

Worship

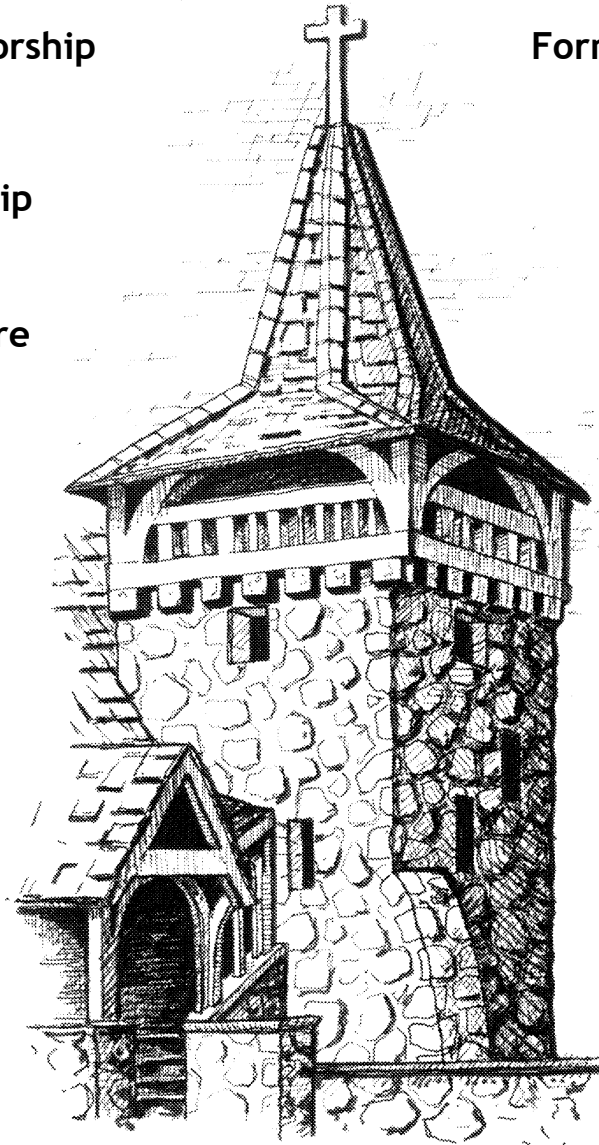
Formation

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Presence



## The Church of the Ascension

Episcopal

Your Village Church since 1885

*Our Vision: We serve Christ today  
for those who will come to know and serve Christ tomorrow.*

# The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## September 1, 2024

### TEN - FIFTEEN IN THE MORNING

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

*Prayer Book page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer. Complete music for the hymns and service music are found in the blue Hymnal.*

Voluntary: Home

Aurora Aksnes arr. Harrell

*The Great Bell "Bethlehem" sounds, calling the community to prayer. The people stand at the sound of the small bell and sing*

**The Processional Hymn No. 556**

MARION

## The Word of God

Prayer Book page # 355

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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

*The Celebrant may say*

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.**

*The hymn is sung, all standing* **The Gloria in Excelsis Deo** (*Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-280"*)

**Glorify 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 of the Day

Prayer Book page # 233

*The Celebrant says to the people* The Lord be with you. *People:* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

Prayer Book page # 357

*The people sit. Two Lessons, as appointed, are read. After each Reading, the Reader may say*  
The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy (4:1-2, 6-9)**

**The Gradual Psalm 15** *Domine, quis habitabit?*

Prayer Book page # 599

*The congregation will sing the psalm using simplified Anglican chant.*

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your **tabernacle**? \* who may abide upon your holy **hill**?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is **right**, \* who speaks the truth from his **heart**.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his **friend**; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his **neighbor**.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is re-**jected**, \* but he honors those who fear the **LORD**.
- 5 He has sworn to do no **wrong** \* and does not take back his **word**.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of **gain**, \* nor does he take a bribe against the **innocent**.
- 7 Whoever does these **things** \* shall never be over-**thrown**.

## **A Reading from the Letter of James (1:17-27)**

*The People stand and sing* **The Sequence Hymn No. 628**

ST. ETHELWALD

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)**

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

*After the Gospel, the Reader says* The Gospel of the Lord. *People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Homily**

*The Rev'd Robim Kassabian*

## **The Nicene Creed**

Prayer Book page # 358

**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.**

## The Prayers of the People

*The Deacon or leader and People pray responsively,*

*The Deacon or leader begins.*

Let us pray for the Church which Christ built and for the world which he has saved.

Preserve your Church in strength and stability by your promise that no evil shall prevail against it. For the larger church, we pray for.... Make its members faithful in their callings, to work in all things according to your will.

**May we trust always in the presence of the Holy Spirit.**

Give to all people the desire to work together for good. We pray for our leaders...and for those currently serving in the military.... We pray for those in prison, and those who work in prisons.... May all come to know Christ as the Son of God.

**May we serve you and each other with joy and gladness.**

Bless us in our daily work and bless those who work with us. We pray for those celebrating birthdays and for those celebrating anniversaries.... Use in your service the abilities of all who live and work in this community. We pray for those who are unemployed or underemployed,... Grant wisdom and discernment.

**May our gifts be used to your honor and glory.**

Give strength and hope to those who are burdened in body, mind, or spirit; We pray for.... Comfort and relieve them.

**May we all be sustained by your abiding love.**

We commend all those who have died, and those who have died in the faith of Christ, true to the Church which he built.

**May we remain constant in faith now and at the last.**

Confessing Christ as the Son of God, we pray in his name also for the forgiveness of our sins.

