

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

11:00 a.m.



Painting by Munir Alawi

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

205 W. Cherokee Avenue
Cartersville, Georgia 30120
770-382-2626

www.ascensioncartersville.org

*Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Ascension.
Here “we challenge ourselves and the world to love
like Jesus as we worship joyfully,
serve compassionately and grow spiritually.”*

Our shared purpose in the Diocese of Atlanta,
as agreed upon at Annual Council 2015

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

The people may make the sign of the cross (optional) when this sign † appears throughout the order of the service.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Prelude

Oh, Sinner Man

African-American Spiritual
arr. Michael Burkhardt

Oh, sinner man, where you gonna run to, on this day?
Run to the rock, Jesus Christ, our Savior, on this day!

A Lenten Love Song

Helen Kemp (1918-2015)

Now Jesus went into the garden,
The garden of Gethsemane.
He went there sad and very weary
To be alone, to pray.

Now Jesus went into the garden,
The garden of Gethsemane.
The olive tree bent over him,
And heard him sadly pray.

Ubi caritas et amor,
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.
(Where charity and love are found, God is there.)

The Hymn in Procession

Hymn 567

St. Matthew

heal and save; it tri-umphed o'er dis-ease and death,
strength, and sight; and youth re-newed and fren-zy calmed
life and death; re-store and quick-en, soothe and bless,

o'er dark - ness and the grave. To thee they went, the
 owned thee, the Lord of light: and now, O Lord, be
 with thine al - might - y breath: to hands that work and

blind, the deaf, the pal - sied, and the lame, the lep - er
 near to bless, al - might - y as of yore, in crowd - ed
 eyes that see, give wis - dom's heav - en - ly lore, that whole and

1 Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old was strong to
 2 And lo! thy touch brought life and health, gave hear - ing,
 3 Be thou our great de - liv - erer still, thou Lord of

set a - part and shunned, the sick with fe - vered frame.
 street, by rest - less couch, as by Gen - nes - aret's shore.
 sick, and weak and strong, may praise thee ev - er - more.

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891), alt. Music: *St. Matthew*, from *Supplement to the New Version of Psalms* by Dr. Brady and Mr. Tate, 1708.

The Word of God

Celebrant †Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Decalogue

The Celebrant and the people kneel.

Hear the commandments of God to his people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant 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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

The people stand.

The Kyrie

S 86

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e
e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e -
le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The First Lesson

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

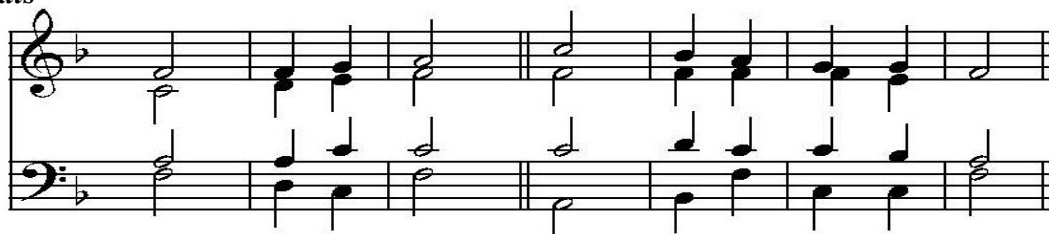
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 130

De profundis

Richard Farrant



- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, | hear my | voice; *
let your ears consider well the | voice of • my | suppli- | cation.
- 2 If you, Lord, were to note what is | done a- | miss, *
O | Lörd, | who could | stand?
- 3 For there is for- | givenness • with | you; *
there- | fore you | shall be | feared.
- 4 I wait for the Lord; my soul | waits for | him; *
in his | wörd | is my | hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen | for the | morning, *
more than | watchmen | for the | morning.
- 6 O Israel, | wait • for the | Lord, *
for with the | Lörd | there is | mercy;
- 7 With him there is | plenteous • re- | demption, *
and he shall redeem | Israel • from | all their | sins.

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Procession

Hymn 516

Down Ampney

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The people stand and turn toward the Gospel as it is processing to the center of the people.

The Gospel

John 11:1-45

Celebrant †The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at

the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Rev. Richard H. Winters

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant and People

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.

