Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023 11:00 a.m.

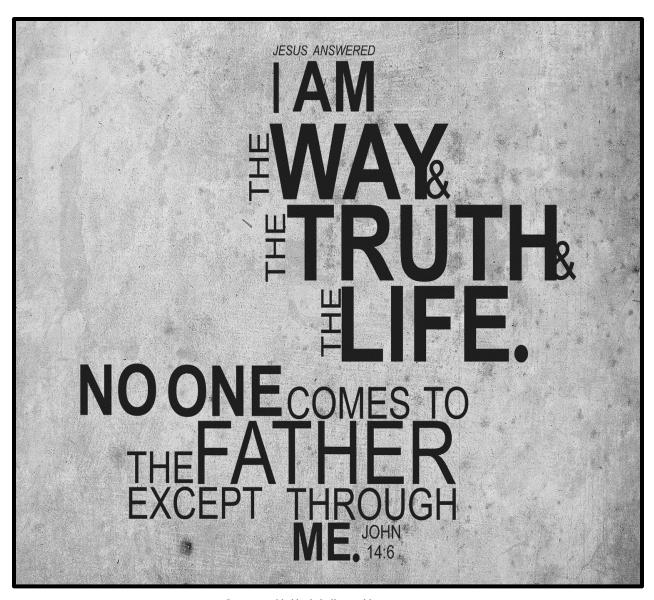


Image provided by bebuiltupon.blogspot.com

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 \dagger appears throughout the order of the service.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Organ Voluntary

Praeludium II, G Major, op. 37

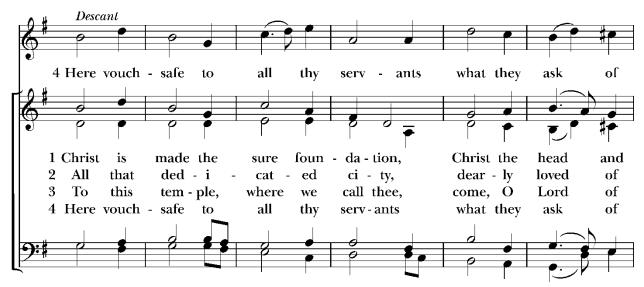
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Please stand, as you are able, at the ringing of the bell.

The Hymn in Procession

Hymn 518

Westminster Abbey





Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1856), alt. Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929). Descant by permission of Church Society, London.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

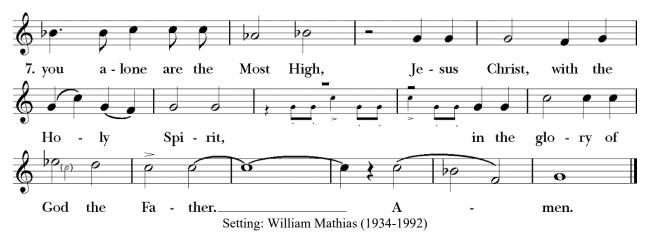
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**





The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant 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.** *The people sit.*

The First Lesson Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Response

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Chanted by congregation and choir

In te, Domine, speravi



- In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to | shame; * de | liver me | in your | righteousness.
- 2 Incline your | ear to | me; * make | haste | to de | liver me.
- 3 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.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for | me, * for | you are my | tower of | strength.
- 5 Into your hands I com | mend my | spirit, * for you have redeemed me, O | Lord, O | God of | truth.
- 15 My times are | in your | hand; * rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from | those who | perse cute | me.
- 16 Make your face to shine up | on your | servant, * and in your loving- | kindness | save | me.

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner",

and

"A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall."

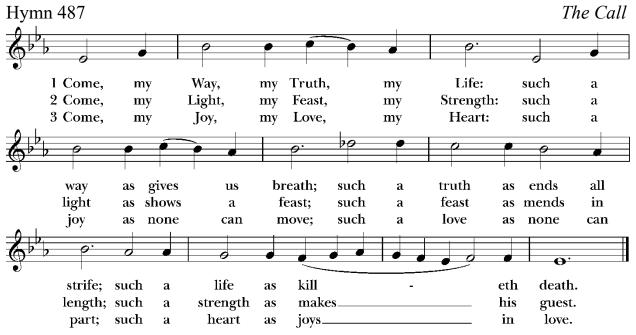
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence



Words: George Herbert (1593-1633). Music: The Call, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

