

Church of the Ascension

July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30am

Welcome to the Church of the Ascension

We are pleased to have you worship with us.

By entering Church of the Ascension and by your presence here (indoors and outdoors), you consent to be photographed, filmed, livestreamed, and/or otherwise recorded. Your entry constitutes your consent to such photography, filming, livestreaming, and/or recording and to any use, in any and all media for Church of the Ascension and the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio. If you do not agree to the foregoing, please request to be seated in the no camera area.

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

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.

If visiting or new please fill in, tear out, and drop in collection plate

Name

email address

Phone number

Mailing address



Church of the Ascension July 30, 2023 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Morning Prayer, 10:30am

Morning Prayer, 10:30am Enriching Our Worship

Please note that in our liturgy when we refer to God we cannot adequately verbalize the magnitude and comprehensiveness of God's diversity and are always limited by our use of language. We acknowledge that although Jesus was born into history as a man, neither God the Father nor God the Holy Spirit were embodied with human sex. Although our language is often not all inclusive we believe God always is. God made human beings in God's own image with complexity and diversity. Thank you for sharing your diversity and complexity with us as we worship God together.

The Liturgy of the Word

When the Voluntary begins, please maintain prayerful silence

Voluntary: Joyful Bells Jennifer Linn

Seth Clemens, piano

Opening Hymn: Holy Spirit, Ever Living H511

Tune: Abbot's Leigh

1 Holy Spirit, ever living as the Church's very life; Holy Spirit, ever striving through her in a ceaseless strife; Holy Spirit, ever forming in the Church the mind of Christ; thee we praise with endless worship for thy fruits and gifts unpriced.

2 Holy Spirit, ever working through the Church's ministry; quickening, strengthening and absolving, setting captive sinners free; Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age, and soul to soul, in a fellowship unending thee we worship and extol.

Welcome

Opening Sentence

BCP 78

I was glad when they said to me," Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*

Confession of Sin

EOW 19

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Officiant kneeling says

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

All stand

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

EOW 20

People And your glory all the day long.

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen. Alleluia.

Venite: Psalm 95 (metrical paraphrase) Tune: Duke Street (H544) (Jesus Shall Reign)

- Come, let us sing to God on high, The Rock of our salvation praise; Come with thanksgiving to his courts And joyful psalms before him raise.
- 2. For God is Lord above all gods,
 The heights and depths are in his hand;
 He made the sea and it is his,
 His hands have molded the dry land.
- 3. Let us bow down and worship him Who is our maker and our Lord; We are his people and his sheep; Today, then, hearken to his Word.

Psalm 119:129-136 (spoken)

Your laws are wonderful!

That's why I guard them.

¹³⁰ Access to your words gives light, giving simple folk understanding.

¹³¹ I open my mouth up wide, panting, because I long for your commandments.

132 Come back to me and have mercy on me; that's only right for those who love your name.

¹³³ Keep my steps steady by your word; don't let any sin rule me.

134 Redeem me from the people who oppress me so I can keep your precepts.

¹³⁵ Shine your face on your servant, and teach me your statutes.

136 Rivers of tears stream from my eyes because your Instruction isn't being kept.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Lessons

People sit for the reading of the lessons

Reader A Lesson from First Kings

3:5-12

The LORD appeared to Solomon at Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask whatever you wish, and I'll give it to you."

Solomon responded, "You showed so much kindness to your servant my father David when he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and with a heart true to you. You've kept this great loyalty and kindness for him and have now given him a son to sit on his throne. And now, LORD my God, you have made me, your servant, king in my father David's place. But I'm young and inexperienced. I know next to nothing. But I'm here, your servant, in the middle of the people you have chosen, a large population that can't be numbered or counted due to its vast size. Please give your servant a discerning mind in order to govern your people and to distinguish good from evil, because no one is able to govern this important people of yours without your help."

It pleased the LORD that Solomon had made this request. God said to him, "Because you have asked for this instead of requesting long life, wealth, or victory over your enemies—asking for discernment so as to acquire good judgment— I will now do just what you said. Look, I hereby give you a wise and understanding mind. There has been no one like you before now, nor will there be anyone like you afterward.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 19: Song of the Redeemed (Revelation 15:3-4)

to Tune: O God our Help in Ages Past (H680)

- 1. O ruler of the universe, Lord God, your mighty hand, Has done great works, surpassing all That we can understand.
- 2. Your ways are ways of righteousness And truth, eternal King; Who then can fail to worship you, Your praises fail to sing?
- 3. You only are the Holy One; All nations will draw near Because your works have been revealed And bow in holy fear.

The people sit

Reader A Lesson from **Romans**

8:26-39

In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will. We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose. We know this because God knew them in advance, and he decided in advance that they would be conformed to the image of his Son. That way his Son would be the first of many brothers and sisters. Those who God decided in advance would be conformed to his Son, he also called. Those whom he called, he also made righteous. Those whom he made righteous, he also glorified.

