



Church of the Ascension

November 15, 2020

*The Twenty-Fourth Sunday
after Pentecost*

10:30am

Welcome to the Church of the Ascension

We are pleased to have you worship with us. If you are visiting and have not registered, the ushers will ask for your name for contact tracing. All are invited to meet on the front lawn after the service (observing social distancing). Let's get to know each other!

Nursery

We are not able to offer Nursery care at this time.

The references on the right side of the bulletin are as follows:

BCP indicates the Book of Common Prayer.

EOW indicates Enriching our Worship, a supplemental liturgical material.

Hymn and "S" numbers indicate the Hymnal 1982

"S" indicates service music found at the front of the hymnal

There is no congregational singing at this time.

Finding Your Way

Elevator: Across from the church office, exiting at the East Entrance. Handicapped parking spaces are near the entrance and in the parking lot.

Restrooms: *Upper Level* – Through the door to the left of the altar (NW), past the chapel, past the library, and to the right of the church office.

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.

Presider Let us say together the song of praise.

Song of Praise: Glory to God (*Gloria in Excelsis*) *BCP 356*

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

The Collect for the Twenty- Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from Zephaniah

1:7, 12-18

Be silent! I am the LORD God,
and the time is near.
I am preparing
to sacrifice my people
and to invite my guests.

I'll search Jerusalem with lamps
and punish those people
who sit there unworried
while thinking,
"The LORD won't do anything,
good or bad."
Their possessions will be taken,
their homes left in ruins.
They won't get to live
in the houses they build,
or drink wine from the grapes
in their own vineyards.

The great day of the LORD
is coming soon, very soon.
On that terrible day,
fearsome shouts of warriors
will be heard everywhere.
It will be a time of anger—
of trouble and torment,
of disaster and destruction,
of darkness and despair,
of storm clouds and shadows,
of trumpet calls
and battle cries
against fortified cities
and mighty fortresses.

The LORD warns everyone
who has sinned against him,
"I'll strike you blind!
Then your blood and your insides
will gush out like vomit.
Not even your silver or gold

can save you on that day
when I, the LORD, am angry.
My anger will flare up
like a furious fire
scorching the earth
and everyone on it.”

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

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

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 (*spoken*)

- ¹ Lord, you have been our help,
generation after generation.
- ² ***Before the mountains were born,
before you birthed the earth and the inhabited world—
from forever in the past
to forever in the future, you are God.***
- ³ You return people to dust,
saying, “Go back, humans,”
- ⁴ ***because in your perspective a thousand years
are like yesterday past,
like a short period during the night watch.***
- ⁵ You sweep humans away like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning.
- ⁶ ***True, in the morning it thrives, renewed,
but come evening it withers, all dried up.***
- ⁷ Yes, we are wasting away because of your wrath;
we are paralyzed with fear on account of your rage.
- ⁸ ***You put our sins right in front of you,
set our hidden faults in the light from your face.***
- [⁹ Yes, all our days slip away because of your fury;
we finish up our years with a whimper.
- ¹⁰ ***We live at best to be seventy years old,
maybe eighty, if we’re strong.
But their duration brings hard work and trouble
because they go by so quickly.
And then we fly off.***
- ¹¹ Who can comprehend the power of your anger?
The honor that is due you corresponds to your wrath.]
- ¹² ***Teach us to number our days
so we can have a wise heart.***

I don't need to write you about the time or date when all this will happen. You surely know that the Lord's return will be as a thief coming at night. People will think they are safe and secure. But destruction will suddenly strike them like the pains of a woman about to give birth. And they won't escape.

My dear friends, you don't live in darkness, and so that day won't surprise you like a thief. You belong to the light and live in the day. We don't live in the night or belong to the dark. Others may sleep, but we should stay awake and be alert. People sleep during the night, and some even get drunk. But we belong to the day. So we must stay sober and let our faith and love be like a suit of armor. Our firm hope that we will be saved is our helmet.

God doesn't intend to punish us, but wants us to be saved by our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ died for us, so that we could live with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes. That's why you must encourage and help each other, just as you are already doing.

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

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

The people stand

Sequence Hymn O God, Our Help in Ages Past

H680

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according
to **Matthew**

25:14-30

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

The kingdom is also like what happened when a man went away and put his three servants in charge of all he owned. The man knew what each servant could do. So he handed five thousand coins to the first servant, two thousand to the second, and one thousand to the third. Then he left the country.

