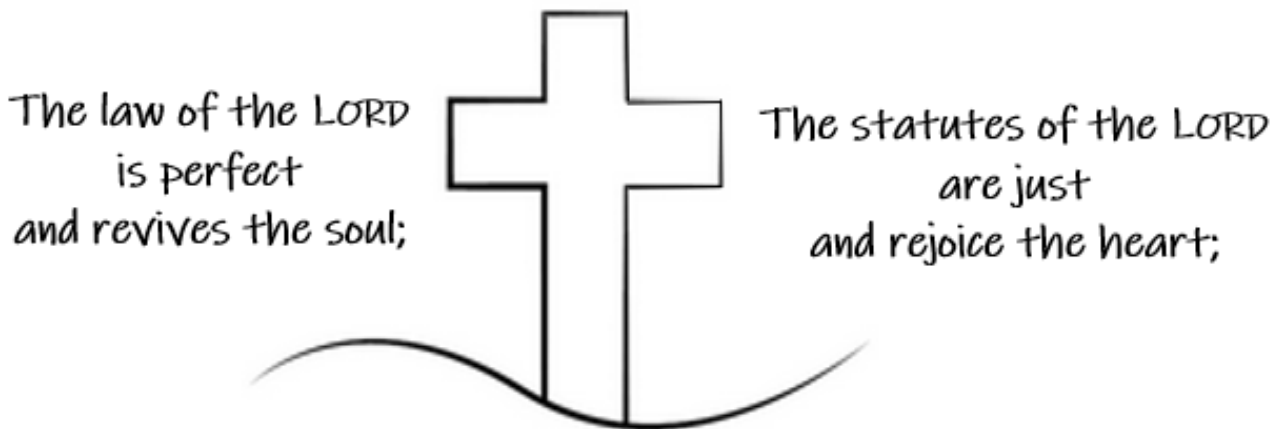




The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2024 10:15 a.m.



The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever.
Psalm 19

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

Welcome

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

Prelude

“Christ In Me Arise”

by Trevor Thomason

♠ Processional Song

“In Christ Alone”

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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The Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

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.**

Hymn of Praise (Gloria)

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker

1. Glo-ry Glo ry Glo-ry to God and peace to God's peo-ple on
Earth 2. Lord God Heav-en-ly King: al - migh - ty God and Fa-ther, we
wor - ship You we give You thanks we praise you for Your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God Lamb of God you take a -
way the sins of the world have mer - cy on us. 1. Glo-ry Glo ry

Glo - ry to God and peace to God's peo - ple on Earth 5.You are
 seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther re - ceive our prayer For
 You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord. 7.You a -
 lone are the mo - st high Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther A - men A - men 1.Glo - ry Glo ry
 Glo - ry to God and peace to God's peo - ple on Earth

The Collect

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

A reading from the Book of Numbers

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once — if I have found favor in your sight — and do not let me see my misery."

So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. "

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

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

Psalm 19:7-14

- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Lesson: James 5:13-20

A Reading from the Letter of James

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

Children's Chapel

Children ages 3 – 8 and their Leaders exit to "Children's Chapel," returning at the Peace.

✠ **Sequence Hymn** "Breathe On Me, Breath of God" Hymnal #508

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do or to endure.

3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die;
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Words: Edwin Hatch Music: *Nova Vita*, Lister R. Peace

✠ **The Holy Gospel: Mark 9:38-50**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you

were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: Ms. Kate Riley, Canon for Youth

✠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.

Prayers of the People: Form II, *adapted*

With all our heart and with all our mind let us pray to the Lord.

For God's people throughout the world; for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sean and Carrie our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For peace in our country and in the world; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, those in prison, and for those in any need or trouble, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God, that they may find and be found by God, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer, for Donna, Sherry, Jenny, Eddie+, Molly, Donna, Ernest, Kadaj, Mary, Joanne, Rick, Kathy, Allan+, those in our prayer list, and those we name now silently or aloud. (*silence*) Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all those recovering from the devastation left by Hurricane Helene, for those who have been evacuated from their homes; those living in uncertainty and still awaiting news of loved ones; for first responders, public officials, and relief workers who are working tirelessly for the sake of others. Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

We give thanks and pray for the birthdays of Donna, Tom, Steve, and the anniversaries of Tom and Sharon, Jim and Michele. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

You may add your own thanksgivings and petitions, silently or aloud. (*silence*) Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant: Gracious God: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with thee and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant: 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 Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

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

Announcements

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

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



Offertory

“Lord, I Need You”

1. Lord I come I confess
Bowling here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

2. Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Chorus:

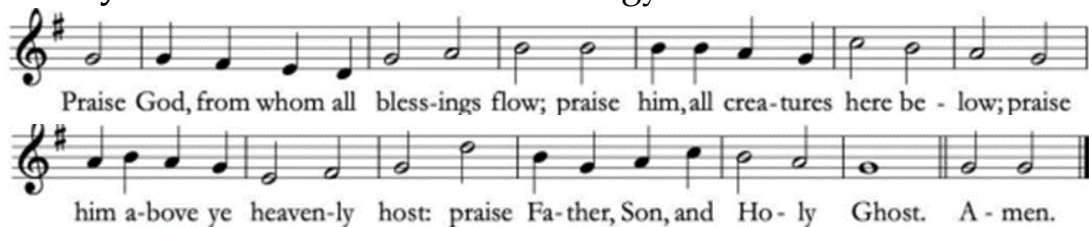
Lord I need You oh I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

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♣ Presentation Hymn

“The Doxology”



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise
him a-bove ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 1 (From *Enriching our Worship*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fulness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus

Setting: Mass of Ascension

Donna Parker



Ho - ly Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord. God of pow - er God of might
Hea - ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry Ho - sa - na in the high -
est. Blest is He, who comes in the name of the Lord Ho - sa - na
in the high - est Ho - sa - na in the high - est

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker



Christ has died Christ is ris-en Christ will come A - gain


Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Mary and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Amen

Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker



A - men A - men A - men A - men.

The Lord's Prayer

And now as our Savior Christ has 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.

The Breaking of Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

"Lamb of God"

Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker

Je - sus Lamb of God have mer - cy on us. Je - sus Lamb of God have
7
mer - cy on us Je - sus Lamb of God Gra - nt us your peace

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.**

The Communion

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion in front of the altar. Gluten-free communion wafers are available on demand. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest. To receive the wine you can either drink from the common cup or dip your host held by the second Eucharist minister on both sides of the priest.

Communion Music

"I Am the Bread of Life"

Hymnal #335

1. I am the bread of life;
they who come to me shall not hunger;
they who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me, unless the Father
draw them. *Chorus*

Chorus

And I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the last day.

4. I am the resurrection; I am the life.
They who believe in me, even if they die,
they shall live for ever. *Chorus*

2. The Bread that I will give
is my Flesh for the life of the world,
and they who eat of this bread,
they shall live for ever,
they shall live for ever. *Chorus*

3. Unless you eat of the Flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of his Blood,
you shall not have life within you,
you shall not have life within you. *Chorus*

5. Yes, Lord we believe that you are the Christ,
the Son of God who has come into the world.

Chorus

Words: Suzanne Toolan

Music: *I Am the Bread of Life*, Suzanne Toolan

“Wonderful, Merciful Savior”

1. Wonderful merciful Savior
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men
Oh You rescue the souls of men

2. Counselor Comforter Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

Chorus:

You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for

3. Almighty infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we're falling before Your throne

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The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the chorus: 'You are the One that we Praise You are the One we a - dore'. The second staff continues with 'You give the heal - ing and grace our hearts al - ways hun - ger'. The third staff concludes with 'for, Oh, our hearts al - ways hun - ger for.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

✠ Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Faithful God in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread. May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Recessional Song

“Your Grace Is Enough”

1. Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

2. Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Chorus:

(So) remember Your people, Remember Your children. Remember Your promise O God
Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough.
Your grace is enough for me

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Matt Maher
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The Dismissal

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

Postlude



Worship Assistants	September 29	October 6
Organist	Donna Parker	Donna Parker
Musicians	Praise Ensemble	Praise Ensemble
Ushers	Debbie Linard	Roberta Gore, Noah Ketterman
Acolyte	<i>1 needed</i>	Reilly Goff, Brayden Tenney
Lector	Jim Fariss	Youth Lectors (Olivia, Emma, Wyatt)
Chalicians	Helen Lang, Kat Dittrich <i>2 needed</i>	Adelaide McIntyre, <i>3 needed</i>
Worship Slides	Emelia Howe	
Audio Visual	Travis Collins	Travis Collins

September Altar Guild: Team 1:

Karen Lance, Donna Hansen, Jenny Lui, Kathy Sullivan, Sandy White

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Tom and Sharon Schwartz, in thanksgiving and celebration of their 56th wedding anniversary.

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Tom and Sharon Schwartz, in thanksgiving and celebration of their 56th wedding anniversary.

Attendance: September 22:

8:00 am - 20 10:15 am In-person - 65 YouTube - 7 Facebook - 4 **Total: 96**

Readings for Next Sunday: The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - B

Job 12: 7-10 Psalm 104: 25-32 Luke 12: 22-32

Church of the Ascension | 23 North Court Street | Westminster, Maryland 21157

The Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson, Rector

Church Office: 410-848-3251 **Email:** office@ascension-westminster.com