The Prayers of the People

Form IV, BCP

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Parish Notices

The Offertory Anthem

Grieve Not the Holy Spirit of God

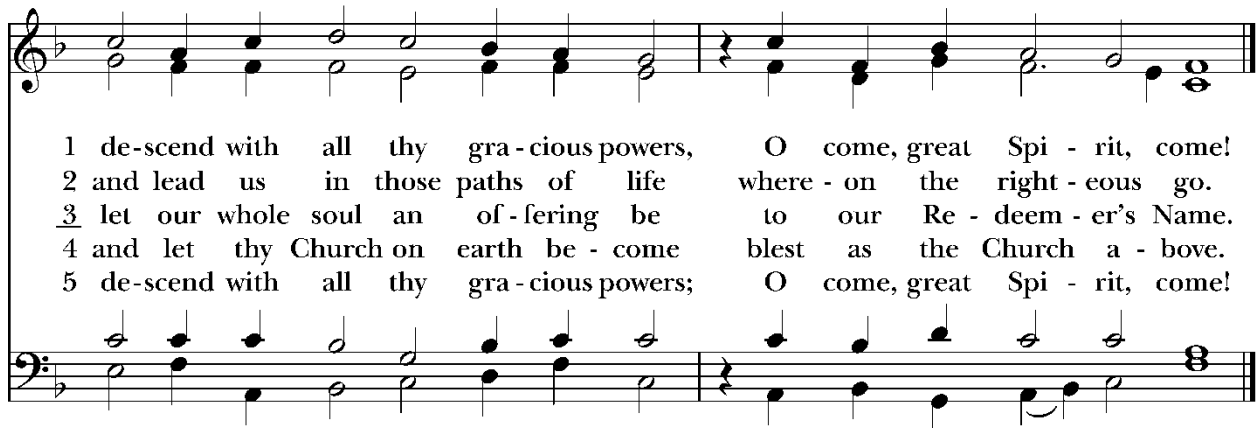
T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

The Presentation

Hymn 509

Nun danket all und bringet Her

1 Spi - rit di - vine, at - tend our prayers, and make this house thy home;
2 Come as the light; to us re - veal our emp - ti - ness and woe,
3 Come as the fire, and purge our hearts like sac - ri - fi - cial flame;
4 Come as the dove, and spread thy wings, the wings of peace - ful love;
5 Spi - rit di - vine, at - tend our prayers; make a lost world thy home;



1 de-scent with all thy gra-cious powers, O come, great Spi-rit, come!
 2 and lead us in those paths of life where-on the right-eous go.
 3 let our whole soul an of-fering be to our Re-deem-er's Name.
 4 and let thy Church on earth be-come blest as the Church a-bove.
 5 de-scent with all thy gra-cious powers; O come, great Spi-rit, come!

Words: Andrew Reed (1787-1862). Music: *Nun danket all und bringet Ehr*, melody att. Johann Cruger (1598-1662).

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

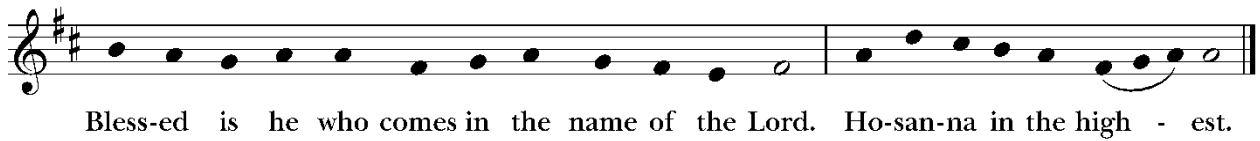
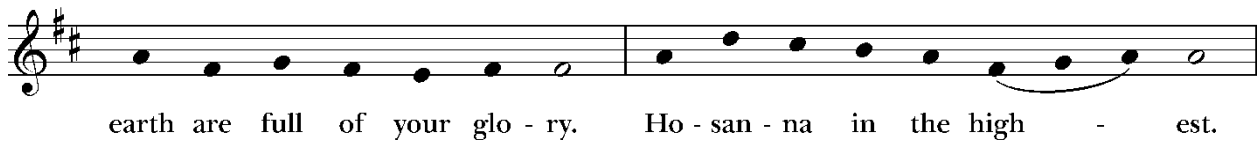
Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

S 124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

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

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Celebrant and People

S 161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant 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.

Hymns during Communion

Hymn 455

Dunedin

O Love of God, how strong and true,
eternal and yet ever new;

uncomprehended and unbought,
beyond all knowledge and all thought.

O wide-embracing, wondrous Love,
we read thee in the sky above;

we read thee in the earth below,
in seas that swell and streams that flow.

We read thee best in him who came
to bear for us the cross of shame,
sent by the Father from on high,
our life to live, our death to die.

We read thy power to bless and save
e'en in the darkness of the grave;
still more in resurrection light
we read the fullness of thy might.