The Gospel John 14:1-14

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Richard H. Winters

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 III, BCP

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

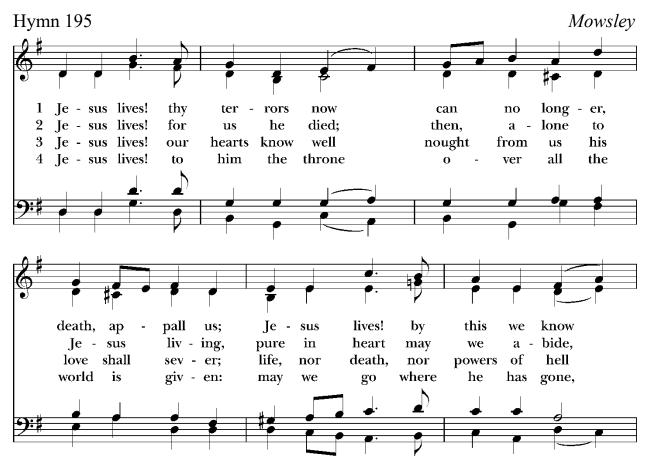
Parish Notices

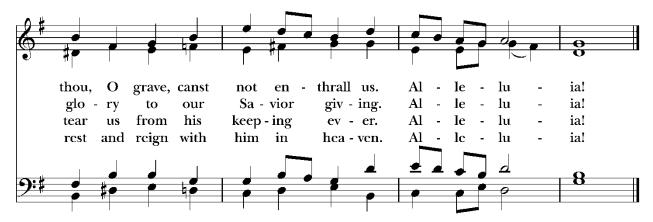
The Offertory

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter (b. 1945)

The Presentation





Words: Christian Furchtegott Gellert (1715-1769); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt. Music: *Mowsley*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1985 by Hope Publishing Co, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved.

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.

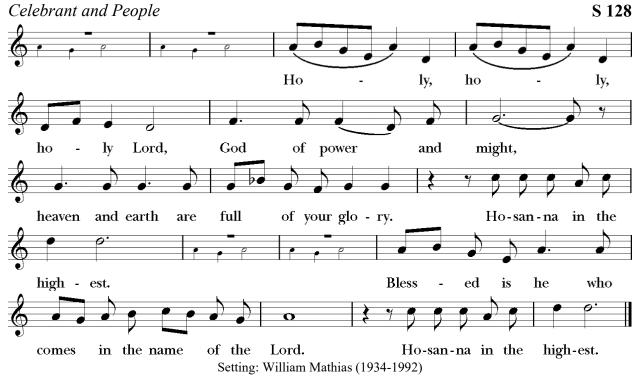
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:



The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

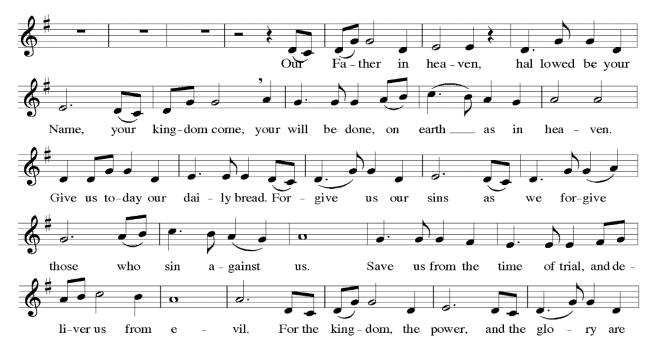
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. †Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,





The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant and People



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 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 51 Decatur Place



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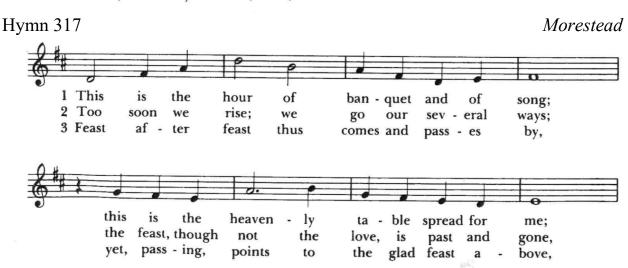
Words: John E. Bowers (b. 1923), alt. Music: *Decatur Place*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (b. 1921)

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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

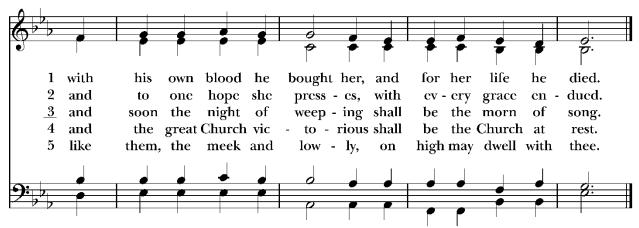
Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Easter Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Hymn in Procession





Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).

The Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the People.

The People respond,

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Closing Voluntary

Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters (1906-1986)

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

Please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship.

The Flowers at the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Clive Smart in Thanksgiving for the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III.

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.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the priest you have appointed as our new rector. Thank you for blessing our church family with his leadership and wisdom. May we all strive to be welcoming, cooperative, and productive under his new leadership. Thank you for leading, directing, and protecting his family as they make this transition. Lord, you are our Good Shepherd, our High Priest. Amen.

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

Linda Hamilton, Jillian Kubat Franklin, Maria Rozier, and Arleigh Daniel

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 Dale & Gloria Wansen, Tom Vanden Bush, Bill & Sandi Behrens, Cynthia Clark, Gail McDaniel, David Cox, Sr., Nancy Zerbe, Katy Johnson, Derrick Smart, Pam Hyde, Jackie Jewett, Carol Youd, Terry Brennon, Marina Robertson, Sis Eastland, Linda Jolly, Paul & Rebecca Wilson, Noah McLeod, Michael Johnson, Mal Underwood, 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 Tallulah, Laura Jean, Wendy, Kendra Bacer, Justin Byrd, Alan Haigler, June Hyde-Hight, William Brown, Joseph McLure, Gary Schebbta, Wendy Little, Beverly Montagno, Markie Montagno, Keith Scoimshaw, Arielle Levioff, 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.

Wendy Little, Montyce Rutters, and Joretta Scott.

Dates to Remember

- May 10, 2023 Fifth Week of Easter 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist with healing 7:00 pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal May 12, 2023 – Coffee House 7-9 pm in the Parish Hall May 14, 2023 – Sixth Sunday of Easter 9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir 12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall May 17, 2023 – Sixth Week of Easter 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist with healing 7:00 pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal May 21, 2023 – Seventh Sunday of Easter – Youth Sunday 9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir 12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall May 24, 2023 – Seventh Week of Easter 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist with healing 7:00 pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal May 28, 2023 – Day of Pentecost 9:00 am Family Service with Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir 12:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall May 31, 2023 – Week of Pentecost 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist with healing 7:00 pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal June 4, 2023 – First Sunday after Pentecost, Trinity Sunday 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir 11:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall June 7, 2023 – First Week after Pentecost 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist with healing 7:00 pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal June 11, 2023 – Second Sunday after Pentecost, Trinity Sunday 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir 11:15 pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall
- June 12-15, 2023 Vacation Bible School 5:30-8:00 pm "Jesus Loves Me" theme
- June 15, 2023 Parish-wide Cookout 5:30-8:00 All hands and appetites on deck!

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	Volunteer Needed
Building & Grounds	John Adams jcahha@bellsouth.net	Volunteer Needed
Christian Formation	Kristen Braid kmrbraid@gmail.com	Cathy Harville cathyharville@msn.com Sally Twyford lstwyford@gmail.com Melissa Schimke melissaschimke@hotmail.com
Evangelism & Communications	Brenda Worley	Kelley Dial
	brendaworley69@gmail.com	kelleydial@gmail.com
Fellowship	Judith Cunningham jac608@yahoo.com	Linda Brunt lbwbrunt@gmail.com
Finance	Neal Brunt brunt@mindspring.com	Drew Tonsmeire tonsmeire@georgiasbdc.org
Technology	Jeff Tindall jeff@jefftindall.com	Riley Barrington riley2barrington@gmail.com
Pastoral Care	Sandi Behrens sbehrens@bellsouth.net	Annette Cook annette.cook@comcast.net Kerry Suggs kerrydan14@gmail.com
Stewardship	Jimmy Hyde hydejimmy@bellsouth.net	Corinne Scott acsott333@comcast.net
Liturgy & Worship	Linda Hamilton linda@bbaribault.com	Todd Harper tharper@kennesaw.edu Rick McKee rmckee54@comcast.net