



## The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

10:15 a.m.



*Because I live, you also will live.  
I am in my Father, and you in me,  
and I in you.*

John Ch. 14

### **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

### Prelude

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”  
*Handbell Choir*

arr. Douglas Wagner

### ✠ Processional Hymn

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Hymnal #405

*Refrain:*

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God that made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
he made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings. *(Refrain)*

3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun;  
The ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one. *(Refrain)*

2. The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning, that brightens up the sky. *(Refrain)*

4. He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. *(Refrain)*

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander

Music: *Royal Oak*, adapt. Martin Fallas Shaw

## Opening Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## 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

Setting: Mass of Ascension

Donna Parker

1. Glo-ry Glo ry Glo-ry to God and peace to God's peo-ple on  
Earth 2. Lord God Heav-en-ly King: al - migh-ty 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 you take a -  
way the sins of the world have mer - cy on us. 1. Glo-ry Glo ry

Glo-ry to God and peace to God's peo-ple on Earth 5.You are  
 seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther re-ceive our prayer For  
 You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord. 7.You a-  
 lone are the mo-st high Je-sus Christ with the Ho-ly Spi-rit in the  
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther A-men A-men 1.Glo-ry Glo ry  
 Glo-ry to God and peace to God's peo-ple on Earth

### The Collect of the Day

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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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: Acts 17:22-31**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he

will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

**Psalm 66:7-18**

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
    make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, \*  
    and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
    you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; \*  
    you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;  
    we went through fire and water; \*  
    but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings  
    and will pay you my vows, \*  
    which I promised with my lips  
    and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
    with the smoke of rams; \*  
    I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
    and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
    and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
    the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; \*  
    he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
    nor withheld his love from me.

**The Epistle: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are

maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

♠ Sequence Hymn

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

Hymnal #516

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn long,  
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,  
 and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;  
 O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place  
 and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams

**The Holy Gospel: John 14:15-21**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth,

whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

### The Sermon

The Reverend 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:* In joy and hope, let us pray to the Risen Lord for the Church and the world.

*Intercessor:* For the Universal Church, its members, and its mission: that our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, and make us bold witnesses to the Good News we proclaim, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all the nations of the earth and their leaders, and for this nation in particular: that the God who shows no partiality may guide us in the ways of justice and peace, and make us signs of hope in a wounded world, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the Middle East, for Ukraine, and for all places torn by war: that the One who rolled away the stone may also roll away every wall of hatred and division, and bring forth reconciliation and new life, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who serve in our armed forces throughout the world, especially those in harm's way: that they may be kept safe in body and spirit; and for the families who wait and

worry at home, that they may be sustained by hope and surrounded by love, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all mothers and those who have shown us a mother's love, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer and those in any trouble – especially Lianne, Stacy, Bill, Gail, Bobbie, Jerry, Jack, Jackie, Liz, Scott, Betty, Steve N., Steve P., Ryan, Rick, Debbie S., Jordan, Reed, Mason – that they may be upheld by your healing presence and delivered from their distress, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For Bill+, Ann and all celebrating birthdays and anniversaries: that they may be renewed in joy and strengthened in love throughout this Easter season, let us pray.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the departed: that, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, they may share fully in the victory of the risen Christ, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant:* Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; 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

“Our Lord and King Adore!”

arr. Douglas Wagner

*Handbell Choir*

✠ Presentation Hymn

“The Doxology”

Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise him all creatures here below;  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Lasst Uns Erfuehen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William, 1906.

## The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus**

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker

Ho - ly Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord. God of pow - er God of might  
8 Hea - ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry Ho - sa - na in the high -  
16 est. Blest is He, who comes in the name of the Lord Ho - sa - na  
26 in the high - est Ho - sa - na in the high - est

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

### Memorial Acclamation

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker



We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

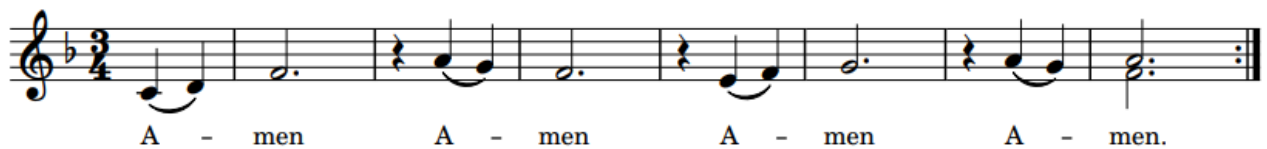
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with Luke and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

### The Great Amen

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker



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

“Lamb of God”

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker

Je - sus Lamb of God have mer - cy on us. Je - sus Lamb of God have  
mer - cy on us Je - sus Lamb of God Gra - nt us your peace

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

“One Spirit, One Church”

by Kevin Keil

Chorus:

We are a pilgrim people, we are the Church of God  
A family of believers, disciples of the Lord  
United in one spirit, ignited by the fire  
Still burning through the ages, still present in our lives

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest<br>And in our hearts take up thy rest<br>Come with thy grace, and heavenly aid<br>To fill the hearts which thou has made | 2. O Comforter, to thee we cry<br>Thou gift of God sent from on high<br>Thou font of life and fire of love<br>The soul's anointing from above |
| 3. Praise be to thee, Father and Son<br>And Holy Spirit, with them One.<br>And may the Son on us bestow<br>All gifts that from the Spirit flow.             |   |

## ✠ 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

May the Risen Lord make himself known to you and empower you to testify to his Resurrection in word and in deed. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## **Recessional Song**

### “How Great Is Our God”

1. The splendor of the King  
Clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice  
All the earth rejoice  
He wraps Himself in light  
And darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice  
And trembles at His voice

2. And age to age He stands  
And time is in His hands  
Beginning and the End  
Beginning and the End  
The Godhead three in one  
Father Spirit Son  
The Lion and the Lamb  
The Lion and the Lamb

### **Chorus:**

How great is our God  
Sing with me  
How great is our God  
And all will see how great  
How great is our God

Name above all names  
Worthy of all praise  
My heart will sing  
How great is our God

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## The Dismissal

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

## **Postlude**

### *Happy Mother's Day*



*Gracious God,*

*We give thanks for mothers, grandmothers, and all who have nurtured and cared for others with patience and love. Bless those who rejoice this Mother's Day, and comfort those for whom this day carries sorrow, grief, or longing. Amen.*

<b>Worship Assistants</b>	<b>May 10</b>	<b>May 17</b>
Organist	Mary Butler	Mary Butler
Musicians	Choir, Handbell Choir	Choir
Ushers	David Horn, <i>1 needed</i>	<i>2 needed</i>
Lector	Barbara Sears	Buck Lyon-Vaiden
Acolyte(s)	Kaydence Harper, Beatrice Howe	<i>1 needed</i>
Chalicians	Sandy White, Jill Horn, Susan Considine, Kim Tompkins	John Holbert, Sandy White, Kat Dittrich, <i>1 needed</i>
Worship Slides	John Holbert	Jeanne Cox
Audio Visual	Travis Collins	Allison Lord

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Kim Tompkins, in loving memory of her mother, Mary Jo Cornes, and in thanksgiving for the blessing of all mothers as we celebrate this Mother's Day.

**The Bread and Wine**

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Cheryl Vecera, in loving memory of her mother, Cynthia Frock.

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Tom and Sharon Schwartz, in celebration of son-in-law, Cody Plog's birthday.

**Readings for Next Sunday: The Seventh Sunday of Easter - A**

Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11