

THE EPISCOPAL
**CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION**

The Renewal of Mutual Ministry
with the Welcoming of a New Rector

Thursday, August 31
6:00 pm

205 West Cherokee Avenue
Cartersville, GA
www.AscensionCartersville.org

Musical Prelude

Pièce d' Orgue, BWV 572

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

A Meditation on
"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

Gerre Edward Hancock (1934-2012)

Hymn 518 "Christ is made the sure foundation"

Westminster Abbey

All stand as able

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er



with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

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 Opening Acclamation

The people remain standing, the Bishop says

Bishop Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God, Creator of all.**

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated. The Wardens stand near the Bishop.

The Bishop states the purpose of the gathering; and concludes

Bishop People of Church of the Ascension, you have reflected on your ministry and discerned your choice for a new Rector.

Wardens We have chosen and called Alex Dyer to be our Rector, and he has accepted.

Bishop I commend your choice and affirm this call.

The Letter of Institution is read. The Bishop continues

Bishop Are you, the people of Church of the Ascension, ready to continue in your ministry, with Alex as your priest?

People **We are.**

The Rector turns to the congregation and says

Rector I commit myself to you, the people of the Church of the Ascension as your priest and pastor, bringing my strengths and weaknesses, my hopes and concerns, my gifts and talents bestowed on me by God's grace, and will endeavor, with the help of God, to share with you in the ministry of this parish, in the name of Christ, with the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

Members We the people of Church of the Ascension, commit ourselves to you as our priest and pastor, bringing our strengths and weaknesses, our hopes and

concerns, our gifts and talents bestowed on us by God's grace, and will endeavor with the help of God, to share with you in the ministry of this parish, in the name of Christ, with the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

The Wardens escort the new Rector from the nave to the front of the assembly.

The Presentation of the keys to the church

The Wardens give the new Rector keys to the church.

Wardens Alex, receive these keys,
and let the doors of this place be open to all people.

People **Amen.**

The Presentation of a Bible

Representatives of the Lectors present a Bible and say,

Presenters Alex, with this Bible we proclaim and hear God's living Word.
Join us in the ministry of telling the Good News to the World.

People **Amen.**

Rector Let us hear again the Good News of salvation.

The First Lesson

Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25a

The people sit.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. I will come down and talk with you there; and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them; and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself.

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Presentation of a Hymnal

Representatives of the Music Ministry present a hymnal and say,

Presenters Alex, take this hymnal and be among us who sing praises to the Lord.


People Amen.

Hymn

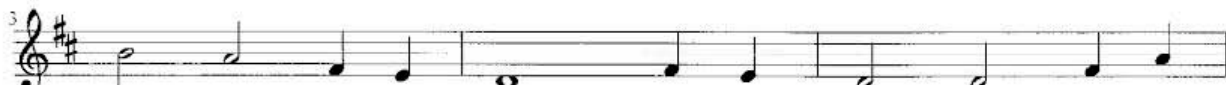
“Sing a new church”

Nettleton

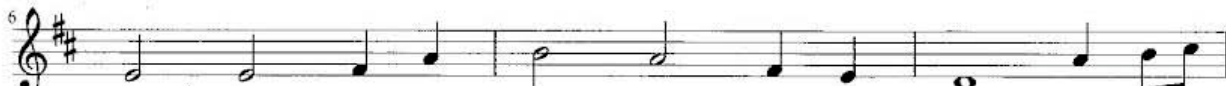
Please stand as able



1 Sum - moned by the God who made us rich in
2 Ra - diant ri - sen from the wa - ter, robed in
3 Trust the good - ness of cre - a - tion; trust the
4 Bring the hopes of eve - ry na - tion; bring the
5 Draw to - geth - er at one ta - ble, all the



our di - ver - si - ty. Gath - ered in the name of
ho - li - ness and light, male and fe - male in God's
spir - it strong with - in. Dare to dream the vi - sion
art of eve - ry race. Weave a song of peace and
hu - man fam - i - ly; shape a cir - cle ev - er



