



The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025 10:15 a.m.



Do not neglect to do good and to
share what you have, for such
sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews Ch 13

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

Prelude

✠ **Processional Hymn**

“All Are Welcome”

1. 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

Chorus:

All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

2. 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 a symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus

Chorus

3. 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 *Chorus*

4. 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. *Chorus*

5. 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. *Chorus*

Words: Marty Haugen | Music: *Two Oaks*, Marty Haugen

The 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, 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

“Praise to the Lord”

Hymnal #390

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

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 (1650-1680); tr. Hymnal 1940, alt.
 Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665;
 harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

14 14. 478

Collect of the Day

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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Labor Day

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Proverbs 25:6-7a

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

Psalm 112

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

10 The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.

The Epistle: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Children's Chapel

Children ages 3 – 8 and their Leaders exit to "Children's Chapel," returning at the Peace.

✠ Sequence Song

"Thy Word"

Chorus:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light
unto my path. Thy Word is a lamp unto my
feet and a light unto my path

2. I will not forget your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide and hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end

1. When I feel afraid and I think I've lost my
way. Still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near
Please be near me to the end.

CCLI Song # 14301 | Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith

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The Holy Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

Sermon

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: Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Reader: 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, especially for the leaders of our country and our community;

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.

We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list:

Jenny, Jacques, Josette, Trinkia, Debbie, Joseph, Karen G., Layton, Jackie, Dewey, Scott, Karen M., Matt, Drew, Mary, Megan, Tony, Raymond, John

Surround them with your healing presence, and grant them comfort and hope.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week: Sean, Megan, Reagan, Bud, Steve and Deb

May they be blessed and strengthened in the year ahead.

Give to all 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)*

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear the prayers we offer in Jesus' Name. Receive the needs and thanksgivings we have spoken, and also those held in our hearts. Strengthen us to do your will, and give us hearts to love you; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

Offertory Sentence *To make an online offering, please scan the QR code.*



Through Christ, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15-16*

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

Processional Song

"Blessed Be Your Name"

1. Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

2. Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

(Pre-Chorus)
Every blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord, still I will say

3. Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

4. Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

Chorus:

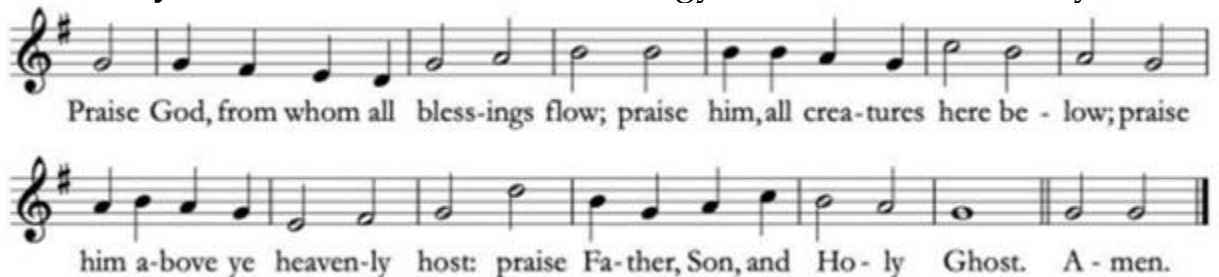
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

CCLI Song # 3798438
Beth Redman | Matt Redman
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✠ Presentation Hymn

"The Doxology"

Hymnal #380, v. 3



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

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer D

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

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

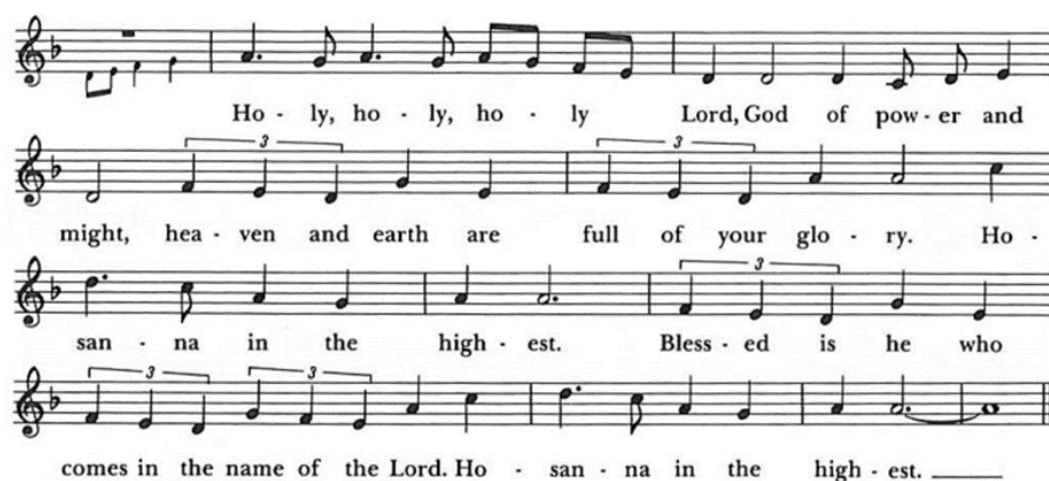
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:



We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin.

To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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.'

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

✠ Fraction Anthem

Words: James Montgomery Music: *Resignation* (American Folk Melody)

Be_ known to_ us in break - ing_ bread, and do not then de - part;_

_ Sav ior, a - bide with us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart_ Lord,

sup with us in love di - vine, thy_ Bo - dy_ and thy Blood_ that

liv - ing_ bread, that heav - enly_ wine, be_ our im - nor - tal food.

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 Table”

1. I will feast at the table of the Lord
I will feast at the table of the Lord
I won't hunger anymore at His table

3. There is healing at the table of the Lord
There is healing at the table of the Lord
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table

2. There is peace at the table of the Lord
There is peace at the table of the Lord
I won't worry anymore at His table

4. I'm invited to the table of the Lord
I'm invited to the table of the Lord
He says come just as you are to His table

Chorus:

Come all you weary come and find. His yoke is easy His burden is light.
He is able. He will restore. At the table of the Lord

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✠ Post-Communion Prayer (#69 from *Enriching our Worship*)

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you today and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Hymnal #376

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Words: Henry Van Dyke
Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven

The Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

| Worship Assistants | August 24 | September 7 |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Worship Leader | James Corns | Martin Villanueva |
| Musicians | Praise Ensemble | Praise Ensemble |
| Ushers | Beatrice Howe | <i>2 needed</i> |
| Acolyte | <i>1 needed</i> | <i>1 needed</i> |
| Lector | John Holbert | <i>1 needed</i> |
| Chalicists | Sandy White, John Holbert, Susan Considine, Helen Lang | Helen Lang, <i>3 needed</i> |
| Worship Slides | Emelia Howe | Lynn Lyon-Vaiden |
| Audio Visual | Gabriel Hoff | Travis Collins |

August Altar Guild: Team 2

Janice Hobart, Jill Horn, Emelia Howe, Deb Vana

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Ted and Joanne Neil, in thanksgiving for blessings received, and in celebration of birthdays for daughter Cindy, and son Doug,

Attendance: August 24

8:00 am – 36 10:15 am In-person – 58 YouTube - 14 Facebook – 3 **Total: 111**

Readings for Next Sunday: The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – C

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33