



Second Sunday after Christmas
January 5, 2020
8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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.

Please silence your audible devices.

Beginning ten minutes before the service, please help us create a contemplative space by refraining from cell phone use or loud conversation.

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

The Entrance Rite

(10:00 Service only - the 8:00 service begins with the Opening Acclamation)

Opening Voluntary

" Andante with Variations "

Felix Mendelssohn

Introit

Sung by the Choir

" Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning "

Reginald Heber

The people stand and remain standing through the Collect of the Day.

Processional Hymn (10:00 a.m.) *Sung by all.*

" The first Nowell the angel did say "

1982 Hymnal # 109

The First Nowell

Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Priest and People

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.

Prayer for our Children and Teachers

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed Ascension with these children and these teachers: Give these children your gift of joy and wonder, and pour your blessings upon them. Give these teachers calm strength and patient wisdom so they may teach our children to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis: (10:00 a.m.)

Sung by all.

“Glory to God in the highest”

1982 Hymnal # S 280

Robert Powell

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; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent

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

Priest and People

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people sit.

The Word of God

The First Reading

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Reader A reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84:1-8 (*Read responsively*)

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!
**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts
of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the
living God.**

The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her
young;
**by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.**

Happy are they who dwell in your house!
they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you!
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find
it a place of springs,
**for the early rains have covered it with pools of
water.**

They will climb from height to height,
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God;
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19

Reader A reading from the Epistle of the Apostle St. Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

Sequence Hymn (10:00 a.m.)

Sung by all.

"We three kings of Orient are"

1982 Hymnal # 128

Three Kings of Orient

First four verses are sung before the Gospel; last verse is sung after the Gospel.

The Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

Sermon

The Rev. Javier G. Ocampo

The Nicene Creed

Priest and People

**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.
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

Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Mariann and Chilton, our Bishops, and Javier, Nan and Eugene, our clergy.
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions

We pray for comfort, healing, courage, and hope for **Samuel** Tellu, **Sciou** Broderick, **Marcia** Noble, **Eduardo** Rincon, **Warren** Porter, **Jim** Wilson, **Tim** Anderson, **Leslie** Sanya, **Sue** Jenkins, **Olive** Rivera, **Wadai** Dennis, **Judy** Conroy, **Doris** Chin, **Jean** Cohn, **Lee** Silverman, **Johnetta** Mars-Gibson, **Clint** Miller, **Neville** Barr, **Phyllis** Kramer, **Calysa** Crawford, **Rebecca** Pittma, **John** Walker, **Jose** Luis Rodriguez, **Susan** McLaughlin, **Claire** Morin, **Amy** Van Dalinda, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, as well as those on our extended healing prayer list.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We give thanks for the birthdays of **Shirley** Allen, **Danielle** Kroma, **Don** Marks, **Cynthia** Perley, **Nathaniel** Ruggerl, **Laurie** Yelle, **Noel** Lin, **Joshua** Derosier, **Siatta** Buxton, **Helena** Horace, **Chikezie** Nwankwo, **Liz** Lennon, **Lori** Perine, **Fayemi** Johnson, **Clifton** Comber, **Gayah** Fahnbulleh, **Paul** Boynton, **Jason** Velasquez, **Albert** Brew, **Jessica** Lin, and **Barb** Mansfield.

The altar flowers are given by Eliane Dunn-Johnson in loving memory of her mother Elaine Dunn.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

All say the prayer for Ascension:

God of all, we offer thanks to you for this our parish, Church of the Ascension, as we gather here together in your name. Bless us with remembrance of those who founded this parish, erected the walls, and provided the space we have today. We pray that we may continue their work with perseverance and faithfulness to become a truly One Ascension for this community. We pray for strength, steadfastness, and vision for Padre Javier on his journey as our Priest in Charge. Guide us as we walk the way with him. We pray that the path we take together and the light that shows us the way are your own. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord and are then seated.

Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Anthem

Sung by the choir

" There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth "

Felix Mendelssohn

Hymn at the Presentation

Sung by all, standing

" What star is this, with beams so bright"

1982 Hymnal # 124

Puer nobis

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -
1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly
1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

The Holy Communion

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 our thanks and praise**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

(Spoken at 8:00 a.m.; Sung 10:00 a.m.)

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Wonder, Love, and Praise #858

American folk melody

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

*The people kneel or stand.
Celebrant.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. **AMEN.**

Celebrant and People

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

(Spoken at 8:00 a.m., Sung at 10:00 a.m.)

“Taste and see”

Wonder, Love, and Praise # 764

James E. Moore, Jr.

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness
of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and
see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord. **Fine**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
The people sit.

Administration of the Sacrament: All are welcome to the Lord's Table at Ascension. To receive communion, come to a communion station at the direction of the Welcome Team. 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. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please cross your arms on 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 beside the pulpit after receiving communion. A healing minister will be there to pray with you.

Communion Hymn (10:00 a.m.)

" Now my tongue, the mystery telling "

Sung by all

1982 Hymnal # 331

Grafton

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitor

When at this service

Celebrant 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.

People **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

The people kneel or stand

Prayer after Communion

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

Celebrant

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Onlybegotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

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

The people stand.

Recessional Hymn

" As with gladness, men of old "

Sung by all.

1982 Hymnal #119

Dix

Dismissal

Celebrant

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia Alleluia

Closing Voluntary

" Fanfare "

Jaques-Nicholas Lemmens

PERMISSIONS: Section: Epiphany Title: What star is this, with beams so bright Meter: LM Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt. Music: Puer nobis, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. Cowley Carol Book, 1902 Section: Canticles Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Copyright: Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc. Section: Service Music: Sanctus and Benedictus Title: Holy, holy, holy Lord [Sanctus] Meter: CM Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two is from the Book of Common Prayer © 1979 Church Publishing, Inc. Scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version of The Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Worship Leaders

	Today	Next Sunday
Readers	8:00 am Marcia Noble 10:00 am Rhee Howard Gordon Donnelly	Danielle Allen John Pruessner Peedy Terry
Prayers of the People	8:00 am Marcia Noble 10:00 am Karl Didavi	Danielle Allen Alex Langley
Chalicians	8:00 am David Burton Edna Leake 10:00 am Esther Tellu Major Clemens	Wadai Dennis Sharon Hayden Nancy Carman Cynthia Perley
Healing Prayer Ministers	8:00 am Karen Olsen 10:00 am Peg Ruppel	Marcia Noble Barb Mansfield
Acolytes	8:00 am Ray Chin Isa Noble 10:00 am Paul Whitmore Ethan Liberty Elise Liberty	Ron Hayden Aidan Douglas Monty Petersen Aaron Lalmansingh Hallie Porter
Welcome Team	8:00 am Janet King Wadai Dennis 10:00 am Nii-Armah Akuete Ruby King Charles Dickson Angelique Cooper	Frank Sanya Florence Sirleaf Swithin Kwamena-Po Algernon Thomas Henry Musikar Tunde Ayinde
Altar Guild	8:00 am TBA 10:00 am Avin Lalmansingh Anika Lalmansingh	TBA TBA
Hospitality Angels	8:00 a.m. Hawa Clemens 10:00 a.m. Sarah Gallagher Kristin Fitzpatrick	Wadai Dennis Robertine Watson Shirley Allen
Flower Delivery	Adoma Baffoe Hawa Clemens	Eliane Dunn Johnson Alice Padmore
Eucharistic Visitor(s)	TBA	Meredith Horan