



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 Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Sunday**  
**April 5, 2026**

## 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 1982, or for hymns 721 – 906 in the green hymnal supplement – Wonder, Love & Praise.

Voluntary: Prelude from Suite for Cello Solo No. 6 by Johann Sebastian Bach -- Benny Yi-Bing Chu, Cellist.

### The Processional Hymn # 207

EASTER HYMN

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## The Word of God

Prayer Book page # 299

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Alleluia. Christ is Risen. *People* **The Lord is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!**

*The Celebrant may say*

There is one Body and one Spirit; *People* **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* **One God and Father of all.**

*Here is sung*

**The Gloria in Excelsis Deo** WL&P # 900

*John Rutter*

*It is an ancient and traditional custom to ring bells throughout the first "Gloria" of Easter.*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heav'nly 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 # 222**

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

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The Lessons**

**Prayer Book page # 300**

*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 Prophet Jeremiah (31:1-6)**

**The Gradual Psalm 118:14-24**

**Prayer Book page # 761**

*Sung in Anglican chant*

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is **good**; \* his mercy endures for **ever**.
- 2 Let Israel now pro-**claim**, \* "His mercy endures for **ever**."
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my **song**, \* and he has become my sal-**vation**.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and **victory** \* in the tents of the **righteous**:
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has **triumphed!** \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has **triumphed!**"
- 17 I shall not die, but **live**, \* and declare the works of the **Lord**.
- 22 The same stone which the builders re-**jected** \*has become the chief **cornerstone**.
- 23 This is the Lord's **doing**, \* and it is marvelous in our **eyes**.

### **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians (3:1-4)**

The People stand and sing  
**The Sequence Hymn, No. 212**

RICHMOND

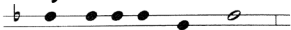
1 A - wake, a - rise, lift up your voice, let  
 2 Oh, with what glad - ness and sur - prise the  
 3 those hands of lib - eral love in - deed in  
 4 His en - e - mies had sealed the stone as  
 5 O Dead a - rise! O Friend - less stand by

1 Eas - ter mu - sic swell; re - jice in Christ, a -  
 2 saints their Sa - vior greet; nor will they trust their  
 3 in - fi - nite de - gree, those feet still free to  
 4 Pi - late gave them leave, lest dead and friend - less  
 5 ser - a - phim a - dored! O Sol - i - tude a -

1 gain re - jice and on his prais - es dwell.  
 2 ears and eyes but by his hands and feet,  
 3 move and bleed for mil - lions and for me.  
 4 and a - lone he should their skill de - ceive.  
 5 gain com - mand your host from heaven re - stored!

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest announces the Gospel (Matthew 28:1-10)

**“The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew”**



The people respond *Glo - ry to you, Lord Christ.*



After the Gospel, the Reader sings “The Gospel of the Lord” and the people respond *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon**

*The Very Rev'd Canon Michael A. Bamberger*

**The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*A Bidding begins this portion of the service.*

*Celebrant* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*People* **I do.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **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.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Peace

Prayer Book page # 308

## The Holy Communion

Prayer Book page # 361

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture. During the Offertory the choir will sing*

"O Clap Your Hands" from Psalm 47

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*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 placed upon the Altar and sing the following*

### The Offertory Hymn No 188

SAVANNAH



1 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.  
2 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; where, O death, is now thy sting?  
3 Soar we now where Christ has led, fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head;



Death in vain for - bids him rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
Once he died our souls to save, where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
made like him, like him we rise, ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Savannah*, from *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1760.

## The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

Prayer Book page # 361

*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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and

by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

*Celebrant and People* (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-135")

**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 is sung*

*Cantor*  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*All*  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Cantor*  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us

*All*  
keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*The following Fraction Anthem will be sung* (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-164")

**Jesus, Lamb of God: Have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

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

The Gifts of God for the Beloved People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and lives for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*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.*]

*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 or deacon distributing communion if you would prefer to receive in this kind.*

*During communion the following will be sung*

"Jesus, Hope of Men Despairing" Lyrics by Ernst Christoph Homburg (1659) Harmonization by Johann Sebastian Bach.

*During communion the following will be played*

Sarabande from Suite for Cello Solo No. 6 by Johann Sebastian Bach -- Benny Yi-Bing Chu, Cellist.

*After Communion, the people stand and sing*

### Hymn 193

PUER NOBIS



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the  
2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his  
3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do  
4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in  
5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing  
2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn  
3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee  
4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon  
5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.  
2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.  
3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.  
4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.  
5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Words: Latin, 5th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; alt. acc. John F. Erickson (b. 1938).

*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. 175**

SALVE FESTA DIES

*Refrain*

Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal-lowed for -

ev - er, day where-on Christ a - rose, break - ing the

king - dom of death. death.