Je - sus rich - er still in u - ni - ty. Let us
im - age, male and fe - male, God's de - light.
prom - ised, sprung from seed of what has been.
jus - tice; let it sound through time and space.
wid - er and a peo - ple ev - er free.



bring the gifts that dif - fer, and in splen - did var - ied



ways, sing a new church in - to be - ing, one in



The Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Please be seated

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able



1. Will you come and fol - low me if
2. Will you leave your self be - hind if
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if
4. Will you love the “You” you hide if
5. Christ, your sum - mons ech - oes true when



I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and
 I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and
 I but call your name? Will you set the pris - 'ner free and
 I but call your name? Will you quell the fear in - side and
 you but call my name. Let me turn and fol - low you and

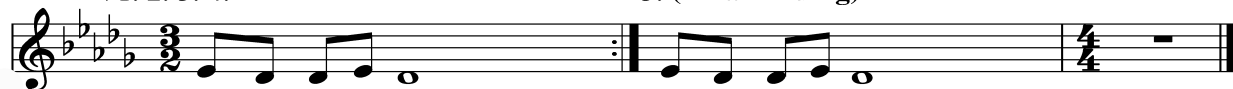


nev - er be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you
 nev - er be the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your
 nev - er be the same? Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do
 nev - er be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to re -
 nev - er be the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your



let my Name be known? Will you let my life be grown in
 life at - tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer prayer in
 such as this un - seen? And ad - mit to what I mean in
 shape the world a - round through my sight and touch and sound in
 love and foot - steps show, thus I'll move and live and grow in

1. 2. 3. 4. | 5. (Final Ending)



you and you in me?
 you and you in me?
 you and you in me?
 you and you in me?

5. you and you in me.

Words: from the Iona Community. Music: *Mary Alexandra*, John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

The Gospel

Luke 10: 1-9

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.
 People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, “Peace to this house!”

And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, “The kingdom of God has come near to you.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

*The Right Reverend Robert C. Wright
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta*

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

All stand as the Bishop moves to the Baptismal font and then the Bishop says

Bishop Alex, people of Church of the Ascension: in Holy Baptism we received full adoption through God’s grace and full empowerment for ministry through the Holy Spirit.

Bishop Will you work together as partners in the mission of the Church, to reconcile all people to God through Christ?

People **We will, with God’s help.**

Bishop The water of baptism signifies our eternal covenant with God. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to Christ, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Bishop blesses the water. Water is poured into the font.

Bishop We pray you, O God, sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that all who in baptism are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Rector Let us renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we renounce Satan and all his works, and promise to serve God faithfully in God's holy Catholic Church.

The Bishop leads the renewal of baptismal vows.

Bishop Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by his grace; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem

“Wade in the Water”

based on Eva Cassidy arr.

Wade in the water	Wade in the water
Wade in the water, children	Wade in the water, children
Wade in the water	Wade in the water
God's gonna trouble the water	God's gonna trouble the water
Who's that young girl dressed in red?	Who's that young girl dressed in blue?
Wade in the water	Wade in the water
Must be the children that Moses led	Must be the children that's coming through
And God's gonna trouble the water	God's gonna trouble the water, yeah
Wade in the water	Wade in the water
Wade in the water, children	Wade in the water, children
Wade in the water	Wade in the water
God's gonna trouble the water	And God's gonna trouble the water
Who's that young girl dressed in white?	You don't believe I've been redeemed
Wade in the water	Wade in the water
Must be the children of the Israelites	Just see the Holy Ghost looking for me
God's gonna trouble the water	God's gonna trouble the water

Songwriter: Willie Mae Thornton

Bishop sprinkles the congregation with holy water as a reminder of baptism.

The Presentation of a Prayer Icon

An icon is brought forward by Intercessors from the congregation.

Presenter Alex, with this icon join with us in offering our prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings to God.

People Amen.

The Litany for the Church

Rector Let us pray for this parish and our community.

Intercessors continues

For the founders and pioneers of this parish,
for their generous giving and sacrificial service,
We give you thanks, O God.

For the faithful members of this parish throughout the years,
for their perseverance and boldness in prayer,
We give you thanks, O God.

For those who have shared our faith and the lives they have nourished,
We give you thanks, O God.

