



The Sixth Sunday of Easter

1 May AD 2016

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

(The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Rector*

The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Spanish Language Missioner*

Jerrold Tidwell, *Minister of Music*

The Rev. Deacon Kate Siberine and Diana Gustafson, *Seminarians*

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 the table under the monitor in the Narthex.

We meet for coffee, tea, and snacks in the Narthex after each service.

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

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

Welcome and Announcements

Gather 352

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

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.

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

He took me in a Spirit-inspired trance to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. I didn't see a temple in the city, because its temple is the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb. The city doesn't need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because God's glory is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day, and there will be no night there. They will bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. Nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is vile and deceitful, but only those who are registered in the Lamb's scroll of life. Then the angel showed me the river of life-giving water, shining like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb through the middle of the city's main street. On each side of the river is the tree of life, which produces twelve crops of fruit, bearing its fruit each month. The tree's leaves are for the healing of the nations. There will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Night will be no more. They won't need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine on them, and they will rule forever and always.

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

Thanks be to God.

Gather 418

Dwelling Place

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [5:1-9]
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After this there was a Jewish festival, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate in the north city wall is a pool with the Aramaic name Bethesda. It had five covered porches, and a crowd of people who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed sat there. A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing that he had already been there a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I don't have anyone who can put me in the water when it is stirred up. When I'm trying to get to it, someone else has gotten in ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." Immediately the man was well, and he picked up his mat and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

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.**

**From A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 481*

The Prayers of the People

Dear all-loving Father, who created the world and us in your image: We confess we have not seen the Christ in others and we have built barriers that still divide us. We ask you to impart to us wisdom to break down the barriers that hurt and separate us.

Hear our cries of lament, **and lead us to repentance.**

Heavenly Father, we are thankful for our freedoms in this country. We have not always been aware of

the others in the world who do not enjoy these same privileges. May our leaders work at strengthening bonds with other countries to provide personal freedom for all people, especially for refugees across the world.

Hear our cries of lament, **and lead us to repentance.**

Father, God of all people, whose acceptance and love are unconditional and whose love puts us in loving relationship with one another: We confess that we as individuals and as a church have imposed grievous artificial divisions among people. May we in the church, and we as church, see the God in ourselves and in each other. May we be penitent for our wrong doings toward one another and toward groups of people whom we have discriminated against.

Hear our cries of lament, **and lead us to repentance.**

May we all be one, in the body of Christ. May we be blessed with God's Grace and granted solace and courage.

Hear our cries of lament, **and lead us to repentance.**

We pray for those, known and unknown, who have suffered at our hands. Merciful God, lynched on a Cross, look with compassion on those whose lives both recently and long ago were torn asunder by the brute hate of fellow Americans. Wrap them in your arms of hope, that there will come a time when we will bring about change that is neither safe nor popular. We pray for the ill of our community, Rose Boynton, Carol Clark, Alvaro Gonzalez, Nancy Snee, Janet Spencer, Lou Spencer, Fran Spina, The Stracener Family, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

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.

We pray for those who are in discernment around confirmation, Alice Bennett, Grace Bennett, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Fayemi Johnson, Wendy Quijada, and Alfred Wasikye.

Hear our cries of lament, **and lead us to repentance.**

Compassionate God, hear our prayers for those who have died and for those whose mourning seems without end. You have been our refuge in ages past, in times of hideous atrocity and untold lament. We recognize that at times we may have been the cause of pain and despair. Please look with compassion on us, and lead us to walk in your ways as we fight the causes of racial violence. We remember those close to our community who have died.

Hear our cries of lament, **and lead us to repentance.**

Gather 614

Take and Eat

The Great Thanksgiving

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 truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People

Gather #168

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav'n 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!

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*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.**

*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.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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. 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.

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 329

Send Us Your Spirit

The Peace

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

PERMISSIONS Sanctus. Music: Mass of Remembrance, Marty Haugen. Copyright © 1987, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-715039.