So what are we going to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He didn't spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. Won't he also freely give us all things with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's elect people? It is God who acquits them. Who is going to convict them? It is Christ Jesus who died, even more, who was raised, and who also is at God's right side. It is Christ Jesus who also pleads our case for us.

Who will separate us from Christ's love? Will we be separated by trouble, or distress, or harassment, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

We are being put to death all day long for your sake. We are treated like sheep for slaughter.

But in all these things we win a sweeping victory through the one who loved us. I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers or height or depth, or any other thing that is created.

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

People Thanks be to God.

All stand

Canticle 13: Benedictus es, Domine

to Tune: Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove (H510)

1. Glory to you, our people's God; To you all praise is due; Your holy Name shines forth in light; We praise and honor you.

- 2. In temple's splendor, kingdom's power, To you all praise is due; Enthroned between the Cherubim, We praise and honor you.
- 3. In heaven high and depths beneath, To you all praise is due; Father and Son and Spirit, Lord, We praise and honor you.

The people sit

He told another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and planted in his field. It's the smallest of all seeds. But when it's grown, it's the largest of all vegetable plants. It becomes a tree so that the birds in the sky come and nest in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough."

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure that somebody hid in a field, which someone else found and covered up. Full of joy, the finder sold everything and bought that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one very precious pearl, he went and sold all that he owned and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that people threw into the lake and gathered all kinds of fish. When it was full, they pulled it to the shore, where they sat down and put the good fish together into containers. But the bad fish they threw away. That's the way it will be at the end of the present age. The angels will go out and separate the evil people from the righteous people, and will throw the evil ones into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

They said to him, "Yes."

Then he said to them, "Therefore, every legal expert who has been trained as a disciple for the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings old and new things out of their treasure chest."

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

People Thanks be to God.

The people stand

Hymn: Father, We Thank Thee H302 vs. 2

Tune: Rendez a Dieu

2 Watch o'er Thy church, O Lord, in mercy, save it from evil, guard it still.

Perfect it in Thy love, unite it, cleansed and conformed unto Thy will.

As grain, once scattered on the hillsides, was in this broken bread made one, so from all lands Thy church be gathered into Thy kingdom by Thy Son.

The people sit

The Sermon

Clarke Mortensen

Officiant and People together, all standing

The Apostles' Creed

EOW 41

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. The Peace EOW 56

All stand

Officiant 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.

For those celebrating birthdays

Deborah Bethea Avery Grasso Rebecca Bretz Mason Kidwell Vivian Christ Derek Lewallen

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 Announcements

The officiant asks visitors to fill out the information at the bottom of page 2, then highlights the announcements.

The Offertory Sentence

Officiant Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;

bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory Music: Sheep May Safely Graze J. S. Bach

Corey Clemens, piano

All stand

The Offering of God's Tithes

The gifts of the people are brought forward at this time as the congregation sings.

Presentation Hymn: The Doxology

Tune: Old 100th

H380 v. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel

Officiant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

BCP 97

Officiant 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.

Suffrages EOW 42

V. Help us, O God our Savior;

R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

- V. Look upon your congregation;
- R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.
- V. Declare your glory among the nations;
- R. And your wonders among all peoples.
- V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
- R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
- V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
- R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.
- V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
- R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Collects

The Collect for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

BCP 99

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

A Collect for Guidance

BCP 100

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

BCP 392

The Prayers of the People, Form VI

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; Anne, our Bishop; Vincent, our rector; Clarke, our intern; 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

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,

and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant 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.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

EOW 42

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians* 3:20,21

Closing Hymn: "Thy Kingdom Come!" on Bended Knee H615 Tune: St. Flavian

1 "Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee the passing ages pray; and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day. 2 But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong; and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.

3 And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear; gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:

4 the day to whose clear shining light all wrong shall stand revealed, when justice shall be throned in might, and every hurt be healed;

5 when knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad; the day of perfect righteousness, the promised day of God.

Voluntary: Variations on *St. Flavian* Hal Hopson/Charles Callahan

† † †

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

Our Spiritual Leaders:

+Michael -our Presiding Bishop; +Anne -our Bishop;

+Vincent -our Rector; Clarke Mortensen our intern

Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Beth Bergstrom Jennifer Keohane
Teddi Black Tim Kirkbride
Jay Bravo Linda Lewis
Julie Buckeye Marilyn Little
Chris Deibel Tom Mahoylic

Mary Ann Deibel Mary Beth Michaels

Dusenbury family Gil Newlands
Spencer Faux Larry Pierce
Jim Ford David Rozell
Ella Iane Fowerbaugh Andrea Stahl

Leah Gerlach Wendie Stemple
Anne Guidaitas Corky Thacker
Iason Guidaitas Tim Vanah

Martha Hartman Nicole Weiss and baby

Amanda Hinton Elianna Pamela Jackson Bill Wofford

Christian Jeavons

Those We Know in the Military

McDowell (Mac) Jones Jason Strater Sydney Kline Brendon

The Departed

Jennifer CarlsonJohn MichaelsMarcus CunninghamTina MarcellaWilliam M. DuffCarmela PilusoJoanne DusenburyJoanne Rach

Suzanne Mapes

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.

