



Church of the Ascension

June 21, 2020

The Third 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 Third Sunday after Pentecost

Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A reading from Romans

6:1b-11

Should we keep on sinning, so that God's wonderful kindness will show up even better? No, we should not! If we are dead to sin, how can we go on sinning? Don't you know that all who share in Christ Jesus by being baptized also share in his death? When we were baptized, we died and were buried with Christ. We were baptized, so that we would live a new life, as Christ was raised to life by the glory of God the Father.

If we shared in Jesus' death by being baptized, we will be raised to life with him. We know that the persons we used to be were nailed to the cross with Jesus. This was done, so that our sinful bodies would no longer be the slaves of sin. We know that sin doesn't have power over dead people.

As surely as we died with Christ, we believe we will also live with him. We know that death no longer has any power over Christ. He died and was raised to life, never again to die. When Christ died, he died for sin once and for all. But now he is alive, and he lives only for God. In the same way, you must think of yourselves as dead to the power of sin. But Christ Jesus has given life to you, and you live for God.

Disciples are not better than their teacher, and slaves are not better than their master. It is enough for disciples to be like their teacher and for slaves to be like their master. If people call the head of the family Satan, what will they say about the rest of the family?

Don't be afraid of anyone! Everything that is hidden will be found out, and every secret will be known. Whatever I say to you in the dark, you must tell in the light. And you must announce from the housetops whatever I have whispered to you. Don't be afraid of people. They can kill you, but they cannot harm your soul. Instead, you should fear God who can destroy both your body and your soul in hell. Aren't two sparrows sold for only a penny? But your Father knows when any one of them falls to the ground. Even the hairs on your head are counted. So don't be afraid! You are worth much more than many sparrows.

If you tell others that you belong to me, I will tell my Father in heaven that you are my followers. But if you reject me, I will tell my Father in heaven that you don't belong to me.

Don't think that I came to bring peace to the earth! I came to bring trouble, not peace. I came to turn sons against their fathers, daughters against their mothers, and daughters-in-law against their mothers-in-law. Your worst enemies will be in your own family.

If you love your father or mother or even your sons and daughters more than me, you are not fit to be my disciples. And unless you are willing to take up your cross and come with me, you are not fit to be my disciples. If you try to save your life, you will lose it. But if you give it up for me, you will surely find it.

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.

† † †

We plan to resume in-person worship on Sunday July 19.

Please call the office at 216-521-8727 to let us know if you are coming and how many in the party. Imagine it is like making reservations at a restaurant for now. This will help us better plan and be prepared. Of course we will also accommodate visitors and others who may not have been able to call ahead. We will also continue to offer a virtual worship opportunity as well.

Please do not come to church if you are not feeling well.

All will be required to wear a mask and keep a social distance of 6 feet. Please bring your own mask. Masks will be available if you forget to bring one.

Hand sanitizer will be provided, and you are asked to use it. It is recommended that you have your own hand sanitizer as well.

There will be no coffee hour following the services at this time. People may socialize at a safe distance outside on the lawn or in the garden.

8am service will be held in the West Garden weather permitting. Otherwise it will be in Ascension Hall. Those attending 8am service are asked to enter the building through the West Entrance unless the assistance of the elevator is required. When calling ahead please specify whether you will bring your own chair or need one to be provided for outdoor worship.

10:30am service will be in the church. Those attending 10:30 service are asked to enter and exit through the front doors in the Nartex. As a rule we will enter via the center isle, and exit via the side isles maintaining social distance. Those requiring the assistance of the elevator are welcome to enter and exit through the East Entrance.

All these things may seem to be a burden and to diminish our experience of worship. The devil, the power of evil, wants us to be discouraged and to give up hope. We need to be mindful that we worship God as our Creator and Redeemer and that all our hope on God is founded! We will not give up gathering as the Body of Christ simply because it is less than ideal. Remember we follow a Lord who was terribly inconvenienced by the crucifixion but in the end rose from the dead and freed us from death and despair. So in this season we gladly bear the burden of keeping each other and ourselves safe while simultaneously worshiping God and bearing witness to the world of God's unwavering love.

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 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.)

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

FRANKFURTER
FRIDAYS
ARE BACK...
and **BIGGER!!!**



We will be maintaining social distancing.
If you prefer, you can take your food **to-go**.

Come and join our eighth annual summer lawn parties!
Free with 100% beef hotdogs, hamburgers, bags of chips
and bottled water.

Upcoming Dates:
July 10th | July 24th | August 7th | August 21st
6:30 -7:30 pm

NOW WITH
HAMBURGERS

Church of the Ascension
An Episcopal Church
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13216 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

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