All readings are from the *Common English Bible*

Worship Leaders

		This Week	Next Week
Reader:	7:45 am	Jackson Douglas	Leslie Sanya
	9:00 am	Sue Snay Betsy Hasegawa	Gordon Donnelly Barb Mansfield
	11:15 am	Sarah Rubin	Tunde Ayinde
	5:00 pm	Pete Minderman	Diana Gustafson
Prayers:	7:45 am	Jackson Douglas	Leslie Sanya
	9:00 am	Susan McLaughlin	Susan Ahalt
Chalicians:	7:45 am	Enid Cole Leslie Sanya	Edna Leake Wadai Dennis
	9:00 am	Sari Stoddard Diana Gustafson	Dotty Pfadenhauer Esther Tellu
	11:15 am	Anika Lalmansingh Christian Nwankwo	Avin Lalmansingh Peg Ruppel
	5:00 pm	Pete Minderman	Diana Gustafson
Healing Prayer Ministers:			
	7:45 am	Diana Gustafson	Jean Cohn
	9:00 am	Randy Lord-Wilkinson	Kate Siberine
	11:15 am	Diana Gustafson	Sarah Rubin
Acolytes:	7:45 am	Ron Hayden Aidan Douglas Jackson Douglas	Raymond Chin Aidan Douglas Jackson Douglas
	9:00 am	Kofi Kwamena-Poh Kayleigh Yankie Sam Mendimasa	Manny Johnson Msangwa Ogada Nuelle Johnson
Welcome Team:			
	7:45 am	Wadai Dennis Frank Sanya	Florence Sirleaf Meredith Horan
	9:00 am	Esther Allotey-Taylor Bev Stennett Christine Kroma Josephine Clarke	Dorett Sutherland James Black Jonathan Black
	11:15 am	Avin Lalmansingh Karl Didavi	Alex Langley Alice Padmore
Flower Delivery:		Esther Sawyer Adoma Baffoe	Hawa Clemens Eliane Dunn-Johnson
Altar Guild:	7:45 am	Leslie Sanya Wadai Dennis	Georgette Dennis
	9:00 am	Dorett Sutherland Margaret Joseph	Nancy Carman Cynthia Perley Liz Lennon
	11:15 am	Laura Shay Lynne Shaer	Anika Lalmansingh Avin Lalmansingh
Weekly Altar Guild Team:		9:00 am Team	11:15 am Team
Eucharistic Visitor:		Jean Cohn Barb Mansfield	Meredith Horan

LEADERSHIP AT ASCENSION

Clergy

The Rev. Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Rector*
The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Spanish Language Missioner*

Seminarians

The Rev. Deacon Kate Siberine
Diana Gustafson

Musicians

Jerrold Tidwell, *Minister of Music*
Howard Hanson, *Musician, Service for Families with Small Children at 10:15 a.m.*
Samuel Munguia, *Musician, Spanish Language Service at 11:00 a.m.*
Eric O'Loughlin, *Musician, 5:00 p.m. Service*

Wardens

Enid Cole, *Senior Warden*
Betsy Hasegawa, *Junior Warden*

Vestry

2017: Denise Lionetti, Najma Stubblefield, Paul Whitmore
2018: Janet King, Avin Lalmansingh, Gary McLaughlin
2019: Rose Buck, Zadinga Ogada, John Pruessner
Sari Stoddard, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Howard Holland, *Treasurer*

Mission Area Leaders

Zadinga Ogada, *Christian Formation for Children*
Angie Hight-Walker, *Christian Formation for Youth*
Ted Bedell, *Facilities*
Howard Holland, *Finance*
Paul Boynton, *Outreach*
Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Pastoral Care*
Jean Cohn, *Personnel*
Carleton MacDonald, *Worship*

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

Kristen Keating, Carleton MacDonald, Sue Snay
Alternate: Mardia Dennis

Staff

Kathy Van Arnum, *Office Coordinator*
Pia Leaman, *Communications*
Gisèle Lachance, *Nursery Director*
Betty LaVern, *Sexton*

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension
205 South Summit Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

301.948.0122

www.ascensionmd.org

