



Church of the Ascension

November 8th, 2020

Rev. Heather Wenrick, Rector
Diane Lemcio, Music Director
2330 Viewmont Way W
Seattle, WA 98199
(206) 283-3967

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

Episcopal Church of the Ascension

Follow Christ + Develop and Deepen Faith + Love and Serve

If you wish to make online donations to the congregation, you may do so here: [Giving Link](#)

Prelude

Simple Gifts, - Shaker tune

Ringers: Ann Beller, Bill Fay, Diane Lemcio

Welcome to Ascension!

Please stand when the bell is rung, signaling the beginning of worship.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

Opening Hymn #580 God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens, vv. 1, 4

Unison



1 God, who stretched the span - gled hea - vens in - fi - nite in
*2 Proud - ly rise our mod - ern ci - ties, state - ly build - ings,
3 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child - hood
4 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal - lenge



time and place, flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance
row on row; yet their win - dows, blank, un - feel - ing,
of our race; known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing
us a - new, chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose,



through the si - lent fields of space: we, your chil - dren
stare on can - yoned streets be - low, where the lone - ly
through un - trav - eled realms of space; probed the se - crets
serv - ing o - thers, hon - oring you. May our dreams prove



in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;
drift un - no - ticed in the ci - ty's ebb and flow,
of the at - om, yield - ing un - im - ag - ined power,
rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or well be - gun:

Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing,
lost to pur - pose and to mean - ing,
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance

show us what we yet may do.
scarce - ly car - ing where they go.
or our most tri - um - phant hour.
till our goals and yours are one.

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in God's eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

All are seated for the reading.

First Reading:

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

'Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'

Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

But Joshua said to the people, 'You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.' And the people said to Joshua, 'No, we will serve the Lord!' Then Joshua said to the people, 'You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.' And they said, 'We are witnesses.' He said, 'Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.' The people said to Joshua, 'The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.' So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 78:1-7

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
 incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 **I will open my mouth in a parable; ***
 I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
 and what our forefathers have told us, *
 we will not hide from their children.
- 4 **We will recount to generations to come**
 the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
 and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
 and established a law for Israel, *
 which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 **That the generations to come might know,**
 and the children yet unborn; *
 that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
 and not forget the deeds of God,
 but keep his commandments;

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

All stand for the Gospel reading.

Gospel Acclamation

Festal Gospel Acclamation. Calvary Service - Thomas Pavlechko

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le
lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia, Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia!

Holy Gospel:

Matthew 25:1-13

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Festal Gospel Acclamation. Calvary Service - Thomas Pavlechko

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le
lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia, Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia!

All are seated for the preaching,

Sermon

The Rev. Heather Wenrick, rector

Silence and stillness follow.

The Nicene Creed *Said in unison*

**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.**

Prayers of the People

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "*Lord, have mercy.*"

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our Bishop, Greg, and for our clergy, Heather, and all parishioners, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our President _____, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For this city, Seattle, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the good earth which God has given and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For _____, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

Are there other concerns for which you wish to pray?

We seek prayers for those with a birthday,

Watch over thy child(ren), O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We offer these our prayers and thanksgiving to you, O God, our cornerstone of all that is true and holy, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of Peace with those around you.

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn (*organ only #707*)

Take My Life - text: Havergal; music: Dykes

Take my life, and it shall be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.....Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

The Lord's Prayer, *said by all*

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

People **Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

From Washington National Cathedral:

Material adapted from Prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori (1696-1787) and A Prayer Book for the Armed Services, 2007.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Voluntary in G - Walond*

Coffee Hour follows this Prayer Service on Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/839469505>

Music Permissions -

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens,

Words: Catherine Cameron (b. 1927), alt.

Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

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We **acknowledge** that the land upon which we are gathering is the traditional ancestral and unceded territory of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People.

