



The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

10:15 a.m.



Everyone who calls on the
name of the Lord shall be saved.
Romans Ch. 10

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

Celebrant: The Reverend Dr. William Pugliese

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome

Prelude

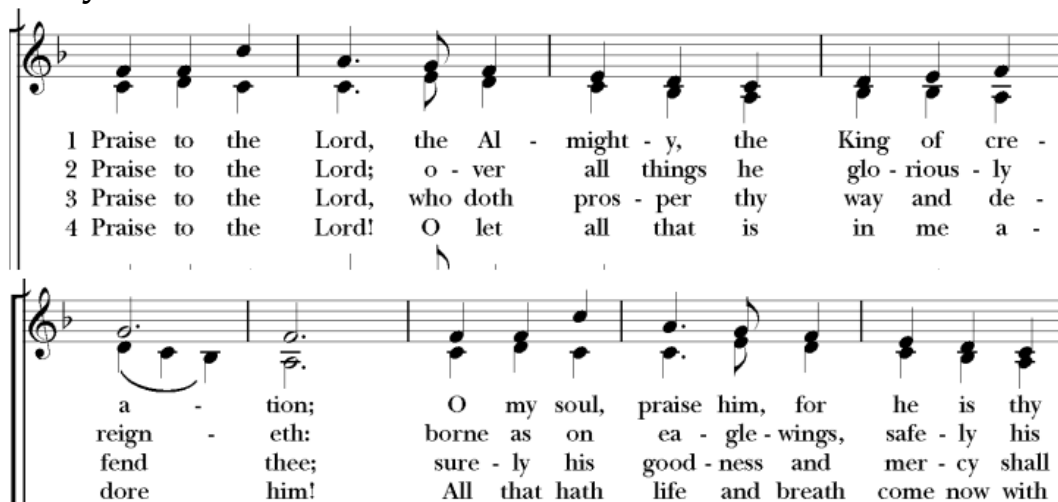
"Calm to the Waves"



Words: Mary Louise Bringle Music: Thomas Pavlechko

✠ Processional Hymn

Hymnal #390



health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander Music: *Lobe den Herren*

