



Ascension Lutheran Church
Landover Hills, Maryland
Church Phone: 301-577-0500
www.alutheranchurch.com



*Becoming Caring Servants Who Extend Life
in Christ to Diverse People*

November 2, 2025

Welcome and Notices

Prelude

Benedictus
Alec Rowley

(Stand)

Confession & Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Sit)

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

(Stand)

Gathering Hymn

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

ELW 632 Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: William Croft, 1678-1727

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:**

- 4 A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.**

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.**

- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.**

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Sit)

First Reading:

Revelation 7:9–17

R: A reading from Revelation, beginning with the seventh chapter.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 149

Read Responsively

¹ Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

**² Let Israel be glad in its Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.**

³ Let them praise his name with dancing,
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

**⁴ For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with victory.**

⁵ Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches.

**⁶ Let the high praises of God be in their throats
and two-edged swords in their hands,**

⁷ to execute vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples,

**⁸ to bind their kings with fetters
and their nobles with chains of iron,**

⁹ to execute on them the judgment decreed.
This is glory for all his faithful ones.

Praise the Lord!

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

Second Reading

1 John 3:1–3

R: A reading from John, beginning with the third chapter.

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of

God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit)

Sermon

(Stand)

Hymn of the Day

“For All the Saints”

ELW 422 Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958: © Oxford University Press

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- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

- 3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

- 5 The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

- 6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and
became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 Gathering of Gifts

Any tithes or offerings may be placed into the offering plate by the entrance to the Sanctuary at the beginning or the end of service. For those who are worshipping with us via live-stream, please consider mailing your offering to the Church office or giving online through our website.

(Stand)

The Offering Hymn

“Give Thanks”

TFF292 Text and Tune: Henry Smith; © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
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Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

The Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray.

P: Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

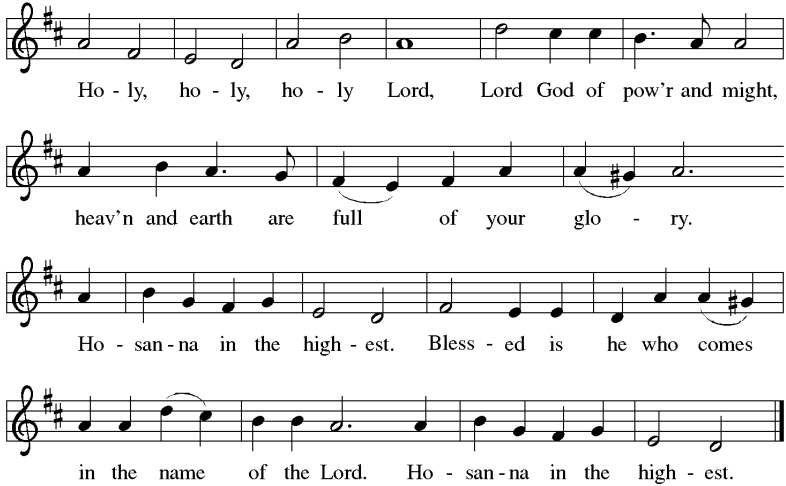
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of the saints you show us the hope of our calling, and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with all the choirs of angels and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as

often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

P: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen, amen, amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

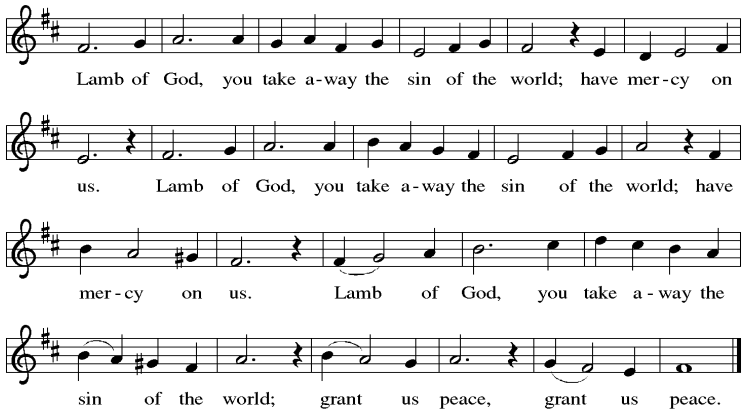
(Sit)

Communion Distribution

Lutherans believe that in Holy Communion we are offered the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized and Communicant members of all Christian denominations who share this belief with us are welcome to come forward to receive Holy Communion. Others, including children, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymns

“Lamb of God”



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn 1

“Jerusalem, My Happy Home”

ELW 628 Text: F. B. P., 16th cent.

Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version

- 1 Jerusalem, my happy home,
when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?**
- 2 O happy harbor of the saints,
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found,
no grief, no care, no toil.**
- 3 Thy gardens and thy gallant walks
continually are green;
there grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs
as nowhere else are seen.**

**4 There trees forevermore bear fruit
and evermore do spring;
there evermore the angels sit
and evermore do sing.**

**5 Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
God grant that I may see
thine endless joy, and of the same
partaker ever be!**

Communion Hymn 2

“Give Thanks for Saints”

ELW 428 Text: Martin E. Leckenbusch, b. 1962; © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

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- 1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm
When all around seem bleak:
On God’s good promise they rely,
So, while they live and when they die
How forcefully they speak-
The strong who once were weak!**

- 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear
Beyond all mortal sight:
Who seek the city God has planned,
The true, eternal promised land,
And steer on toward that light,
A beacon ever bright.**

- 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure,
A sparkling precious stone:
They show by what they say and do
An inward beauty, warm and true,
For God’s concerns they own-
God’s love through them is known.**

- 4 Give thanks for saints of ages past
And saints alive today
Though often by this world despised,
Their hearts by God are richly prized.
Give thanks that we may say
We share their pilgrim way**

(Stand)

Post Communion Blessing

P: May this, the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keeping you steadfast in your faith for life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion

“Praise to You, O God of Mercy”

ELW 208 Text and Tune: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950;
© 1990 GIA Publications, Inc

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- 1 Praise to you, O God of mercy:
thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly:
thanks be to you forever!**
- 2 From of old you loved and sought us:
thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us:
thanks be to you forever!**

***Bridge:* Strong is your faithfulness,
strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.**

- 3 Praise to you, O God of mercy:
thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly:
thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

Post Communion Prayer

A: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

“For All Your Saints, O Lord”

ELW 654 Text: Richard Mant, 1776-1848, alt.

Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893

- 1. For all your saints, O Lord,
who strove in you to live,
who followed you, obeyed, adored,
our grateful hymn receive.**
- 2 For all your saints, O Lord,
who strove in you to die,
who counted you their great reward,
accept our thankful cry.**
- 3 They all in life and death,
with you, their Lord, in view,
learned from your Holy Spirit's breath
to suffer and to do.**
- 4 For this, your name we bless
and humbly pray anew
that we like them in holiness
may live and die in you.**

**5 To God, the Father, Son,
and Spirit, ever blest,
the One in Three, the Three in One,
be endless praise addressed.**

Sending

A: Go in peace and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

“Fanfare on 'For All The Saints'”

arr. Paul Fey

SERVING US IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Chris Agne
Assistant	Morris Hymes, Jr.
Musician	Ben Harris
Reader	Doakes Family
Greeters	Kathy & Harry Sessums
Altar Guild	Wells Family, Ernestine Bivins Vivian Licorish, Dianne McGill
Ushers	Darrell Dockery, Calvin Lee
Counters	Vivian Licorish, Morris Hymes, Jr.

Acknowledgments

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- Church Copyright License® 11211681 Size B
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Sunday @6

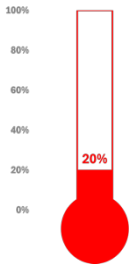
To the Homebound and Sick, we invite you to participate in Sunday @ 6, a weekly worship call. We have prayer, Scripture, a devotion and music. We invite, welcome and encourage you to join us in Christian fellowship every Sunday at 6:00 p.m. The call is toll-free:(267) 807-9601; Enter this code:773-431-475# For further information, call Dolores Prather (301) 459-7163 or Mary Tipton 301-257-7585!

Adult Bible Study

Sunday morning Bible study is in full swing! We are continuing to work our way through the book of Esther. *It's Tough Being a Woman* by Beth Moore. We will continue to meet throughout the summer. Please join us!
10:30 a.m. following the worship service.