For the children and young people of this parish,
for the love they have received and the questions they have asked,
We give you thanks, O God.

For the past, present, and future clergy of this parish,
for the true worship and thoughtful preaching they have offered,
We give you thanks, O God.

For the people who have found faith through this parish,
for their spiritual gifts and their joy in belonging,
We give you thanks, O God.

For all who have been and will be baptized, confirmed, or married, that the Holy Spirit shines
through their lives and witness,
We give you thanks, O God.

For all whose earthly life has been remembered here,
for holy examples given, and comfort and peace received,
We give you thanks, O God.

For the people who remember and pass on our community's history,
for stories remembered and told with love,
We give you thanks, O God.

For Cartersville and Bartow County, for our mayor and city officials,
and for Church of the Ascension's ministry in the years that have passed
and the years still to come,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the least, the last and the outsiders of our surrounding community,
that they may find a welcome here, in Christ,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are broken or discouraged
that they may find healing and peace here,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Forgive the sins and failures of our past
and reveal new possibilities for our future.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Give us the imagination to see a future transformed by faith in Christ,
and the will to work towards it with all our strength.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Give us such trust in you, our generous God, that our own generosity
may overflow in giving our time, talent, and treasure in your service.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Bishop: 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, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Presentation of Healing Oil

All remain standing as a flask of oil for healing is presented

Presenters Alex, with prayer, companionship and laying-on of hands we bring the
reconciling presence of Christ to those who seek healing. Join us in this
ministry by calling us to repentance, and assuring us of God's forgiveness and
love.

People **Amen.**

The newly installed Rector says to the people

The Peace

Rector The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome

*The Right Reverend Robert C. Wright
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta*

The Bishop concludes with an offertory sentence

Offertory Anthem

“Look to the day”

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Look to the day
when the world seems new again:
Morning so fresh
you could touch the sky;
The earth smells sweet
and ev'ry flower looks bright,
Shining in a dewy light as you wander by.
Taking the time
to enjoy each moment;
Tasting the fruits spread
along your way,
Knowing there's time to spare,
Dreams you can dream and share:
Look to the day, look to the day.

Look to the light
that will drive out darkness;
Look to the hope
that will conquer fear.
God's strength uphold us
till the fight is won,
Till we see our task is done
when the day is here.
Look for that day
when there shall be no more pain;
Sorrow and sighing shall pass away.
Pray for the day to come,
Trust that the day will come,
Look to that day, look to the day.

Look to the day
when the earth is green again:
Promise of spring after winter's sleep.
The sounds of life returning fill the air,
Music that's forever there
for your heart to keep.
Deep in the earth
lay the seed of life renewed,
Quiet and strong till the time of spring:
Life in each bud and shoot,
Life in each flower and fruit,
Look to that day when earth shall sing.

Lord, we give thanks for the gifts of life and
health;
Plant a new seed in our hearts,
we pray:
Help us to see, O Lord,
How it could be, O Lord;
Look to the day, look to the day.

Offertory

During the Offertory anthem a collection is taken to fund the Rector's Discretionary Fund. The discretionary fund is used to address charitable needs among congregation and community members.

The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine.
Addressing the Rector, the presenters say*

Presenters Alex, when we share the bread and the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Join us at God's table to offer and bless our gifts of bread and wine.

People Amen.

The Presentation of Outreach Gifts

When the alms are brought forward, gifts for ministry may also be brought to the altar, and may be received with the following

Presenters Alex, take this food and join with us in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and caring for all our neighbors in need.

People Amen.

Thanksgiving for all the Gifts

Bishop We offer thanksgiving to God for the ministries represented by these symbols, and ask God's grace to live ever more fully into the commitments we have made in Baptism.

People Amen.

