

**Church of the Ascension**

October 25, 2020 10:00am Holy Eucharist  
www.churchofascension.org 727-447-3469

**Season of Pentecost, Proper 25**

**Prelude** New World Symphony Mvt. 3 Scherzo Antonin Dvorak

**Processional Hymn 423** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.  
 Music: St. Denio, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877);  
 harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

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## The Word of God

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

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* 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.**

## Gloria S-236

1. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ Lord  
God of our fa - thers; \_\_\_\_\_ you are wor - thy of praise;  
glo - ry to you. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Glo - ry to you \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; \_\_\_\_\_ we will  
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Glo - ry to you \_\_\_\_\_ in the splen - dor of your  
tem - ple; \_\_\_\_\_ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to  
you. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed be -  
tween the Cher - u - bim; \_\_\_\_\_ we will praise you and  
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. \_\_\_\_\_

*Descant*

5. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ be - hold - ing the depths; \_\_\_\_\_ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ you. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther, \_\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; \_\_\_\_\_ we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you. Glo - ry to you! \_\_\_\_\_ high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: John Rutter (b. 1945)

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray the collect of the day

**Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **First Lesson: Deuteronomy 34:1-12**

### **Old Testament**

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, ‘This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’ Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17**

### **Old Testament**

- 1 Lord, you have | been our | refuge \*  
from one gener-|ation | to a- | nother.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the | earth were | born, \*  
from age to | **age** | you are | God.
- 3 You turn us back to the | dust and | say, \*  
"Go | back, O | child of | earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like  
yesterday | when it is | past \*  
and | like a | watch in the | night.
- 5 You sweep us a-|way like a | dream; \*  
we fade away | suddenly | like the | grass.
- 6 In the morning it is | green and | flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is | **dried** | up and | withered.

13 Return, O Lord; how | long will you | tarry? \*  
be | gracious | to your | servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving | kindness in the | morning; \*  
so shall we rejoice and be | glad all the | days of our | life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the | days that you a-| fflicted us \*  
and the years in | which we | suffered ad-| versity.

16 Show your | servants your | works \*  
and your | splendor | to their | children.

\*17 May the graciousness of the Lord our | God be up-| on us; \*  
prosper the work of our | **hands**; | prosper our | handiwork.

### **Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8      *New Testament***

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

### **Sequence Hymn 655 vs 1-2    O Jesus I have Promised**



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end:  
2 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee,



I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,  
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
and, Je - sus I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.  
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.  
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Words: John Ernest Bode (1816-1874), alt.

Music: Nyland, Finnish folk melody; adapt. David Evans (1874-1948)

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*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:34-46**

***New Testament***

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ He said to him, ‘“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

“The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet’ ”?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Hymn 655 vs 3** (see hymn on previous page)

**Homily:** The Rev. Hugh Bell

*Silence is kept after the homily.*

**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**

*Deacon:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Deacon:* Let us pray.

*Intercessor:* May Christ be seen in the life of the Church. Jesus Christ, we put our hope in you.

**People: Jesus, healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You have called us to be children of God, one family in faith. Strengthen our love for each other. Jesus Christ, we put our hope in you.

**People: Jesus, healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You have called us, through baptism, to live our lives filled with the Holy Spirit. Give us willing hands and loving hearts so that our lives will reflect your holiness. We pray for all who are celebrating their birthday this week, especially, **Joan** Partenheimer, **Sully** Rowan, **Heidi** Hering, **Ky** Koch, **Owen** Looker, **Elaine** Runkle, **Lianan** Armil, **Jack** Harrison, **Al** DeNeve, **Pierce** Blume, **Beth** Bell, **Greg** Vento, **Linda** Barley, **Keith** Bolster, **Brandon** Smith, **David** Howell, **Carolyn** Howell, **David** Burton; and we pray for those who are celebrating their anniversaries **Larry & Susan** Simoneau, **Tom & Allison** Chaby. Jesus Christ, we put our hope in you.

**People: Jesus, healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You have called us to be holy examples of the life Jesus lived. By your grace, let others, who do not know you, see you in us and desire your presence in their lives. Jesus Christ, we put our hope in you.

**People: Jesus, healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You have called us to listen to your Holy Spirit, raise up for Ascension, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion. Jesus Christ, we put our hope in you.

**People: Jesus healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You have called us to pray at all times and you promise to hear and answer our petitions. We pray that your comfort and healing power will bring hope and healing to those for whom we pray, especially \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus Christ, we put our hope in you.

**People: Jesus healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* Jesus Lord of the Church, you have called us into fellowship with all your saints. We unite our prayers with theirs and ask for grace to serve you with joy in this life and the next.

**People: Jesus healer of all life, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* Lord God, we pray for those who have died, especially \_\_\_\_\_. Through the journey of death and in the grieving of those who mourn, gather us up into the everlasting arms of love and comfort us, and bring us to life in all its fullness.

**People: God of all creation, let your kingdom come and accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins to God.

#### ***Celebrant and People***

**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.**

*Celebrant:* 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**

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Offertory Meditation**

*God of love. We come today bringing our gifts, and dedicating them to your service. Bless these gifts and use them to serve the needs of the many who need to know your presence. We bring our gifts with thanksgiving in our hearts, and songs of hope and praise on our lips.*

### **Offertory O Sing Unto the Lord: Let the Heavens Rejoice**

**G. F. Handel**

*Quintet: Betsy Clement, Matthew Eakins,  
Ryan Kosinski, Kym Sangalang, Erika Van Gorden*

*Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth, and let the earth be glad.  
Let the sea make a noise, a noise, and all that is therein.*

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord,

**People: and of thine own have we given thee**

**Doxology Hymn 380 v 3:** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### **The Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer D** BCP, pg. 372

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant:* 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 forever.

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,

**Sanctus** The People's Setting, Malcolm Archer  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, ( Bells) God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. ( Bells)**

*The Celebrant continues*

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." ( Bells)

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." ( Bells)

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.

***Celebrant and People***

**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. ( Bells)

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.** ( Bells)

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People:** Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*Celebrant:* 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.

### Holy Communion

**Communion Music** O Sing Unto the Lord: O Worship the Lord **G. F. Handel**

*Duet: Erika Van Gorden, Matthew Eakins*

*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*

**Meditation** *During the Communion, please meditate on this thought.*

*God of all loving, you love and search for each of us even before we loved you.*

*And we are seized with wonder to discover that you look upon every human being with infinite tenderness and deep compassion.*

– Brother Roger, Taizé Community in France

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

#### **Celebrant and People**

**Almighty and everliving 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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **Blessing**

The Wisdom of God the Love of God and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world;

and the Blessing of God Almighty,

Our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier

Keep you and those you love in life everlasting. **Amen.**

### Recessional Hymn 688 A Mighty Fortress

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er  
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood  
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side,  
 do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed  
 bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing: for still our an - cient foe  
 the man of God's own choos - ing: dost ask who that may be?  
 his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,  
 through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,  
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,  
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,  
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

I that found, O Sa - vior true; no, I was found of thee.  
 much that I on thee took hold, as thou, dear Lord, on me.  
 long be - fore - hand with my soul, al - ways thou lov - edst me.

Words: Anon., *Pilgrim Hymnal*, 1904  
 Music: *Faith*, J. Harold Moyer (b. 1927)

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**Dismissal**

Deacon: Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

**Organ Postlude**

Processional on All Hallows Eve

*Thomas Kerr*