Faith to Move Mountains

“If you have faith as small as a mustard seed... you can say to this mountain, ‘Move,’ and it will move.” – Matthew 17:20



The 2025-year budget is currently operating at a **\$65,000** deficit. This deficit limits our ability to fully focus on ministry, outreach, and the future growth God is calling us toward. We believe it's time to come together in faith and eliminate this burden. That's why we've launched our *“Faith to Move Mountains”* campaign — a focused effort to cover this deficit for this year. **updated 10/20/2025*

*Please send your check to Ascension Lutheran Church. You may also make your donation electronically at our website at <https://alutheranchurch.com> → (Giving). Place *“Faith to Move Mountains”* in the memo section.*

Altar Flowers



Please Note that flowers will only be provided when they are sponsored by members. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the Church Office Wing.

Altar Flowers \$50.00



Prayer Requests

To keep the prayer list current, Pastor Chris will edit the list once a month. If you have the name of a loved one that you would like to keep on the prayer list permanently, please contact Pastor Chris, pastor@alutheranchurch.com or 301-577-0500

Please put your prayer requests in the Prayer Diary at the rear of the Sanctuary so we can add your need to our prayers.

Ernestine Bivins and son, Terrell Bivins, prayers for healing & comfort.

The family of Jenny DeMaio, upon her recent passing.

Clay Goldston and Family, upon the recent passing of Jannie Goldston.

Joan Prather, sister of Dolores and Alice, Prayers for healing.

Dianne McGill, Treatment for breast cancer

Olivia Powell, Prayers for healing.

Rob Garrett, Prayers for healing.

Ludie Sims, Prayers for comfort.

Dolores Prather, Prayers for healing and comfort.

Alice McNeil, Prayers for comfort and healing

Helen Riley, Prayers for strength and healing.

Ernestine Hayes, Prayers for healing.

Calvin Lee, Prayers for healing.

Herman McNeil, Prayers for comfort and healing.

Zachary Plue, Prayers for continued healing.

Susie Nilsson, Prayers for continued healing.

Joyce Bailey, Prayers for continued healing.

Helen Bell, Prayers for healing.

Alice Gaither, Prayers for healing.

Kent & Walt Nilsson, Prayers for improved vision.

Ascension Homebound:

John DellaGatta; Lois Flemming; Olivia Powell;
Arthur & Mildred Smith; Helen Riley

Ascension Weekly

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Information & Notices

Nov. 2, 2025

Services

Please Note

Divine Worship

Sunday at 9:00 am

Holy Communion is celebrated in most services.

Holy Baptism

Arrangements for Baptism can be made with the Church Office.

Weddings

Weddings for active Ascension members are arranged with the Church Office.

Adult Bible Study: Bible study meets on Sundays after worship, at 10:30 am.

Staff:

Rev. Chris Agne.....Pastor
Gwen Neal.....Office Mgr.
Ben Harris.....Parish Musician

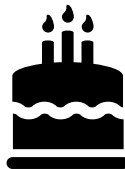
Office open Mon-Fri., 8-4:30
Closed Holidays

Please allow us to share Church News with you via email. Send your email address to the Church Office at office@alutheranchurch.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Corlette Watson (DaSilva)

Cris Bonner & Stephany Sims, William & Marlene Schlichtig,
Keith & Sarah Wallace



This Week at Ascension

Sunday, November 2

Pentecost 21

9:00 am	Worship
10:30 am	Bible Study
12:00 pm	Lamb of God Worship Service
6:00 pm	Sunday @ 6

Wednesday, November 5

12:00 pm	Wednesday Bible Study
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Sunday, November 9

Pentecost 21

9:00 am	Worship
10:30 am	Bible Study
12:00 pm	Lamb of God Worship Service
6:00 pm	Sunday @ 6



Coming Events

Wednesday, Nov. 12	Bible Study @ Noon Music Room
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Serving Us in Worship, Sunday November 9

Pastor	Rev. Chris Agne
Assistant	Andy House
Musician	Ben Harris
Reader	Doakes Family
Greeters	Kathy & Harry Sessums
Altar Guild	Wells Family, Ernestine Bivins Vivian Licorish, Dianne McGill
Ushers	Darrell Dockery, Calvin Lee
Counters	Vivian Licorish, Morris Hymes, Jr.