1 Lo, the fair beau - ty of earth, from the death of the  
 3 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
 5 God the cre - a - tor, the Lord, who rul - est the  
 7 Spi - rit of life and of power, now flow in us,

win - ter a - ris - ing! Ev - ery good  
 glo - ry of blos - som; hea - ven her  
 earth and the hea - vens, guard us from  
 fount of our be - ing, light that dost

gift of the year now with its Mas - ter re - turns:  
 gates un - bars, fling - ing her in - crease of light:  
 harm with - out, cleanse us from e - vil with - in:  
 light - en all, life that in all dost a - bide:

2 He who was nailed to the cross is Lord and the  
 4 Rise from the grave now, O Lord, who art au - thor of  
 6 Je - sus the health of the world, en - light - en our  
 8 Praise to the Giv - er of good! Thou Love who art

ru - ler of na - ture; all things cre - a - ted on  
 life and cre - a - tion. Tread - ing the path - way of  
 minds, thou Re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -  
 au - thor of con - cord, pour out thy balm on our

earth sing to the glo - ry of God:  
 death, life thou be - stow - est on all:  
 preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:  
 souls, or - der our ways in thy peace:

*The Celebrant may bless the people.*

**The Easter Blessing**

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.  
**Amen.**

*The People are dismissed with these words*

Festal Dismissal S 175

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff is for the Deacon, with the lyrics "Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al-le-lu-ia,". The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics "al-le-lu-ia." and a fermata over the final note. The third staff is for the People, with the lyrics "Thanks be to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia." and a fermata over the final note.

*Deacon*  
Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia.

*People*  
Thanks be to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Closing Voluntary: Symphony V: Toccata in F Major

*Charles-Marie Widor*

## Flower Offerings

### In Memory of:

The Bamberger Family  
Claudia Foote  
Jean Rowe  
John and Lynne Holl  
Adela Gomez  
Roger and Debbie Keith  
The Rev'd Robin Kassabian  
Fay Owen

Brin Owen, Pat & Jack Bamberger  
Carl Foote  
Steve Rowe  
Loved ones  
The Rev'd Canon Fernando Gomez  
Departed Loved Ones  
Paul Kassabian  
Brin Owen

### In Thanksgiving:

John and Karen Higgins  
Dorothy Steeves

John and Lynne Holl    John and Marie Prentice  
Walker and Pamela Williams    Elizabeth Levie

## Music Offerings

Jean Rowe	The Rev'd Robin Kassabian	Roger and Debbie Keith
Claudia Foote	Collette Ostrye	Liz Levie
The Bamberger Family	Mimi Herschkowitz	John and Marie Prentice
Fay Owen	Dorothy Steeves	Adela Gomez
Melody Taylor Stark in memory of Bill Stark	Alexandre Potter Watts in memory of Paul Potter	

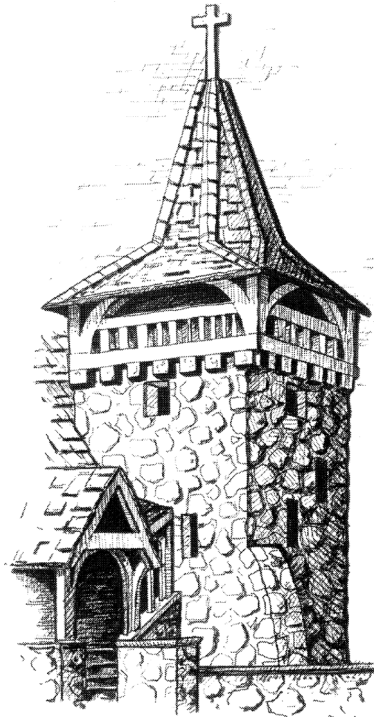
## What We're About

On behalf of our church family, we welcome you in the name of Jesus. Ascension is a special church in the midst of the unique community of Sierra Madre in Southern California.

Sierra Madre is in many respects a village in the midst of a major metropolitan area. While Ascension is the village church, our people come both from "town" and beyond. We are blessed with a beautiful historic building and setting, a vibrant tradition of worship and ministry, an affirming, open and inclusive spirit, and most of all, a healthy congregation of younger and older people, single folks and families and even the occasional pet – indeed a rich blend.

Established in 1885, Ascension has a rich history. A wood frame building erected in 1886 was demolished by a windstorm the next year. A new stone building was begun shortly thereafter and continues in use. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. The church building suffered major damage in the 1991 Sierra Madre Earthquake, and repairs were completed in the following year. The church celebrated its first 125 years a few years ago and has moved into its second century with vigor, enthusiasm and a growing and dedicated congregation from around the San Gabriel Valley area.

We believe God is calling all people into community where we can worship, discover, and use the gifts with which God has endowed us and find healing, spiritual nourishment, and companions in ministry. At Ascension, people truly care for one another in the abundance of Christ's grace, love and mercy. In this spirit, we would love to get to know you.



# Announcements for The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

## April 5, 2026

**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.

**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.

**AN EASTER BRUNCH** will follow this service in Hawks Hall – All are welcome!

**THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER GROUP** will gather together at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at Nano Cafe, 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre - 626-325-3334. 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, April 8<sup>th</sup> at Nano Cafe, 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre - 626-325-3334. Please RSVP to Father Michael.

**LESSONS NEXT WEEK:** The Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

**WEEKLY SERVICES:** SUNDAY 8:00am & 10:15am, THURSDAY 8:15am.

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

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

*Parish Administrator:* Ms. Kim Lumino; *Director of Music:* Dr. Stephen Marshall; *Administrative Coordinator:* Mrs. Jean Rowe; *Altar Guild Director:* Mrs. Lynne Holl; *Senior Warden:* Mr. Walker Williams; *Junior Warden:* Ms. Marie Prentice; *Treasurer:* Mr. Dan Hanson;

### **The Episcopal Church of the Ascension**

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