Offertory Hymn 603

“When Christ was lifted”

St. Botolph

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his
 2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and
 3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -
 4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,
 al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us
 vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels
 I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.
 as his friends and loves us as we are.
 but a face, a per - son, and a name.
 cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). Copyright © 1973 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *St. Botolph*, Gordon Slater (1896-1979). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Great Thanksgiving

Bishop The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Bishop Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

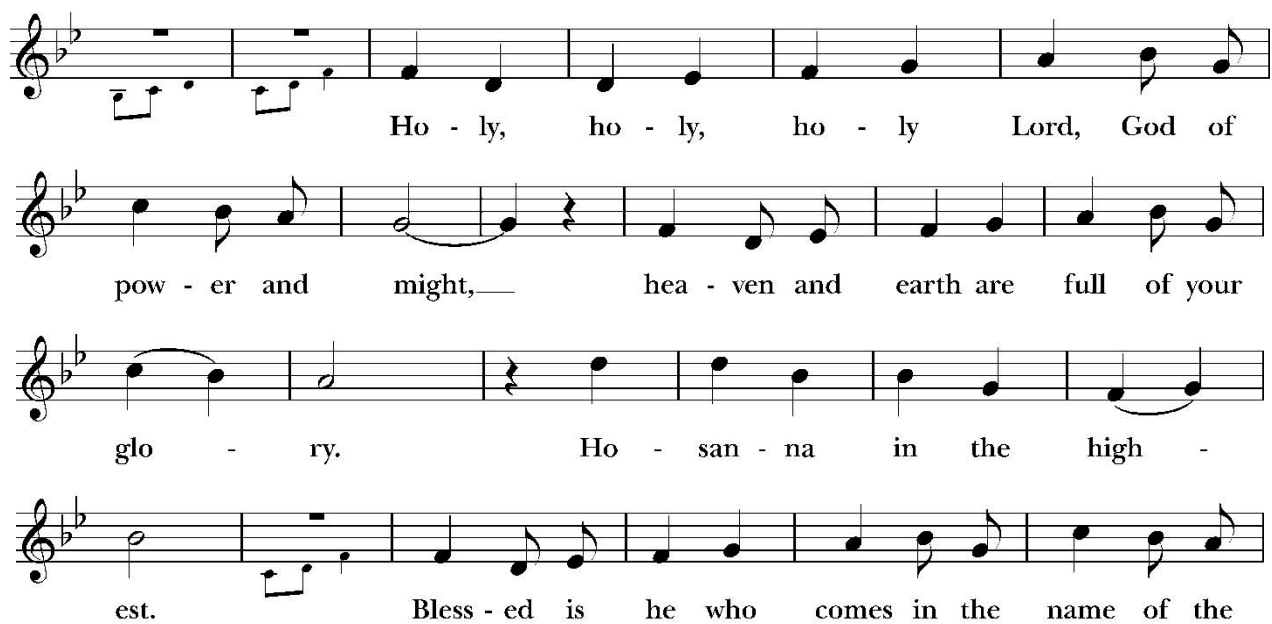
The Bishop continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

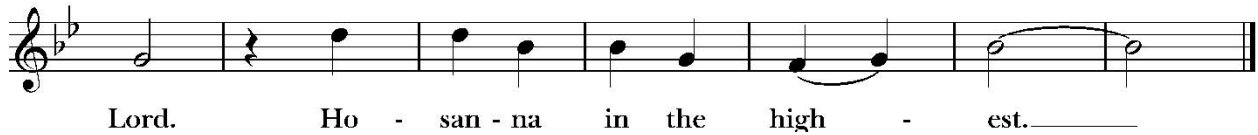
Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your beloved children, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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:

Bishop and People



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the



Music: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984). Copyright © Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

The Bishop 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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,

**We remember Christ’s death,
We proclaim Christ’s resurrection,
We await Christ’s coming in glory;**

The Bishop continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal lowed be your
Name, your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea-ven.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of trial, and de-
li-ver us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are



yours, now and for ev - er. A - - men. A - men.

