



**The First Sunday in Lent**  
**March 9, 2025**      **8:00 a.m.**



*Almighty God, help us who are assaulted  
by many temptations.  
As you know the weakness of each of us,  
let each one find you mighty to save.  
Amen.*

**Welcome to Church of the Ascension**

Church of the Ascension provides opportunities to  
**Connect** with God and one another,  
**Grow** in faith and understanding, and  
**Serve** the Lord, one another, and the world around us.

We are an active community of faith committed to welcoming all  
and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Christ-centered + Spirit-filled + Mission-minded**

## The Liturgy of the Word of God

✠ *Please stand as the bell rings.*

### ✠ **A Penitential Order: Rite I**

*Celebrant:* Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

*People:* **His mercy endureth for ever.**

*Standing or kneeling as you are able*

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Honor thy father and thy mother.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt do no murder.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not steal.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not covet.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant:* 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 is faithful and just will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness *1 John 1:8-9*

Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God. *(time of silence)*

**Almighty and most merciful father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.**

**But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind**

**in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant:*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

*People:* **Have mercy upon us.**

### **The Collect**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan: Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

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

### **Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16**

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, \*  
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 He shall say to the LORD,

"You are my refuge and my stronghold, \*  
my God in whom I put my trust."

9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, \*  
and the Most High your habitation,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, \*  
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, \*  
to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, \*  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; \*  
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

14 Because he is bound to me in love,  
therefore will I deliver him; \*  
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; \*  
I am with him in trouble;  
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, \*  
and show him my salvation.

### **The Second Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13**

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

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

### **✠The Gospel: Luke 4:1-13**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**The Sermon:** The Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

### ✠**The Nicene Creed**

**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** (*Adapted from Planning for Rites and Rituals*)

In this season of repentance and renewal, let us pray for the concerns of the Church and the world, saying: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that the Church may truly become the unified body of Christ, hearing and living out God's call in the world. We pray for all Christians in their ministries, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Carrie our Bishop, and for all clergy and other ministers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that all people may learn to live together in peace, respecting one another's differences and autonomy. We pray that all leaders may be ever mindful of their responsibilities to their own people and to others in the world. We pray for Donald our

President, the Congress, courts, state and local officials, and for all the leaders around the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that those who face natural disaster may find grace and relief; those who face conflict and war may find a loving spirit, peace, and relief, and that all of us may treat our neighbors as ourselves. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are in any pain or sorrow, we pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Sherry, Jenny, Mary Lou, Molly, Bob, Karen, Ernest, Matt, Sue, Rich, Kadaj, Mary, Tony, Kip, Kathy, Kevin, those we name now silently or aloud (pause), may they come to know your love and care and be brought to wholeness; we also pray for the poor, the persecuted; those who are lonely, homeless or hungry. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for all the blessings of our lives, and we pray today for Barbara, Charlie, Buck, Sam+, Mike, Sophie and Karen, celebrating birthdays this week, Tom and Deborah celebrating their anniversary. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died, especially Mary Lee Schmall, and now live in the joy of God's presence, may they find rest in your peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* O God, you desire that all people turn to you and be renewed in your love, grant these prayers in your mercy and according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Peace:** The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with thy spirit.**

### **Birthday and Anniversary Prayer**

**O God, our times are in thy hands: look with favor, we pray, on thy servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send thy blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Announcements**

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*Thank you for your financial support! To make an online offering, please scan the QR code:*

## **The Celebration of the Holy Communion**



### **✠ At the Presentation**

All things come of thee, O Lord, **and of thine own have we given thee.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose

grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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.

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Grant us thy peace.**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

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

**Communion:** *All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion kneeling or standing at the Communion Rail.*

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray. **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thine everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

### **The Prayer Over The People**

*During the season of Lent, in place of a final blessing, the presider offers a Prayer over the People.*

Bow down before the Lord.

*The people kneel or bow as able.* Grant, Almighty God, that thy people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in thy strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of thy loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **✠The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**



<b>Worship Assistants</b>	<b>March 9</b>	<b>March 16</b>
Usher	<i>1 needed</i>	<i>1 needed</i>
Lector	Roberta Wilhelm	Angela Chmar
Acolyte	Beverly Baker	Bill Sears

**March Altar Guild: Team 2**

Janice Hobart Jill Horn Emelia Howe Deb Vana

**Attendance - March 2:**

8:00 am - 27 10:15 am In-person - 70 YouTube - 8 Facebook - 3 **Total: 108**

**Attendance - March 5:**

12:00 pm: In-person - 42 YouTube - 4 Facebook - 2 **Total: 48**

6:00 pm: In-person - 91 YouTube - 3 Facebook - 3 **Total: 97**

**Readings for Next Sunday: The Second Sunday in Lent - C**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35