

Worship

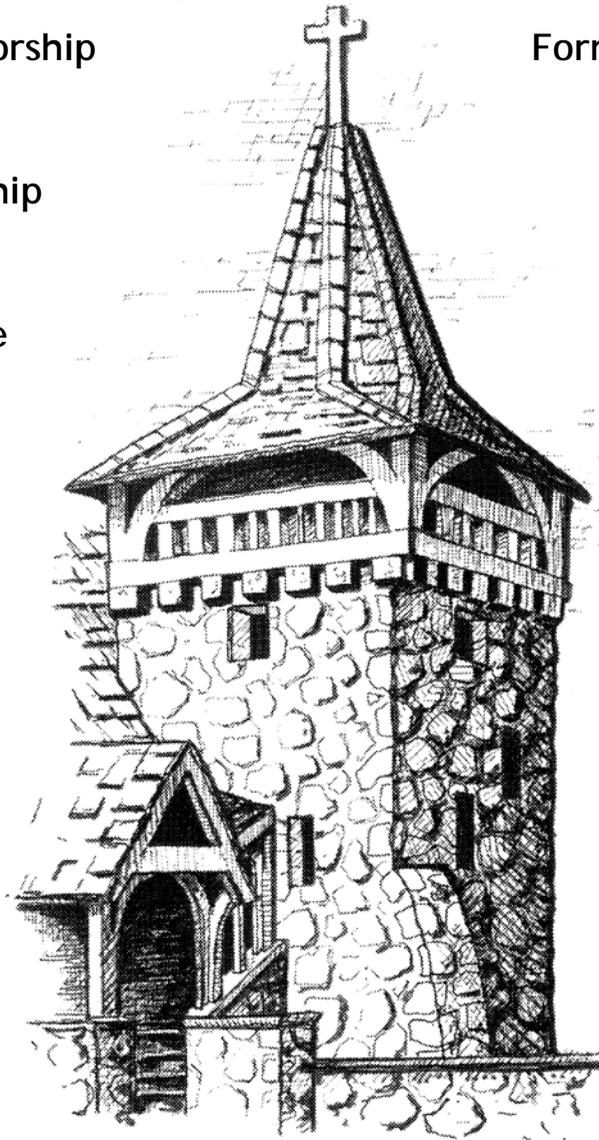
Formation

Fellowship

Outreach

Pastoral Care

Presence



The Episcopal
Church of the Ascension

Your Village Church Since 1885

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

The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021
NINE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prayer Book page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer. The offertory hymn can be found in the Hymnal 1985, and the text will be shared on Zoom

The Penitential Order and Liturgy of the Word

Prayer Book page # 351

The Celebrant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Decalogue

Prayer Book page #350

The Decalogue is said.

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

The Celebrant may read the following sentence.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 your Son 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 Celebrant then says

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

The service continues with the Trisagion.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book page # 218

The Celebrant says to the people The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

Prayer Book page # 357

The first lesson, the psalm, and the second lesson will be read today by Meg Cox. The texts of the readings will be shared on Zoom. After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

A Reading from the book of Genesis (9:8-17)

The Gradual Psalm 25:1-9 *As te, Domine, levati*

Prayer Book page # 614

The psalm will be read in unison

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, * and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *

remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness * to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter (3:18-22)

The Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (1:9-15)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

The Sermon

The Rev'd Canon Ed Sniecienski

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 Prayers of the People are led by the deacon.

Deacon Through Christ, the bondage of death was forever broken. As we journey in this Lenten season to prepare our hearts to receive the Lamb of God, let us pray that all peoples of the world would know bondage only to righteousness, responding, "Hear our prayer."

Deacon For the holy catholic church throughout the world, that it would lead all believers to sanctification for eternal life. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For Michael our Presiding Bishop; John our own bishop; and for the development of all Christian vocations. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For all members of this parish, that they would worship at God's altar with reverence and joy and in God's world with commitment and love. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For the spread of justice and peace in all nations, and especially for countries struggling towards democracy and an end to wars throughout the world. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For all who are tempted, afflicted, oppressed or in need, especially those who are hungry and homeless. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For those commended to our prayers, especially...for their deliverance from all illness, strife or need. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For all military personnel and especially those we know and love: ____, and for all who suffer from the violence of war. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon We give thanks for those parishioners celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially ____...and for our families, companions, and all those we love. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon For those who have found their rest in Christ, especially..., that they may also find unending life in him. Compassionate Lord, *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Lifting our voices with all creation, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Blessed are you, God of mercy and redemption, whose breath fills us with life. Accept the prayers we bring before you, and free us to be your obedient servants. Glory to you for ever and ever.

The Peace

Prayer Book page # 360

The Holy Communion

Prayer Book page # 361

Fr. Michael will make a few announcements. The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture. During the Offertory, Dr. Debora Huffman, Carol Rasmussen and Charley Noecker will offer a hymn - # 149 – OLD 124th - Eternal Lord of love

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

Prayer Book page # 361

The Celebrant says 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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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

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.

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:

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

**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 is said

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us! Therefore let us keep the Feast!

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

In place of the Invitation ("The gifts of God..."), the following Prayer of Spiritual Communion, is recommended:

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)

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God!**

Please join us for fellowship during our virtual coffee hour on Zoom.

The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 talking about your baptism, please speak to the Rector – Canon Bamberger or another member of the clergy.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for those who have pledged and asked for envelopes.

THE PARISH ANNUAL MEETING has been postponed until Sunday, April 25th. The list of qualified electors will be published and posted in March.

LESSONS NEXT SUNDAY: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:22-39 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38

CELEBRATING THE SAINTS FOR THE COMING WEEK (taken from Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018):
2/22 - Margaret of Cortona (*Monastic, 1297*) **2/23 – Polycarp** (*Bishop and martyr of Smyrna, 156*) **2/24 – Matthias the Apostle** **2/26 - Photini**, (*The Samaritan Woman, c.67*) **2/27 - George Herbert** (*Priest and Poet, 1633*)

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

Assisting the Rector: The Reverend Canon Deacon Ed Sniecienski
The Reverend Pastor Joshua McGuffie, M.Div.

Director of Music and Organist: Dr. Debora Huffman; *Minister to Young Persons:* Ms. Jobi McGuffie;
Parish Administrator: Ms. Kim Lumino; *Administrative Coordinator:* Mrs. Jean Rowe; *Altar Guild Director:* Mrs. Lynne Holl; *Senior Warden:* Mr. Gordon Tomaske; *Junior Warden:* Mr. Ray Smith; *Treasurer:* Mr. Dan Hanson; *Diocesan Discerner:* Mr. Keiichi Matsumoto

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

25 East Laurel Avenue, Sierra Madre, California 91024-1915

Telephone: (626) 355-1133 (626) 355-8919

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 - 2:00

www.ascension-sierramadre.com