As soon as the man had gone, the servant with the five thousand coins used them to earn five thousand more. The servant who had

two thousand coins did the same with his money and earned two thousand more. But the servant with one thousand coins dug a hole and hid his master's money in the ground.

Some time later the master of those servants returned. He called them in and asked what they had done with his money. The servant who had been given five thousand coins brought them in with the five thousand that he had earned. He said, "Sir, you gave me five thousand coins, and I have earned five thousand more."

"Wonderful!" his master replied. "You are a good and faithful servant. I left you in charge of only a little, but now I will put you in charge of much more. Come and share in my happiness!"

Next, the servant who had been given two thousand coins came in and said, "Sir, you gave me two thousand coins, and I have earned two thousand more."

"Wonderful!" his master replied. "You are a good and faithful servant. I left you in charge of only a little, but now I will put you in charge of much more. Come and share in my happiness!"

The servant who had been given one thousand coins then came in and said, "Sir, I know that you are hard to get along with. You harvest what you don't plant and gather crops where you haven't scattered seed. I was frightened and went out and hid your money in the ground. Here is every single coin!"

The master of the servant told him, "You are lazy and good-for-nothing! You know that I harvest what I don't plant and gather crops where I haven't scattered seed. You could have at least put my money in the bank, so that I could have earned interest on it."

Then the master said, "Now your money will be taken away and given to the servant with ten thousand coins! Everyone who has something will be given more, and they will have more than enough. But everything will be taken from those who don't have anything. You are a worthless servant, and you will be thrown out into the dark where people will cry and grit their teeth in pain."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people sit

The Sermon

Rev. Vincent Black

“The Creeds are statements of our basic beliefs about God” (BCP 851).

We say these words as a gathered community to affirm our belief in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all creation, as the source of life and holiness. God has blessed humanity with relationships and community which are part of God’s own essence as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We do not say these words as some sort of litmus test but as an invitation to wrestle with the mystery and complexity of God with generations of Christians who have gone before us and with generations who will come after us.

*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:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
Who 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

Stand or kneel as the Holy Spirit leads.

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Arthur, and William our Bishops; Vincent, our Priest; Leah, our seminarian; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation (especially... *the names on the long-term prayer list are read*).

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

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 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 (especially... *the names of the recently deceased are read*).

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Presider says

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Confession of Sin

BCP 360

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Presider 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 our Savior 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.*

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand

Presider The peace of *Christ* be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and People greet one another with a wave, bow, or appropriate gesture but keep social distance.

The Announcements

For those celebrating birthdays

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music: Amazing Grace

H671

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;

he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

The people stand

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

The Presider proceeds

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

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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 and Benedictus (*spoken*)

Presider and People

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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.***

The people stand or kneel Presider continues

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 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 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 (spoken)

***We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.
Amen.

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

The Lord's Prayer *(spoken)*

BCP 364

Presider and People

***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

A period of silence is kept

Fraction Anthem

*Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The Invitation to Communion

BCP 364

Presider says

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.

All people are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Children of all ages are included in this invitation. Please stand or kneel at your seat, and the presider will come around to distribute communion. If you wish to receive, place one open hand atop the other and extend them forward. The priest will carefully drop the consecrated host into your hands.

The presider invites those not receiving the sacrament to make a spiritual communion, led by the reader.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I

desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to 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.

Communion Music: O Taste and See

James E. Moore, Jr.

Refrain:

Taste and see. Taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see. Taste and see
the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times.
His praise shall always be on my lips;
My Soul shall glory in the Lord;
For He has been so good to me.

Refrain

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us all praise His name.
I called the Lord and He answered me;
From all my troubles He set me free.

Refrain

Worship the Lord all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that God is good;
In Him we need put all our trust.

Refrain

Post Communion Music: Bless the Lord My Soul

Jacques Berthier

Taizé

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life.

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After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 366

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 Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: Rise Up, Ye Saints of God

H551

Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

Presider Let us pray.

