



# Church of the Ascension

June 14, 2020

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

## **Opening Acclamation**

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

## **The Collect for the Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **A reading from Exodus**

**19:2-8a**

The Israelites left Rephidim. Then two months after leaving Egypt, they arrived at the desert near Mount Sinai, where they set up camp at the foot of the mountain.

Moses went up the mountain to meet with the LORD God, who told him to say to the people:

You saw what I did in Egypt, and you know how I brought you here to me, just as a mighty eagle carries its young. Now if you will faithfully obey me, you will be my very own people. The whole world is mine, but you will be my holy nation and serve me as priests.

Moses, that is what you must tell the Israelites.

After Moses went back, he reported to the leaders what the LORD had said, and they promised, “We will do everything the LORD has commanded.”

## **A reading from Romans**

**5:1-8**

By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, because of our Lord Jesus Christ, we live at peace with God. Christ has also introduced us to God's undeserved kindness on which we take our stand. So we are happy, as we look forward to sharing in the glory of God. But that's not all! We gladly suffer, because we know that suffering helps us to endure. And endurance builds character, which gives us a hope that will never disappoint us. All of this happens because God has given us the Holy Spirit, who fills our hearts with his love.

Christ died for us at a time when we were helpless and sinful. No one is really willing to die for an honest person, though someone might be willing to die for a truly good person. But God showed how much he loved us by having Christ die for us, even though we were sinful.

## **A reading from Matthew**

**9:35-10:8**

Jesus went to every town and village. He taught in their meeting places and preached the good news about God's kingdom. Jesus also healed every kind of disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he felt sorry for them. They were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his disciples, "A large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in."

Jesus called together his twelve disciples. He gave them the power to force out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and sickness. The first of the twelve apostles was Simon, better known as Peter. His brother Andrew was an apostle, and so were James and John, the two sons of Zebedee. Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew the tax collector, James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus were also apostles. The others were Simon, known as the Eager One, and Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed Jesus.

Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions:

Stay away from the Gentiles and don't go to any Samaritan town. Go only to the people of Israel, because they are like a flock of lost sheep. As you go, announce that the kingdom of heaven will soon be here. Heal the sick, raise the dead to life, heal people who have leprosy, and force out demons. You received without paying, now give without being paid.

## **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.

**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 deacon

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

Doug Amberman  
Martha Amer  
Bobby Armbrust  
Debbie Armbrust  
Ferdinand Afumbom  
Endrit Bala  
Tuggie Ballard  
Cathy Barbato  
Jen Black  
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  
Jim Neal  
Mike Neill  
Corey Niebes  
Sabrina Pewitt  
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

Mursay Pratt  
Victor Ruggiero  
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](https://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).)

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.

## Church of the Ascension

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