

Worship

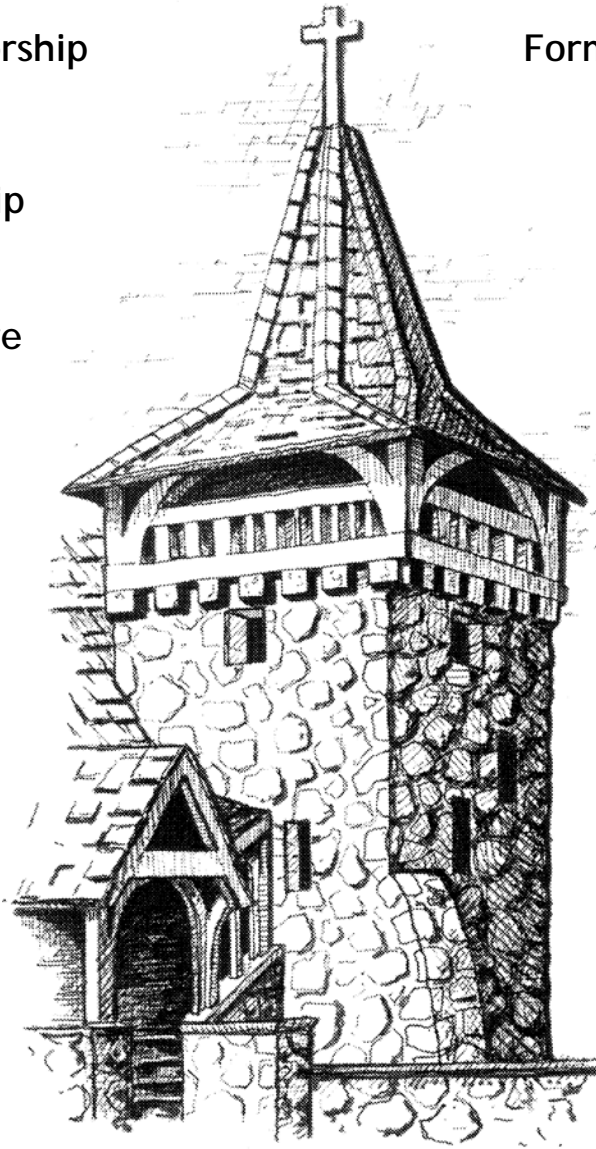
Formation

Fellowship

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Pastoral Care

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 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 22, 2023

TEN O'CLOCK 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 or the green hymnal supplement – “Wonder, Love and Praise.”

Voluntary: Chorale

Robert Hebble

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

The Processional Hymn No. 137

WAREHAM

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-278”*)

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 of the Day

Prayer Book page # 214

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

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; 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 Prophet Isaiah (9:1-4)

The Gradual Psalm 27:1, 5-13

Dominus illuminatio

Prayer Book page # 617

The congregation is invited to sing the psalm with the choir in Anglican chant.

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD * and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head * above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; * have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." * Your face, LORD, will I seek.
- 12 Hide not your face from me, * nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; * do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:10-18)

The People stand and sing

The Sequence Hymn, No 653

REPTON

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (4:12-23)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

The Sermon

Mr. J.D. Neal

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

Prayer Book page # 386

The Deacon and People pray responsively

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Kyrie eleison.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison.**

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, for John our Bishop, for all bishops, for Michael, Josh, and Ed, the clergy in this parish, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For the peace of the world, especially in Ukraine and the Holy Land, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For those in positions of public trust, especially Joe our President and Gavin our Governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially for _____, and also for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger, especially _____; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries _____, that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For those that serve in the military, especially _____, and their loved ones, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For the forgiveness of our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone, and for relief from our indifference to injustice, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, especially _____; That with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord. **Kyrie eleison**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

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 the following will be sung

He Shall Feed His Flock

G.F. Handel

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

Refrain
Congregation

(Organ) All things come of Thee, O Lord,
and of Thine own have we giv - en Thee. CHOIR:
Present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy
and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual
worship.
(Organ) Congregation
repeat Refrain

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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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-128")**

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

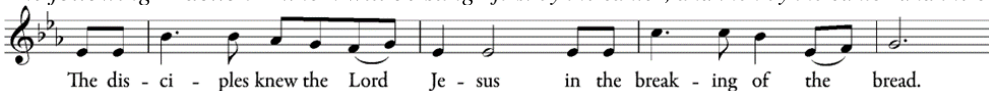
Prayer Book page # 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then 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—first by the cantor, and then by the cantor and the congregation



Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the beloved People of God. *And may add* Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives 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)

During Communion, the choir will sing

The Call

setting: Alexander Brent Smith

After Communion, the people stand and sing

Hymn No. 321

ROCKINGHAM

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. 527

TON-Y-BOTEL

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ **People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Voluntary: Thaxted

Charles Callahan

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

∇. 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.

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

The Altar Flowers this week are given by Liz Levie in memory of Richard R. Dodge.

The Sanctuary Candle is given this week by Niall and Lana Dalton for their anniversary.

Announcements for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 22, 2023

ASCENSION WELCOMES CHILDREN – There are toys in 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.

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.

THE TUESDAY NIGHT DINNER GROUP will meet at 6p.m. this Tuesday, January 24th at The Only Place in Town - 110 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre - 626-355-3502. Please RSVP to Ray Smith at ray@madre.net or Ray's cell phone # 626-233-1035. All are welcome.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available at the back of the church for those who asked for them.

BETWEEN THE MASSES - The adult discussion group has resumed meeting in person in the Parish Hall. The group usually meets during the hour after the 8:00 am service and the 10:15 am service.

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

THE PARISH ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, February 26th, FOLLOWING THE ONE SERVICE THAT DAY AT 9:30. This year, the reports and financials will be available prior to the meeting either by email or at our website. Only a few printed copies will be available. If you would like to have a printed copy please contact the parish office.

LESSONS NEXT SUNDAY: Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

CELEBRATING THE SAINTS FOR THE COMING WEEK (taken from Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018):

1/23 – Phillips Brooks (*Bishop of Massachusetts, 1893*) **1/24 – The Ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi** (*First woman priest in the Anglican Communion, 1944*) **1/25 – The Conversion of St. Paul** **1/26 – Timothy, Titus, and Silas** (*Companions of St. Paul*) **1/27 – John Chrysostom** (*Bishop and theologian, 407*) **1/28 – Thomas Aquinas** (*Priest and theologian, 1274*)

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

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

Director of Music and Organist: Mr. Robert Williamson; **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. Cameron Cox; **Treasurer:** Mr. Dan Hanson; **Diocesan Discerner:** JD Neal

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