Good and gracious God, we pray for all who have yet to know of your love and mercy. May the Church of the Ascension be so inspired by your Holy Spirit that it may serve as a beacon of hope and a witness to the gospel for all people. Grant that we may continually grow in our own knowledge and love of you as we strive to use all that we have and all that we are to follow and imitate your beloved son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary: Recessional on *St Anne*

Charles Callahan

***Please do not leave this bulletin in the church.
If you've used it take it with you.***



The Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider: Rev. Vincent Black

Seminarian: Leah Romanelli DeJesus

Organist: Jon Peterson

Soloist: Margie Hildebrandt

Acolyte: Derek Lewallen

Readers: Leah Romanelli DeJesus and Eleanor Jones

Ushers: Owen Jones and Ray Pratt

Video and live-streaming: Dave Campion



The entire service is streamed live on The Church of the Ascension
Facebook page each Sunday at 10:30am.

The Sunday gospel lesson and sermon can be viewed on YouTube.
Search for Church of the Ascension Lakewood Ohio.

Thanksgiving

There will be a Thanksgiving Eucharist at 10:30am

There will be a food distribution at noon by the east door,

For those attending the Eucharist please park in the West or North
lots if able so as to avoid congestion in the parking lots.

Noonday prayer Tuesdays at 12:12pm via conference call

On Tuesdays there will be a conference call enabling you to call in and join Father Vincent and other members of our Ascension community for:

- Noonday Prayer (10 minutes),
- A reflection from Forward Day by Day (5 minutes),
- Time for us to check-in with each other (20 minutes),
- Time to ask questions and exchange information (10 minutes),
- Prayer for the Church of the Ascension.

This will give everyone access to our priest and allow us to continue together in prayer and fellowship.

**We will start prayer promptly at 12:12, and end just before 1pm.
Please do not call in before 12:05pm.**

You can call in for all or part of the time.

Dial-in number: (425) 436-6300

Access code: 593523#

Use *6 to mute and un-mute yourself when trying to talk.

We will use the Book of Common Prayer pp. 103-107.

The Weekly Prayer List

The weekly prayer list is used for those who need extra prayers due to illness or a particular challenge or hardship.

It is important to remove people from the prayer list, not just add to it. We all need prayers and so we pray for the gathered congregation each week when we meet but not each member of the congregation is prayed for by name.

All names will be removed from the prayer list at the end of November as we end the liturgical year. We will start with a new prayer list the first Sunday of Advent. For those wanting to add or remove people from the prayer list please call the office.

**Please keep these people in your prayers
today and all week long:**

Our Spiritual Leaders:

+Michael -our Presiding Bishop; +Mark -our Bishop;
+Bill, and +Arthur -our Assisting Bishops;
+Vincent -our Priest; Leah -our seminarian

Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Martha Amer
Bobby Armbrust
Debbie Armbrust
Endrit Bala
Tuggie Ballard
Cathy Barbato
Jen Black
Raymond Black
Teddi Black
Carolyn Borsini
Larry Carey
Joseph Chite
Elizabeth Ciemins
Steve Conrad
Karen Cooper
Linda Cramer
Joe Crichton
Carol Culp
Robert Dibb
Laura Egeland
Don Farrell
Anne Ferguson
Bill Fickinger
Dan Filer
Ella Jane Fowerbaugh
Linda Gardner

Jill Golden
Dee Ann Harney
Martha Hartman
Pat Hendy
Diane Jackson
Lisa Jones
Tabby Kidwell
Beverly Kliber
Delores Kulunigan
Barbara Kutza
Marilyn Little
June Madden
Dolores Mahler
Tina Marcella
Lois Melchoire
Mueller family
Mike Neill
Corey Niebes
Sabrina Pewitt
Miriam Schantz
Delores Schew
Pat Scheetz
Rachel Sexton
Naomi Singer
Charles Stahl
Wendi Stemple

Corky Thacker
Mimi Verberg
Betty Weber

Diane Welfley
Brenda & Jaimie Wells
Bill Wofford

Those We Know in the Military

Stephen Cline
Jason Hildebrandt
McDowell (Mac) Jones

Sydney Kline
Jason Strater
Brendon

The Departed

Lena Marion Gardner

Pledges and offerings to the Church.

Please mail in your pledges/financial offerings so we can continue with the ministries of the church as well as meet our financial obligations.

or

YOU CAN USE PLASTIC TO DONATE TO THE CHURCH!