For those wanting to add or remove people from the prayer list, please call the office.

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.



Use your smart phone to scan the code above or visit <u>ascension-lakewood.org</u> where you can make a one-time donation or set up continuing donations.

Please join us in helping to keep
The Church of the Ascension strong
and able to meet the needs of an ever-changing world.



The Ministers of the Liturgy

Officiant: Clarke Mortensen Preacher: Clarke Mortensen

Music Director and Organist: Jon Peterson

Acolyte: David Sent

Readers: Maizie Gillies, Charlotte Sent,
Adeline Gertsma, and Kinzley Gillies
Prayers of the People: Dom Sgambellone
Ushers: Javier De Jesus and Zander Gillies
Videographer: David Campion



The flowers on the chapel altar are given to the glory of God in memory of Clifton West Southern.

Bible readings from the Common English Bible (CEB) A New Metrical Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition © 2011, Common English Bible Christopher L. Webber Church Publishing, Incorporated

H511 Music: Cyril V. Taylor © 1942, Renewal 1970 by Hope Publishing Co.

Joyful Bells Music: Jennifer Linn © 2000 Hal Leonard Corp.

St. Flavian Music: Hal Hopson © 2000 Hope Publishing Co.

St. Flavian from the Art of Hymn Playing Music: Charles Callahan

© 2006 MorningStar Music Publishers/Birnamwood Publications

All Rights Reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-736735

Remembering Past Parishioners Celebrating 150 years of ministry 1875 - 2025



Clifton West Southern (1883-1886)

Clifton was one of the first burial records for Church of the Ascension. His parents Fanny West and Chris Southern were very active at Ascension and will be remembered in a future bulletin. When Clifton's parents decided their farm in Lakewood would become a residential development, they chose to have two streets memorialize their son, Clifton Road and West Clifton.

Interestingly, Clifton's grandparents, John and Frances West, who were parishioners at Ascension, had a beautiful farm outside of present-day Lakewood. It was described as so beautiful that it was more of a park than a farm and this is how West Park's name originated.

Farm Suppers at Bellwether Farm

Enjoy a farm-to-table meal at Bellwether Farm. There will be four evenings offered that will provide a wonderful supper that has been creatively and freshly prepared. Participants may select which date works best for them: **August 8**, **9**,**22**, and **23**. These events are by <u>reservation only</u> and are \$40 per person, or \$150 for a reservation of four.

Listening Sessions

To build and deepen relationships in the diocese and with the Bishop and Bishop's staff, Bishop Anne is inviting everyone in the diocese to join her in participating in Listening Sessions this summer. We will be able to have facilitated discussions and table conversations about the vision for the diocese and how the Bishop and her staff can support congregations in living out their missions. We will take the information we learn from these sessions and use it for discussion at Diocesan Convention in November. A <u>list of the listening sessions</u> is available on the diocesan website. Please <u>RSVP</u> for the session you plan to attend.

Some sessions:

Thursday, August 10, 6:30 p.m.

St. Peter's, 18001 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

Saturday, August 12, 9:30 a.m.

Christ Church, 3445 Warrensville Center Road, Shaker Hts.

Ascension Event Schedule for 2023 Fun and More Fun Planned

Frankfurter Fridays Set-up 6:00pm. Grilling 6:30 – 7:30pm.

*August 11th

*August 25

August 27th, Sunday, Car Show, 10am to 2pm

September 30th, Saturday, Pet Blessing, 10am

October 21st, Saturday, Lakewood Suzuki Strings Fall Recital, 4:30pm

October 29th, Sunday, Trunk or Treat, following church November 23rd, Thanksgiving Dinner, following church December 3rd, Sunday AGO Organ Concert 4pm to 6pm December 9th, Saturday, Cookie Walk, 9am to 3pm December 10th, Sunday, Carols and Cocoa, 5pm to 7pm

8:00 Outdoor Service

8am Holy Eucharist will be in the West Garden in July, weather permitting and 65°F by 8am. Please bring your own chair if possible.

The service will be inside in August.

Collecting Clothes for St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Box is outside the office.

Please only clean and lightly worn clothing.

Highly needed are seasonal men's and children's items.

Noonday prayer Tuesdays at 12:12pm via conference call

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.

Information for live streamed worship.

The service is streamed live each Sunday at 10:30am on The Church of the Ascension Facebook page <u>facebook.com/pg/ascensionlakewood/videos/</u>, and at <u>www.ascension-lakewood.org</u>.

Office Hours

Office Hours are: 9am – 1:30pm, Tuesday - Thursday

Church of the Ascension

13216 Detroit Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216.521.8727

www.ascension-lakewood.org secretary@ascension-lakewood.org