Setting: Barry McLeod, from *Mass for the Church of the Ascension*, © 2007 Barry McLeod

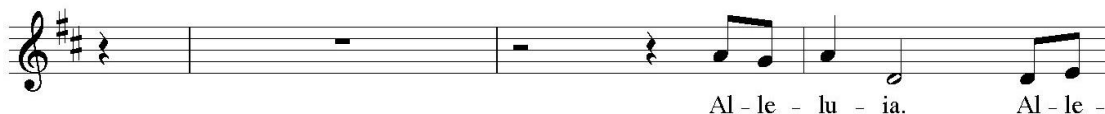
The Breaking of the Bread

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

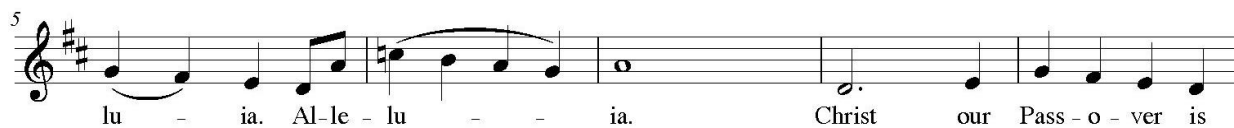
Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Fraction Anthem



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -



lu - ia. Al-le - lu - - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is



sac - ri-ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - - ia.

Setting, Barry McLeod, from *Mass for the Church of the Ascension*, © 2007 Barry McLeod

Bishop The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Distribution of Communion

After the altar party and choir receive communion, the ushers will invite the congregation to receive the consecrated Bread and the Wine.

Please note that all who follow Christ or desire a deeper relationship with Christ are invited to come forward to stand or kneel at the altar rails.

Please receive the consecrated Bread by extending your arms and opening your hands. After receiving the consecrated Bread, the traditional response is, "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available.

To receive consecrated Wine from the chalice, sip from the chalice, which will be guided to your mouth. Again, the traditional response after receiving is, "Amen."

Receiving one element is sufficient. If you do not wish to receive either the Bread or the Wine, then you may receive a blessing from the Bishop or Priest. Please fold your hands across your chest to let the clergy know.

If you need communion brought to your seat because of mobility issues, please tell an usher.

Anthem

"How firm a foundation"

arr. by The Petersens

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow will not overflow,
For I will be with you your troubles to bless
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine."

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake"

Anthem

“All are welcome”

Two Oaks

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live, a place where
saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end
divisions:

Refrain

Let us build a house where prophets
speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Refrain

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space; as we
share in Christ the feast that frees us;

Refrain

Let us build a house where hands will
reach beyond the wood and stone to heal
and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain

