



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

7 May AD 2017

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

(The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Rector*
The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Assistant to the Rector*
Jerrold Tidwell, *Minister of Music*

Welcome to Ascension!

*For more information about our community, fill out a welcome card, found at either end of the pews,
or take one of our welcome packets from a member of the Welcome Team
or the table by the Church Office door.*

A nursery for children up through age three is available all morning in the Main Building, Room 2.

Please silence your audible devices.

*Within the service, the people read the parts in **bold print**.*

Welcome and Announcements

Gather 384

Sing a New Song

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Let us pray.

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.

Acts 2:42-47

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved..

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Gather 319

Darkness is Gone

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [10:1-10].

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice." Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying. So Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Meditation

(The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

The Affirmation of Faith

**You, O God, are supreme and holy,
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
Good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
Your love for us in Jesus Christ,
Who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.**

The Prayers of the People

Prayers are invited, either silently or aloud. After each spoken prayer, a gong will sound.

Concluding Prayer

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gather 585

Let Us Be Bread

The Holy Communion

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God. For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life. We thank you that you make us human and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

God's love is shown to us: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord. You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, their true and living God. In your mercy you are now our God. through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you, for you alone do justice to all people, living and departed.

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and sing:

Sanctus

Musical score for Sanctus, featuring a treble clef, key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The score consists of seven staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Marty Haugen

The Celebrant continues

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; 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, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, Father, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will.

Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit, feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ with all who share your gifts of love.

Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we now pray:

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all.
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples
of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

From A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 181

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and a period of silence is kept.

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives in you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.
The Bread and the Cup are given with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Administration of the Sacrament: All are welcome to the Lord's Table at Ascension. To receive communion, come to the communion station. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or you may hold the bread and dip it into the wine when the cup is offered to you.

Gluten-free wafers are also available. Make your need known to the Clergy by holding up three fingers.

*As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say:*

**Our Father in heaven,
holy is your Name,
your kingdom come
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

*From The Book of Common Prayer,
p. 364*

If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please join in the movement to the communion station and cross your arms over the front of your chest – this will alert the Clergy of your desire to be blessed.

If you need communion brought to you please let a member of the Welcome Team know.

Healing Prayers: If you would like to receive the laying on of hands for healing for yourself or another, go to the prayer annex to the right of the pulpit after receiving communion. A healing minister will be there to pray with you.

When there is a Eucharistic Visitor present

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those whom you visit 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 and one cup.

Let us pray.

God of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in Jesus and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Amen.

Gather 511

Lord of the Dance

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Priest and People greet one another in the name of the Lord, then move to the narthex for refreshment and fellowship.

Pray for Comfort, Healing, Courage, and Hope

We pray for comfort, healing, courage and hope for Sandy Boynton, John Carman, Carol Clark, Peg Custer, Mary Davidock, Elinor Etienne, Joseph Ellis, Kirk Fitch, Sally Glick, William Glick, James Harris, Christine Kroma, Margaret Joseph, Margaret Mirin, Al and Julie Pittman, Warren Porter, Nadir Menezes Rebouças, Home Reitwiesner, Nancy Snee, Fran Spina, Tom Thiele, Suzanne Winterhalter, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for John Carman, who died April 27, 2017.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love – as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for refugees and all affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

PERMISSIONS

Sanctus. Music: *Mass of Remembrance*, Marty Haugen. Copyright © 1987, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under One License A-715039. The Meditation of Faith, the Eucharistic Prayer, the Lord's Prayer and other portions of the liturgy are taken from *A New Zealand Prayer Book, He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*. Copyright is held by the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. Scripture readings are from the Common English Bible®, CEB® Copyright © 2010, 2011 by Common English Bible.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Worship Leaders

	Today	Next Sunday
Readers	7:45 am Jean Cohn 9:00 am John Pruessner Sue Snay 11:15 am Karl Didavi	Enid Cole Barbara Mansfield Betsy Hasegawa Anika Lalmansingh
Prayers	7:45 am Jean Cohn 9:00 am Susan Ahalt	Enid Cole Carleton MacDonald
Chalicians	7:45 am David Burton Edna Leake 9:00 am Sari Stoddard Bob Waters 11:15 am Christian Nwankwo Sarah Rubin	Enid Cole Leslie Sanya Cynthia Dickson Swithin Kwamena-Poh Peg Ruppel Anika Lalmansingh
Healing Prayer Ministers	7:45 am Jean Cohn 9:00 am Paul Whitmore 11:15 am Peg Ruppel	Lisa Murdock Javier Ocampo Alex Langley
Acolytes	7:45 am Raymond Chin Aidan Douglas 9:00 am Nuelle Johnson Manny Johnson Paul Whitmore	Ron Hayden Aidan Douglas Kofi Kwamena-Poh Richard McFarland Lisa Dickson
Welcome Team	7:45 am Enid Cole Wadai Dennis 9:00 am Dorett Sutherland James Black Jonathan Black 11:15 am Sciou Broderick Peedy Terry Emmanuel Nwankwo	Jean Cohn Don Cohn Nii Armah Akuete Ruby King Charles Dickson Avin Lalmansingh Karl Didavi Clark Didavi
Altar Guild	7:45 a.m. Enid Cole Mardia Dennis 9:00 a.m. TBA 11:15 a.m. Anika Lalmansingh Avin Lalmansingh	Leslie Sanya Wadai Dennis TBA Laura Shay
Song Leader	11:15 a.m. Sue Snay	Betsy Hasegawa
Hospitality Angels	7:45 a.m. Lisa and Herald Douglas 9:00 a.m. Joyce Bvumbe 11:15 a.m. Penelope Cudjoe	Edna Leake Sarah Gallagher Anthony Lalmansingh
Altar Guild Unscheduled Services	7:45 a.m. Team	9:00 a.m. Team
Eucharistic Visitors	Javier Ocampo	Jean Cohn
Flower Delivery	Adoma Baffoe Esther Sawyer	Eliane Dunn-Johnson Hawa Clemens



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
205 SOUTH SUMMIT AVENUE
GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND 20877-2315
PHONE: 301.948.0122 – FAX: 301.926.9012
ECA@ASCENSIONMD.ORG
WWW.ASCENSIONMD.ORG