Opening Acclamation

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

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

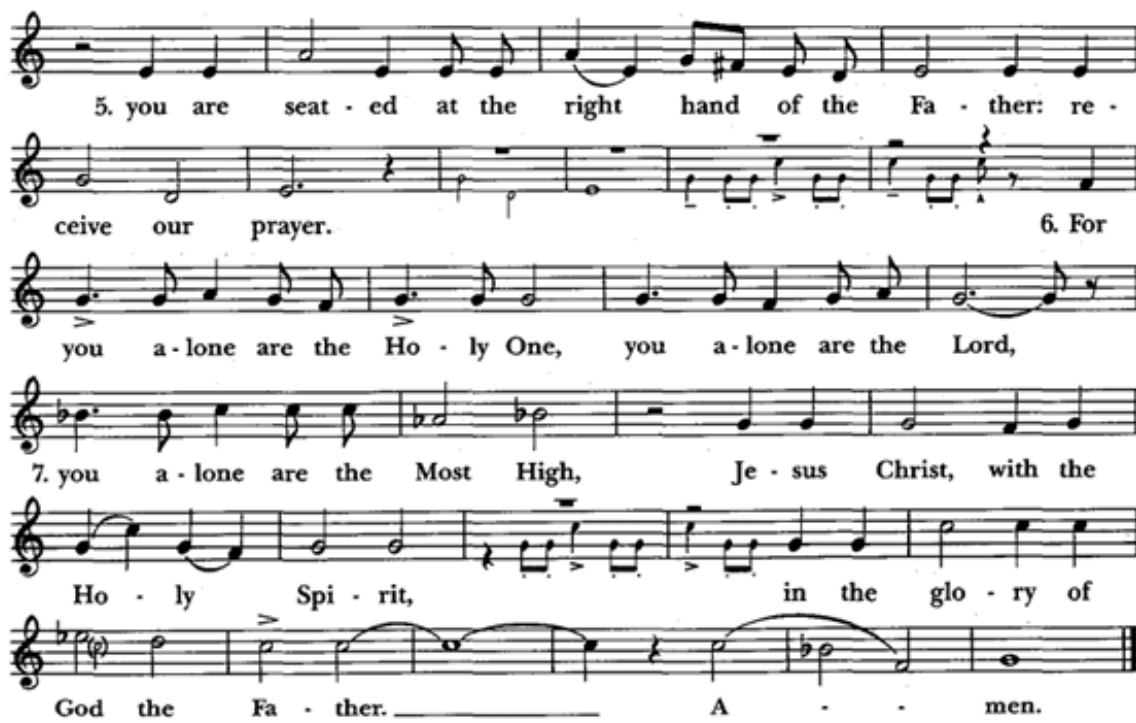
The Collect for Purity

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.**

Hymn of Praise

Hymnal #S278

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
 might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
 on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" — that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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

Psalms 105, 1-6, 16-22, 45b

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; * continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, * O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land *and destroyed the supply of bread.
- 17 He sent a man before them, *Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *his neck they put in an iron collar.
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass, *the word of the LORD tested him.
- 20 The king sent and released him; *the ruler of the peoples set him free.
- 21 He set him as a master over his household, as a ruler over all his possessions,
- 22 To instruct his princes according to his will and to teach his elders wisdom.
- 45 Hallelujah!

The Epistle: Romans 10:5-15

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

✠ Sequence Hymn

"My Faith Looks Up To Thee"

Hymnal #691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im-part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor-row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887)
Music: Olivet, Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

664. 6664

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat,

battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. William Pugliese

✠ 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 (*Adapted from Form I, Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant: With all our heart and all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

Intercessor: For the holy Church of God throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Carrie, our Bishop, and all bishops, priests, and deacons, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this parish family, that God may grant us wisdom, courage, generosity, and faithfulness, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Donald, President of the United States, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For an end to the wars that ravage so many nations, especially the Middle East, Sudan, and Ukraine; for the protection of the innocent, the care of refugees, and the courage of peacemakers, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who serve in the armed forces and for their families, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and suffering, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Marion, Lianne, Stacy, Bill, Gail, Bobbie, Jerry, Sean, Heather, Jackie, Mark, Janet, John, Karen, Scott, Pat, Steve N., Steve P., Ryan, Betsy, Rick, Sharon, Debbie, Jordan, Mary, and Reed and those we now name silently or aloud, *Silence* Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, and those we remember before God, *(Silence)* Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially Bobbie, Merle, Allison, Becky, Debbie, Cathy, Pat, David and JoAnne, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The people may add their own petitions or thanksgivings, silently or aloud.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant: Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *A time of silence is kept.*

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.**

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 Peace: The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

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.



The Celebration of the Holy Communion

Offertory

"My Peace I Leave You"

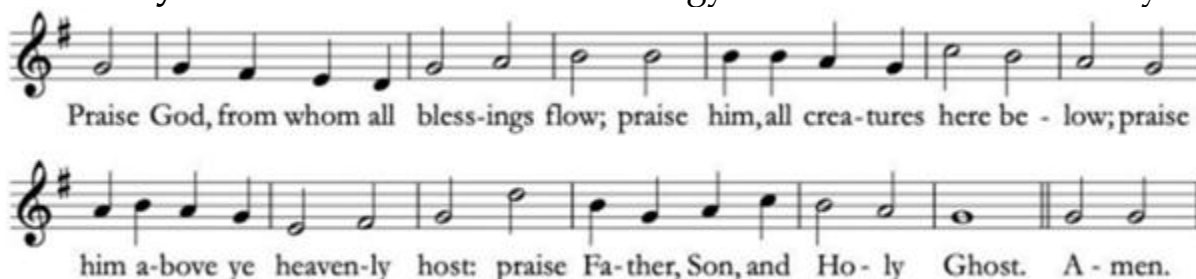
J. Berthier



✦ Presentation Hymn

"The Doxology"

Hymn 380 v.3



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Music: Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 1 from *Enriching Our Worship*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

