewood.org](http://www.ascension-lakewood.org)  
[secretary@ascension-lakewood.org](mailto:secretary@ascension-lakewood.org)