***People: Forgive us our sins, intentional and through neglect, and our weaknesses, momentary and life-long. Help us, through your love, to heal wrongs and the hurts we have caused others. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.*

## The Peace

Prayer Book page # 360

## The Holy Communion

Prayer Book page # 361

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture. During the Offertory a voluntary will be played.:*

Holy, Holy with We Bow Down

arr. Tournquist

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Altar. The people stand while the offerings are presented and sing the following*

### The Offertory Hymn No. 380 (verse 3)

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

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 people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings* (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-120")

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 him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a proper preface is sung.) 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:

*Celebrant and People* (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-125")

**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 remain standing, or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith: (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-135")

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

*People and Celebrant* (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-119")

**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**

Prayer Book page # 364

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung  
(Music is found in the Hymnal at “S-152”)*

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

*The following Fraction Anthem will be sung (Music is found in the Hymnal at “S-157”)*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **grant us thy peace.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. *And may add:* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to come forward and receive of this sacrament of Christ’s Presence or receive a blessing. If you wish to receive a blessing or not receive from the Cup, please indicate by crossing your arms before you. Gluten-free hosts are available – please inform the priest distributing communion if you would prefer to receive in this kind. Ascension has returned to receiving Communion in both kinds. Our parishioners have choices. One option is to continue to receive in one kind. A second option is to receive from the common cup. A third option will be for individuals and households to receive in a small chalice, which will have a small amount of consecrated wine poured into it from the common cruet. Folks may choose to bring from home a glass or cup that holds special significance or to use a small glass which we have available. Please note – the practice of Intinction (where a parishioner dips the bread in the wine) is not permitted under diocesan guidelines.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*For those viewing on Facebook Live, here is the prayer for spiritual Communion –*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love, which we remember now as we hear your words again: “This is my body; this is my blood — given for you.” Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet at your table again. Amen.**  
(From ELCA Bishop Ray Erwin)

*After Communion, the people stand and sing*

**Hymn No. 304**

LAND OF REST

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Prayer Book page # 365

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The people then stand and sing*

**The Final Hymn No. 659**

DE TAR

*The Celebrant may bless the people. The People are dismissed with these or similar words.*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

The Voluntary: Ovation No. 3

Robert D. Vandall

*Once the procession has retired from the church, the People are invited to remain for the Voluntary or kneel in meditation. Following the Voluntary, the Angelus will be rung.*

**The Angelus**

☩. An angel of the LORD spoke to Mary,     ℞. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Greetings, gracious Mary; the LORD is with you: you are a favored woman, and favored is your son, Jesus.\* Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the time of our death.

☩. See the handmaid of the LORD.     ℞. May it be done to me according to your word.

Greetings, gracious Mary; ....

☩. And the Word was made flesh.     ℞. And dwelt among us.

Greetings, gracious Mary; .....

☩. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.     ℞. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

O LORD, you made known to us the incarnation of your Son, the Christ, by the message of an angel: pour your grace into our hearts, that we may be brought by his passion and cross to the glory of resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Please join us in the parish hall for coffee hour following both services.*

# Announcements for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## September 1, 2024

**IF YOU ARE VISITING US TODAY**, we welcome you in the Name of Christ and invite all persons to share in the Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood. Holy Baptism is the way we acknowledge our fellowship and communion in Christ's Church. If you are interested in being baptized or wish to discuss your faith journey, please speak to the Rector, Canon Bamberger.

**ASCENSION WELCOMES CHILDREN** – There are toys in the “Prayground” towards the back of the church and in the side chapel for small children in need of distraction, and a rocking chair for those in need of consolation. And sometimes parents and kids need to feel free to step outside and take a breather! All children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing.

**THE TUESDAY NIGHT DINNER GROUP** will gather together at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lucky Baldwin's Pub in Kersting Court here in Sierra Madre. Please RSVP to Ray Smith at [ray@madre.net](mailto:ray@madre.net) or Ray's cell phone # 626-233-1035. All are welcome.

**THE MEN'S GROUP MONTHLY LUNCHEON** will meet at noon, Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at Nano Cafe on Sierra Madre Boulevard. Please RSVP to Father Michael.

**BETWEEN THE MASSES** - The adult discussion group usually meets during the hour between the 8:00 am service and the 10:15 am service in the Parish Hall.

**WEEKLY SERVICES: HOLY EUCHARIST:** Sunday, 8:00 & 10:15a.m.; Thursday, 8:15a.m.

**LESSONS NEXT SUNDAY:** Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146 James 2:1-17 Mark 7:24-37

**CELEBRATING THE SAINTS FOR THE COMING WEEK** (taken from Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2022):

**9/2 – The Martyrs of New Guinea** (1942 ) **9/3 – Phoebe** (Deacon) **9/4 – Paul Jones** (Bishop of Utah, 1941), **9/5 – Katherine Zell** (Church reformer and write, 1562) **9/6 – Hannah More** ( Religious writer and philanthropist, 1833) **9/7 – Kassiani** (poet and hymnographer, 865)

**LEADERSHIP: Rector:** The Very Reverend Canon Michael A. Bamberger, M. Div.

**Assisting the Rector:** The Reverend Robin Kassabian, M. Div.  
The Reverend Canon Deacon Ed Sniecienski

**Parish Administrator:** Ms. Kim Lumino; **Director of Music and Organist:** Mr. Robert Williamson;  
**Administrative Coordinator:** Mrs. Jean Rowe; **Altar Guild Director:** Mrs. Lynne Holl; **Senior Warden:** Mr. Gordon Tomaske; **Junior Warden:** Mr. Cameron Cox; **Treasurer:** Mr. Eric Mulfinger;

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