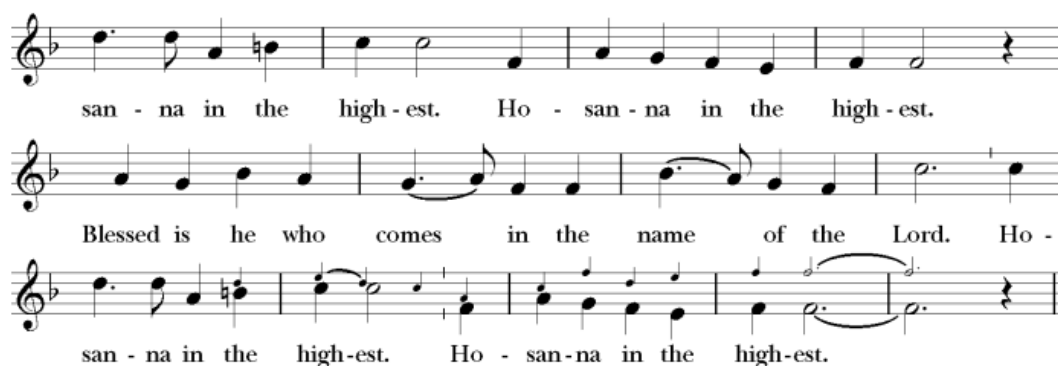
Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus

"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

Hymnal #S125





Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

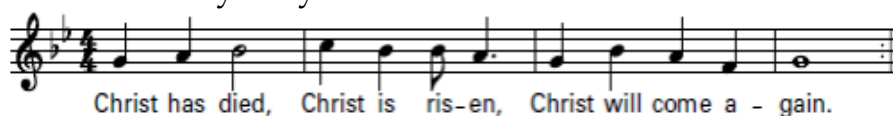
On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Memorial Acclamation

Setting: Mass of Creation

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:



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Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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

The Great "AMEN"

Setting: Mass of Creation



And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to sing:

The Lord's Prayer

Lyrical

Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-low-ed 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-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow-er, and the glo-ry are

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

Words: Book of Common Prayer
 Music: *King of Glory Mass*, Betty Carr Pulkingham
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The Breaking of Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

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 are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest. To receive the wine you can either drink from the common cup or dip your host held by the second Eucharistic minister on both sides of the priest.

Communion Music

"The Solid Rock"

1. My hope is built on nothing less Than I
2. When dark - ness veils the face of
3. His oath, His shall come - on His en - ant, His blood sound, I Sup -
4. When He shall come with - trum - pet sound, O -

Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness; I In
rest port may on me His in the in - chang - ing grace; I When
may I in then in Him be found, Dressed

dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But
ev - er a high and storm - y gale My
all in His round right - eous - ness gives a lone, He
in Fault

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name. Chorus: On
an - chor holds with in the veil.
then is to stand my be - in the veil.
less to stand my be - fore the throne.

Christ, the sol - id Rock I stand All
o - ther ground is sink - ing sand, All
o - ther ground is sink - ing sand.

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✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray. **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 Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant: With whom will you share this communion? *Lay Eucharistic Visitor answers.*

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Song

“Forever”

Chorus:

Forever, God is faithful
Forever, God is strong
Forever, God is with us
Forever, Forever

1. Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise.

2. With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise. Sing praise, sing praise

3. From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
By the grace of God, we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise. Sing praise, sing praise

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The Dismissal:

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Worship Assistants	August 9	August 16
Organist	Mary Butler	Mary Butler
Musicians	Choir	Choir
Ushers	<i>2 needed</i>	<i>2 needed</i>
Lector	John Holbert	John Holbert
Acolyte(s)	Ellen Anderson, Kaydence Harper	Kat Dittrich
Chalicians	John Holbert, Sandy White, Kim Tompkins, <i>1 needed</i>	Helen Lang, Sandy White, Kim Tompkins, <i>1 needed</i>
Worship Slides	Karen Lance	John Holbert
Audio Visual	Nick Hoff	Clément Buisson

August Altar Guild: Kim Tompkins, Charlie Aler, Beverly Baker, Helen Lang

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by David and JoAnne Kreider, in honor of their wedding anniversary, and in thanksgiving for their family.

Attendance August 2

8:00 am - 31 10:15 am In-person - 72 YouTube - 2 Facebook - 6 Total: 111

Readings for Next Sunday: The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:10-28

Church of the Ascension | 23 North Court Street | Westminster, Maryland 21157

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