



**The First Sunday in Lent**  
**March 9, 2025                      10:15 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 you are able.*

Greetings

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

Prelude

✠ **Processional Hymn**      “Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days”      Hymnal #142

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days  
for us didst fast and pray,  
teach us with thee to mourn our sins  
and close by thee to stay.

4. And through these days of penitence,  
and through thy Passiontide,  
yea, evermore, in life and death,  
Jesus! with us abide.

2. As thou with Satan didst contend  
and didst the victory win,  
O give us strength in thee to fight,  
in thee to conquer sin.

5. Abide with us, that so, this life  
of suffering overpast,  
an Easter of unending joy  
we may attain at last!

3. As thou didst hunger bear and thirst,  
so teach us, gracious Lord,  
to die to self, and chiefly live  
by thy most holy Word.

Music: St. Flavian, harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901)  
Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898)

**A Penitential Order: Rite II**

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

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

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.**

*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 to cleanse us from all unrighteousness *1 John 1:8-9*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence)*

**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.**

### **Kyrie Eleison**

### **"Kyrie #10"**

J. Berthier

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son; Ky - ri -  
Chri - ste, Chri - ste, e - le - i - son; Chris -  
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son; Ky - ri -

5  
e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.  
te, Chris - te, e - le - i - son.  
e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

### **The Collect**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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**

### **Children's Chapel**

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

#### **✦ Sequence Song**

**"Speak, O Lord"**

1. Speak O Lord as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy word  
Take Your truth plant it deep in us  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory

3. Speak O Lord and renew our minds  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us  
Speak O Lord till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory

2. Teach us Lord full obedience  
Holy reverence true humility  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise  
Cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority  
Words of power that can never fail  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

CCLI Song # 4615235  
Keith Getty | Stuart Townend  
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### **The Holy Gospel: Luke 4:1-13**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

#### **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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 to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon:** 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 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



### The Celebration of the Holy Communion

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

#### Offertory

“Before the Throne of God Above”

1. Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heaven He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

2. When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end to all my sin  
Because the sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

3. I bow before the cross of Christ and marvel at this love divine  
God's perfect Son was sacrificed to make me righteous in God's eyes  
This river's depths I cannot know, but I can glory in its flood  
The Lord Most High has bowed down low and poured on me His glorious love  
And poured on me His glorious love

CCLI Song # 2306412 | Charitie Lees Bancroft | Vikki Cook

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#### ✠ Presentation Hymn

Tune: Hamburg

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were an offering far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise him all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

### The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

*Celebrant:* 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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:

**Sanctus**

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”

Hymnal #S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly,  
10 ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Hea - ven and  
18 Bless - ed is  
earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
27 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est

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.

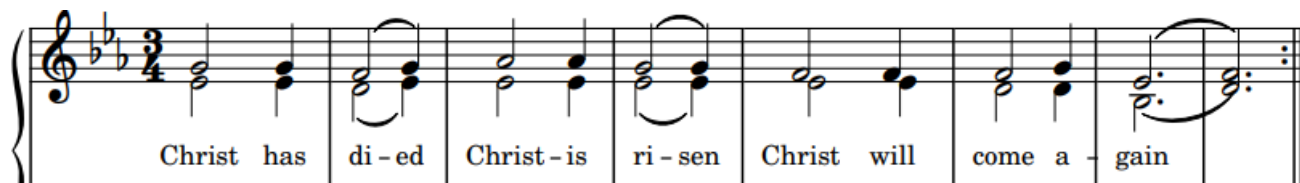
On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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:



## Memorial Acclamation



We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in his 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:



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

*The Celebrant breaks the Consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## Fraction Anthem

### Agnus Dei - "Jesus, Lamb of God"

Hymnal #S164



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 of the People

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest.

### Communion Music

#### “Worthy the Lamb”

Words and Music: R. Gillard

1. Worthy the Lamb that was slain for us  
Worthy, worthy the Lamb (*Repeat*)

3. Holy the Lamb that was slain for us.  
Holy, holy the Lamb (*Repeat*)

2. Blessed the Lamb that was slain for us  
Blessed, blessed the Lamb (*Repeat*)

4. Mighty the Lamb that was slain for us.  
Mighty, mighty the Lamb (*Repeat*)

5. Jesus the Lamb that was slain for us  
Jesus, Jesus the Lamb (*Repeat*)

#### “O Lord Hear My Prayer”

J. Berthier

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an - swer me. O  
Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

### ✠ Post Communion Prayer

From Enriching Our Worship

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## The Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

*Celebrant:* With whom will you share this communion?

*Lay Eucharistic Visitors say the names of those that they will visit.*

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

**We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. 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.*

Let us bow before the Lord.

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

**✠ Recessional Hymn****“The Glory of These Forty Days”**

Hymnal #143

1. The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, by whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.

2. Alone and fasting Moses saw  
the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting, came  
the steeds and chariots of flame.

4. Then grant us, Lord, like Him to be  
full oft in fast and prayer with thee;  
our spirits strengthen with thy grace,  
and give us joy to see thy face.

5. O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold Name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt.  
Music: *Erhalt uns Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

**The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

<b>Worship Assistants</b>	<b>March 9</b>	<b>March 16</b>
Organist	Mary Butler	Donna Parker
Musicians	Adult Ensemble	Praise Ensemble
Ushers	<i>2 needed</i>	Beatrice Howe, <i>1 needed</i>
Acolyte	<i>1 needed</i>	Emelia Howe
Lector	Buck Lyon-Vaiden	Betsy Reinders
Chalicians	John Holbert, <i>3 needed</i>	<i>4 needed</i>
Worship Slides	Jeanne Cox	John Holbert
Audio Visual	Travis Collins	Nick Hoff

**March Altar Guild: Team 2**

Janice Hobart Jill Horn Emelia Howe Deb Vana

**Birthdays**

March 9 Barbara Sears                      March 13 Mike Sullivan  
March 10 Charlie Aler                      March 14 Sophie Buisson  
March 11 Buck Lyon-Vaiden              March 15 Karen Lance  
March 12 Sam Edleman+

**Anniversary**

March 9 Tom and Deborah Rio

**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

### **Church of the Ascension: Holy Week Worship**

**Palm Sunday:** April 13

8:00 am: Holy Eucharist Rite I  
Stone Church

10:15 am: Holy Eucharist Rite II  
Holy Cross Hall

*This service will begin with a Palm Sunday procession.*

**Mundy Thursday:** April 17

6:00 pm: Holy Eucharist Rite II  
Stone Church

**Good Friday:** April 18

11:00 am: *The Community Good Friday Cross Walk will begin at Church of the Ascension.*

6:00 pm: Good Friday service  
Stone Church

**Easter Sunday:** April 20

8:00 am: Holy Eucharist Rite I  
Stone Church

10:15 am: Holy Eucharist Rite II  
Holy Cross Hall

*Followed by: Easter Egg Hunt*

**Easter Egg Hunt for Children: April 20 after the 10:15 service.** If you would like to donate plastic eggs or Easter candy, please bring the items to the Church Office by April 13. Thank You!

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

The Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson, Rector

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