At theascensionshop.com you can use plastic to donate to the church. Credit and debit cards are accepted. One time, Weekly, Bi-Weekly, and Monthly contributions can be entered. All contributions will show on your annual statement. Just take a look! (With thanks to theascensionshop creator Michael Crowdes; send questions to crowdes@gmail.com.)

Attention Shawl Ministry

Shawl meetings will be suspended due to recent surge in Covid 19 numbers. We will continue to distribute shawls during this (hopefully) short-lived suspension in meetings.

Members will be notified when we are able to resume meeting and are encouraged to keep knitting.

2021 Major Repairs Needed (Apart from the Operating Budget)

Expenses

Loan for Roof Flashings Replacement & Interior Plaster/Painting Repairs in the Nave*	\$28,114
HVAC Maintenance Repairs (avoid service interruptions)	2,000
Repairs of Rotted Wood & Stucco, West Exterior of Church (Ballpark; getting quotes)	10,000
Total Expenses	\$40,114

* Water leaks along improperly installed roof flashings for the two gables behind the parapet walls of the church are causing extensive interior damage to the nave's balcony area and are beginning to cause damage to the sanctuary wall behind the altar. The cause of the damage was diagnosed last November by a structural engineer, and temporary sealant was applied that worked until this summer, but now plaster is falling from the balcony wall. The sealant above the altar wall appears to still be working, but we need to fix those areas quickly. At present, the painter can do some minor clean-up of small areas using a ladder that won't interfere with worship. If we wait, we risk major damage like that in the balcony, which would be much more expensive (likely \$15,000 or more) and would require scaffolding that would need to be in place for the weeks that such a project would entail. We would be unable to worship in the nave during that period.

The Diocese of Ohio agreed that we must do the repairs NOW, and is supporting Ascension's \$84,344 project with a grant of \$28,114 (one-third of the cost) and a loan of one-third. Parishioners' up-front donations of \$28,114 provided the other third. Work is beginning on the roof flashings.

\$28,114 is the amount needed to pay off the loan immediately for this emergency project. It is a 5-year loan with monthly payments of \$524.13. We will need **at least \$6,289.56 in donations for 2021 payments, which are not included in our operating budget.** If we just make payments for the next five years, the total cost will be **\$31,448 due to interest.**

We typically raise two-thirds of the cost of major repairs and apply to the Diocese for grants only to avoid paying interest. Please prayerfully consider making an extra donation to pay for this vital repair! An anonymous donor has offered \$10,000 toward this project **as a match to parishioners' donations of \$10,000.** Please prayerfully consider making an additional gift in the space on your pledge card and note "Roof flashings" in the blank for project(s). If you'd like to donate to more than one project, kindly note the amount intended for each. We will need parishioners' donations for all three of the projects on the list.

Pledge Campaign

Our pledge campaign ends on November 22nd, the feast of Christ the King. The theme this year is faith filled generosity. Packets have been mailed out, and are available on our website as well,

We ask that you pledge so that we can make our budget for 2021. Please prayerfully consider what God may be asking of you. You can send your pledge cards in by mail, place them in the offering plate, or put them in the box in the office.

Please do not come to church if you are not feeling well.

All will be required to wear a mask and keep a social distance of 6 feet. Please bring your own mask. Masks will be available if you forget to bring one.

Hand sanitizer will be provided, and you are asked to use it. It is recommended that you have your own hand sanitizer as well.

There will be no coffee hour following the services at this time. People may socialize at a safe distance outside on the lawn or in the garden.

8 and 10:30am services will be in the church. As a rule we will enter via the center aisle, and exit via the side aisles maintaining social distance.

All these things may seem to be a burden and to diminish our experience of worship. The devil, the power of evil, wants us to be discouraged and to give up hope. We need to be mindful that we worship God as our Creator and Redeemer and that all our hope on God is founded! We will not give up gathering as the Body of Christ simply because it is less than ideal. Remember we follow a Lord who was terribly inconvenienced by the crucifixion but in the end rose from the dead and freed us from death and despair. So in this season we gladly bear the burden of keeping each other and ourselves safe while simultaneously worshiping God and bearing witness to the world of God's unwavering love.

If you plan on attending church in person please register at <https://ascensionregistration.eventbrite.com> before 12pm on the day before.

Church of the Ascension

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