



The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025 8:00 a.m.



Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
Shout with joy to the LORD,
all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Psalms 98

Welcome to Church of the Ascension

Church of the Ascension provides opportunities to
Connect with God and one another,
Grow in faith and understanding, and
Serve the Lord, one another, and the world around us.

We are an active community of faith committed to welcoming all
and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Christ-centered + Spirit-filled + Mission-minded

The Liturgy of the Word of God

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

✠ Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

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

Hymn of Praise:

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.** Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Malachi 4:1-2a

A Reading from the Book of Malachi

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, * for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm * has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *and the peoples with equity.

The Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

✠The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.** When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Homily

The Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

✠ The Nicene Creed

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

Celebrant: O God of steadfast love and faithful promise, as this Church year draweth to its close, receive the prayers we offer in hope and trust.

Intercessor: O Faithful God, strengthen thy Church in every place. Uphold Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Carrie, our Bishop and all who minister in thy Name. Keep us steadfast in faith, courageous in witness, and patient in hope until thy Son cometh again in glory. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Sovereign Lord, guide the leaders of the nations and all in public trust. Grant wisdom and integrity unto Donald, our President; the members of Congress; Westley, our Governor; and Mona, our Mayor. Inspire them to seek justice, to serve with humility, and to labor for the peace and welfare of all people. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord of peace, look with mercy upon a world still divided by conflict and fear. Bring an end to violence, oppression, and hatred; defend the innocent, and renew in all people the desire for righteousness and reconciliation. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord of hosts, we remember with gratitude all who have served this nation in times of war and peace. Grant unto our veterans and their families thy protection and thy blessing. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Merciful Healer, draw near to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; to the lonely, the anxious, and the forgotten. We pray especially for those on our parish list: Jenny, Peg, Lianne, Jack, Jackie, Dewey, Eva, Paul, Thelma, Brandon, Jonathan, Drew, Richard, Mary, Danny, Darrell, Trevor, Ruth, Joseph, and Raymond. Surround them with thy grace and give them thy healing peace. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Shepherd of our souls, watch over this parish of Ascension. Deepen our worship, knit us together in fellowship, and send us forth in loving service, that we may be a sign of thy kingdom in Westminster. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord of life, grant rest eternal to those who have died in the faith of Christ, and comfort to all who mourn, that they may know the hope of the resurrection and the light of thy eternal kingdom. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Giver of every good gift, we thank thee for the blessings of this life – for family, friends, and this congregation; and for all who celebrate birthdays this week, especially Jack, Kevin, and Steve. Fill our hearts with gratitude and our lives with praise. Lord, in thy mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Eternal and gracious God, ruler of heaven and earth, hear the prayers of thy people. Keep us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee 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 thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

O God, our times are in your hands: look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send your blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Thank you for your financial support! To make an online offering, please scan the QR code.



Offertory Sentence

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. *1 Chronicles 29:11*

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

✠ **At the Presentation**

All things come of thee, O Lord, **and of thine own have we given thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying, **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.**

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Grant us thy peace.**

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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. **Amen.**

The Communion of the People

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion kneeling or standing at the Communion Rail.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body**

and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thine everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

✠The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Worship Assistants	November 16	November 23
Usher	Roberta Wilhelm	Don and Janice Hobart
Lector	David Kreider	Mary Lou Berg
Acolyte	Jennie Grabill	<i>1 needed</i>

November Altar Guild: Team 5: Susan Considine, Debbie Linard, Liz Lowe

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God from Mistletoe Mart, in thanksgiving for everyone's generous support with this year's Mart.

Attendance: November 9

8:00 am - 30 10:15 am In-person - 74 YouTube - 3 Facebook - 3 **Total: 110**

Readings for Next Sunday: The Last Sunday after Pentecost - C

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43