

Church of the Ascension

July 19, 2020

*The Seventh Sunday
After Pentecost*

10:30am

Welcome to the Church of the Ascension

We are pleased to have you worship with us. If you are visiting and have not registered, the ushers will ask for your name for contact tracing. All are invited to meet on the front lawn after the service (observing social distancing). Let's get to know each other!

Nursery

We are not able to offer Nursery care at this time.

The references on the right side of the bulletin are as follows:

BCP indicates the Book of Common Prayer.

EOW indicates Enriching our Worship, a supplemental liturgical material.

Hymn and "S" numbers indicate the Hymnal 1982

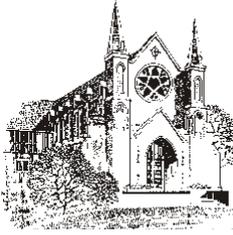
"S" indicates service music found at the front of the hymnal

There is no congregational singing at this time.

Finding Your Way

Elevator: Across from the church office, exiting at the East Entrance. Handicapped parking spaces are near the entrance and in the parking lot.

Restrooms: *Upper Level* – Through the door to the left of the altar (NW), past the chapel, past the library, and to the right of the church office.



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Holy Eucharist, Enriching Our Worship, 10:30am

Please note that in our liturgy when we refer to God we cannot adequately verbalize the magnitude and comprehensiveness of God's diversity and are always limited by our use of language. We acknowledge that although Jesus was born into history as a man, neither God the Father nor God the Holy Spirit were embodied with human sex. Although our language is often not all inclusive we believe God always is. God made human beings in God's own image with complexity and diversity. Thank you for sharing your diversity and complexity with us as we worship God together.

The Liturgy of the Word

Voluntary: Voluntary on *Nettleton* Gordon Young

Opening Hymn: Come Thou Almighty King H365

Welcome

Opening Acclamation (*The people standing*) BCP 355

Presider Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

People ***And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.***

Presider Let us say together the song of praise.

Song of Praise: A Song of Christ's Goodness EOW 39

Anselm of Canterbury

***Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you; *
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.***

*Often you weep over our sins and our pride, *
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgment.*

*You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, *
in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.*

*Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; *
by your anguish and labor we come forth in joy.*

*Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; *
through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.*

*Your warmth gives life to the dead, *
your touch makes sinners righteous.*

*Lord Jesus, in your mercy, heal us; *
in your love and tenderness, remake us.*

*In your compassion, bring grace and forgiveness, *
for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare us.*

The Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Presider The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

People sit for the reading of the lessons

A Reading from Isaiah

44:6-8

I am the LORD All-Powerful,
the first and the last,
the one and only God.
Israel, I have rescued you!

I am your King.
Can anyone compare with me?
If so, let them speak up
and tell me now.
Let them say what has happened
since I made my nation
long ago,
and let them tell
what is going to happen.
Don't tremble with fear!
Didn't I tell you long ago?
Didn't you hear me?
I alone am God—
no one else is a mighty rock.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 86:11-17 (*spoken*)

- 11 **T**each me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 ***I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.***
- 13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14 ***The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.***
- 15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- 16 ***Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.***

17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

A Reading from Romans

8:12-25

My dear friends, we must not live to satisfy our desires. If you do, you will die. But you will live, if by the help of God's Spirit you say "No" to your desires. Only those people who are led by God's Spirit are his children. God's Spirit doesn't make us slaves who are afraid of him. Instead, we become his children and call him our Father. God's Spirit makes us sure that we are his children. His Spirit lets us know that together with Christ we will be given what God has promised. We will also share in the glory of Christ, because we have suffered with him.

I am sure that what we are suffering now cannot compare with the glory that will be shown to us. In fact, all creation is eagerly waiting for God to show who his children are. Meanwhile, creation is confused, but not because it wants to be confused. God made it this way in the hope that creation would be set free from decay and would share in the glorious freedom of his children. We know that all creation is still groaning and is in pain, like a woman about to give birth.

The Spirit makes us sure about what we will be in the future. But now we groan silently, while we wait for God to show that we are his children. This means that our bodies will also be set free. And this hope is what saves us. But if we already have what we hope for, there is no need to keep on hoping. However, we hope for something we have not yet seen, and we patiently wait for it.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand

Sequence Hymn Book of Books

H631

who has done right will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom. If you have ears, pay attention!

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ***

The people sit

The Sermon

Rev. Vincent Black

All stand

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

“The Creeds are statements of our basic beliefs about God” (BCP 851).

We say these words as a gathered community to affirm our belief in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all creation, as the source of life and holiness. God has blessed humanity with relationships and community which are part of God's own essence as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We do not say these words as some sort of litmus test but as an invitation to wrestle with the mystery and complexity of God with generations of Christians who have gone before us and with generations who will come after us.

***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:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,***

*and became truly human.
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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
Who 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

Stand or kneel as the Holy Spirit leads.

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Arthur, and William our Bishops; Vincent, our Priest; Noah, our deacon; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation (especially... *the names on the long-term prayer list are read*).

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom (especially... *the names of the recently deceased are read*).

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Presider says

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.***

The Confession of Sin

EOW 56

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Presider and People

***God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.***

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Peace

EOW 56

All stand

Presider The peace of *Christ* be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and People greet one another with a wave, bow, or appropriate gesture but keep social distance.

The Announcements

For those celebrating birthdays

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow

in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music: It Is Well with My Soul Philip Bliss
(In Memory of Tom Clark)

The people remain standing

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 2 *EOW 60*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

The Presider continues

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

You made us in your image,
and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;
and yet, as a mother cares for her children,
you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us
to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

Sanctus and Benedictus (*spoken*)

Presider 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel and the Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death
and to reveal the riches of your grace,
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.
Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
He yearned to draw all the world to himself
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat:

This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,

gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

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

The Lord’s Prayer (*spoken*)

BCP 364

Presider 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

Fraction Anthem (spoken)

BCP 337

*O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,
grant us your peace.*

The Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Presider takes communion on behalf of the People of God, while the congregation is invited to pray for spiritual communion.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the

Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Communion Music: Organ Meditations

Post Communion Music: Day By Day H654

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Postcommunion Prayer *(said by all, standing)*

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.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: Lord Dismiss us with Thy Blessing H344

Presider Let us pray.

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.

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to be Christ's hands and heart in this world.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Voluntary: Benedictus on *Sicilian Mariners*

Gordon Young

***Please do not leave this bulletin in the church.
If you've used it take it with you.***

† † †

The Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider: Rev. Vincent Black

Organist: Jon Peterson

Soloist: Margie Hildebrandt

Acolyte: Derek Lewallen

Readers: Corky Thacker

Ushers: Roger Barnhard and Jeff Sommer

† † †

**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
Beck family
Jen Black
Raymond Black
Teddi Black
Carolyn Borsini
Larry Carey
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
Gil Newlands
Corey Niebes
Sabrina Pewitt
Miriam Schantz
Delores Schew
Pat Scheetz
Rachel Sexton
Roselle Sgambellone
Naomi Singer
Charles Stahl
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

Tom Clark
Nancy Dittebrand
Bonnie O'Donnell
Ron Oleksiak
Mursay Pratt

Keith Robinson
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.)

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 Narthex. As a rule we will enter via the center aisle, and exit via the side aisles 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.

Church of the Ascension

13216 Detroit Avenue

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

216.521.8727

www.ascension-lakewood.org

secretary@ascension-lakewood.org