Refrain

All are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

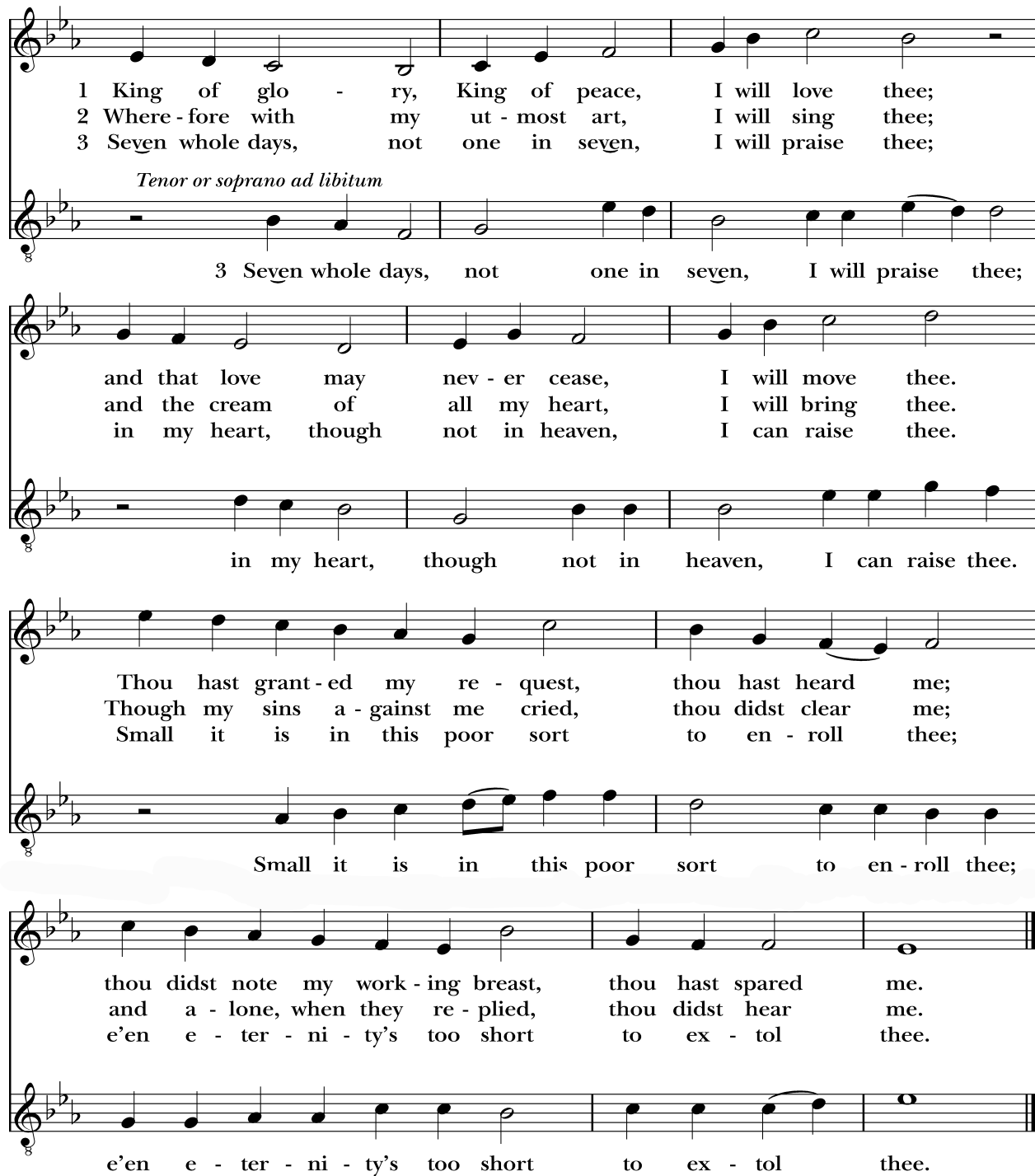
Songwriters: Paul Tate, Marty Haugen

Communion Hymns

Hymn 382

“King of glory, King of peace”

General Seminary



1 King of glo - ry, King of peace, I will love thee;
 2 Where - fore with my ut - most art, I will sing thee;
 3 Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;

Tenor or soprano ad libitum

3 Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;

and that love may nev - er cease, I will move thee.
 and the cream of all my heart, I will bring thee.
 in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.

in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.

Thou hast grant - ed my re - quest, thou hast heard me;
 Though my sins a - gainst me cried, thou didst clear me;
 Small it is in this poor sort to en - roll thee;

Small it is in this poor sort to en - roll thee;

thou didst note my work - ing breast, thou hast spared me.
 and a - lone, when they re - plied, thou didst hear me.
 e'en e - ter - ni - ty's too short to ex - tol thee.

e'en e - ter - ni - ty's too short to ex - tol thee.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633). Music: *General Seminary*, David Charles Walker (b. 1938). Copyright © 1976, David Charles Walker.

Hymn

“Bless the Lord”

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

Words: Psalm 103. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

Post Communion Prayer

The people stand

Bishop Let us pray

Almighty and ever living 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 Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Bishop We have celebrated this new pastoral relationship in the great prayer of the Church. Alex, I commend to your love and care the people of the Church of the Ascension. My siblings in Christ, I commend to your love and care your new Rector, colleague and friend, Alex.

The Blessing

The Bishop may bless the assembly.

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
 2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
 4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
 5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
 5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

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

The Dismissal

Priest: Let us go forth into the world
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Closing Voluntary

Toccatà

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

*The order of service from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979
according to the use of the Episcopal Church.
Hymns used by permission of onelicense.net #A-741619.*

You are invited to join us in the
Parish Hall for a festive reception.

Servant Participants

Preacher & Celebrant	The Right Reverend Robert C. Wright
New Rector	The Reverend Alex Dyer
Verger	Floyd Braid
Bishop's Verger	Lola Thomas
Thurifer	Erle Newton III
Crucifer	Abbie McClung
Torchbearers	Dan Bennett & Linda Hamilton
Gospel Bearer	Christopher McAbee
Clergy Crucifer	Savannah Dyer
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Donna Marie Newton
Lectors	Jacob Tindall & Neal Brunt
Intercessors	Linda Brunt & Sandy Cunningham
Wardens	John Adams & Brenda Worley
Bible Presenters	Jim Harrelson and Ed Mullinax
Hymn Presenters	Herbert Buffington & Angee McKee
Healing Oil Presenters	Kerry Suggs & Susan Wade
Icon Presenter	Marty Knight & Rick McKee
Outreach Gifts	Nancy Haight & Karen Tindall
Bread & Wine	Marcia Humphreys
	Kim & Drew Tonsmeire
Ushers	John Adams, Jim Harrelson, & Del Ekendahl
Greeter	Meribeth Zane
Live Stream Control	Riley Barrington & Matt McClung
Guitar	Montie Nelson
Banjo	Roger Dees
Mandolin	Rick McKee

History of the Church of the Ascension

By 1000 A.D. several thousand Mississippi Indians had settled in this fortified town on the north bank of what is now called the Etowah River, named for their settlement. Very little is known about the meaning of Etowah, a corruption of the Indian word 'itawa'; white settlers in the area translated it to mean Hightower.



Etowah, the center of political and religious life in the valley, was home to the chiefs who directed the growth, storage and distribution of food.

The Right Reverend Stephen Elliott, the first Bishop of Georgia, accompanied by the Reverend Thomas F. Scott of Marietta, met and preached to a small group of Episcopalians in Northwest Georgia in a Baptist Church at Pettit Creek near the Etowah River in November of 1844.

Later, the Reverend Frederick Elwell began a thriving school at the vicarage. The church was consecrated on June 22, 1845. By 1850, there were seven members of the newly established mission-church. Following the Civil War and the growth of Cartersville, the country property was sold and the present site purchased. Our present church building was begun in 1873. The first celebration of the Holy Eucharist was celebrated during the Easter Season in April of 1874, and the church was consecrated on November 6, 1875.

There is very little known about the life of the parish for the next sixty years. The Parish Register indicates that many services took place in homes of the parishioners. In 1938, the present stained glass windows were secured for the Church of the Ascension from the Episcopal Church in Cave Springs, Georgia.

From its very beginning Ascension has been known for its ministry to the city and county. The people of Ascension were instrumental in beginning the Retired Men's Club, Habitat for Humanity in Bartow County, and a ministry to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Red Door Food Pantry continues to be an active expression of our care for those who suffer from poverty.

About our Rector

Before serving at Church of the Ascension, Alex most recently served as a Canon in the Office of the Bishop staff in the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado. His responsibilities included congregational vitality, church governance, mission, social justice, and property management. Before moving to Colorado, he was the priest-in-charge at St. Thomas' Parish, located in the Dupont Circle neighborhood of Washington, DC.



Alex was born in East Tennessee and later moved to Maryland and then Virginia. He became a Christian at age 15, when he was baptized in Virginia Beach. After his baptism, he felt a call to ordained ministry. He attended seminary a year after graduating Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia.

Prior to seminary, Alex served as a camp counselor for the Diocese of Southern Virginia's camp and as a missionary in Cairo, Egypt, working with Sudanese refugees. After graduating seminary, he served numerous parishes in New York City, Connecticut, and Washington, DC. With nearly two decades of ordained leadership in the Episcopal Church, Alex has served parishes of various sizes.

He has a heart for the inclusion of all God's people in the life of the Church, which was strengthened during his time at St. Luke in the Fields in New York City. At St. Luke in the Fields, he oversaw outreach programs for LGBT youth and a program for people with HIV/AIDS. In New Haven, Connecticut he began an outdoor worship service for those who did not feel comfortable worshipping inside a church building. Most of the people attending were experiencing homelessness.



Alex has been with his husband, Ryan, for over twenty years. Ryan attended the University of Georgia and the Columbia School of Social Work. He grew up in South Georgia and is excited to be closer to his family. Alex and Ryan have two young children. Alex enjoys football, cooking, hiking, and fishing.