Hymn 314

Adoro devote

1 Hum - bly I a - dore thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,
2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;
3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;
4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,
who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;
faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.
liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,
what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:
lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,
I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;
grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,
face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,
tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.
what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.
to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.
in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); sts. 1-3, tr. *Hymnal 1940*; st. 4, tr. *Hymnal 1982*. Sts. 1-3, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Adoro devote*, French church melody, Mode 5, *Processionale*, 1697; acc. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt.

If you are worshiping with us virtually, please pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshiping at home, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and

resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart.

†I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people stand.

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 Solemn Prayer for Lent

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hymn in Procession

Hymn 665

Michael

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew,
me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Mortal pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
though with care and toil we build them,
tower and temple fall to dust.

But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness e'er endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendor, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of nought.
Evermore from his store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth the almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ, his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

The Dismissal

The people are dismissed to follow the cross into the world.

The people respond, saying

Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary

Hymntune Improvisation on *Michael*

Herbert Buffington (b. 1958)

The order of service from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979
according to the use of the Episcopal Church.

Please take this home with you and use it to guide your prayers.

Please pray for the world.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please pray for all veterans and their families and for those who are currently serving our country in the Armed Forces, especially Stovall Knight, Chandler Celluzi, Taylor Tekesky, Kyle Hubert, Steven Velencia, Louis Evans and Sean Baker.

Please pray for the Episcopal Church of the Ascension.

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for blessings on those who have birthdays or anniversaries this week.

Neal Brunt, Samantha Tucker, Samuel Braid, Kerry Suggs, Marcia Humphreys, Bonnie Harrelson, Charles & Tiana Brachel

Pray for guidance.

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for those among us in need of healing, comfort, support, and compassion.

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers by name, especially Katy Johnson, Derrick Smart, the Cunningham family, Susan Wade and family, Pam Hyde, Jackie Jewett, Raymond Jankura, Carol Youd, Terry Brannon, Marina Robertson, Sis Eastland, Linda Jolly, Paul & Rebecca Wilson, Noah McLeod, Don & Connie Evans, Linda Jones, Nancy & C. B. Hatch, Clive Smart, Brooklyn Schimke, Betty Dean, Arthur & Glenda Parker, Michael Johnson, Judy Anne, Mal Underwood, Jim Gilbert, Lynn Fowler, The Rev. Louis Tonsmeire, Sam Hood and Lynette Pasek.

Please pray for those who have long-term health problems or are homebound, especially Alan Haigler, June Hyde-Hight, William Brown, Joseph McLure, Gary Schebbta, Wendy Little, Beverly Montagno, Markie Montagno, Keith Scoimshaw, Arielle Levioff, Debbie White, Zane Hoyt, Janet Witner, Linda Kindon, Bob & Claudia White, Bonnie Harrelson, Sandy Rutters, Glendy Biggs, Hope Cunningham, Sarah McLeod, Kimberly Gottardi, and Steve Novak.

Please pray for those who have died.

You are called to ministry!

Please know that volunteering in the work of God here at Ascension will bring you joy and fellowship as well as bless those you encounter. You have a place in strengthening our efforts to bring God's mission for the Church of the Ascension to full measure by getting involved. If uncertain of how to begin please contact the church office, 770-382-2626, or anyone on the list below.

Ministry	Liaison	Chair/s
Outreach	John Adams jcahha@bellsouth.net Brenda Worley brendaworley69@gmail.com	Emma Wilhoite mmacpaige@gmail.com Meghann Humphreys meghann.humphreys@gmail.com
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Liturgy & Worship	Linda Hamilton linda@bbaribault.com	Todd Harper tharper@kennesaw.edu Rick McKee rmckee54@comcast.net

Some Important Dates

March 29, 2023 – Holy Eucharist with Healing, 12:15 pm

March 30, 2023 – Lenten Lunch @ First Presbyterian, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday

9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Christian Formation for all ages

11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir

12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

April 6, 2023 – Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing

9:00 pm – 12:00am Prayer Vigil

April 7, 2023 – Good Friday

12:15 pm Holy Eucharist

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Veneration of the Cross

April 8, 2023 – Holy Saturday

7:00 pm The Great Vigil of Easter, reception to follow

April 9, 2023 – Easter Day

9:00 am Holy Eucharist, reception to follow

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir, reception to follow

April 12, 2023 – Holy Eucharist with Healing, 12:15 pm

April 16, 2023 – Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Christian Formation for all ages

11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir

12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

April 19, 2023 – Holy Eucharist with Healing, 12:15 pm

April 23, 2023 – Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Christian Formation for all ages

11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir

12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

April 26, 2023 – Holy Eucharist with Healing, 12:15 pm

April 30, 2023 – Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Christian Formation for all ages

11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir

12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall