



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
ALL SAINTS AND ASCENSION

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 2026

WELCOME! KARIBU!

God brought you here!

Scattered into a world that does not always see our worth, we gather as God's beloved at The Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension. We gather to remember who we are and whose we are. We bring the fragments of our lives, our joys and our sorrows, our weariness and our hope, to be healed and made whole in Jesus Christ.

Rooted in the rich heritage of the Episcopal tradition and shaped by the beauty, brilliance, and resilience of our African American history, we come together as a people of praise. Here, the faith of the ancestors steadies us. Here, the songs of our foremothers and forefathers rise again on our lips. Here, the Spirit meets us in dance and in song, in prayer and in proclamation, in silence and in holy celebration.

We seek to be a place of healing, where wounded spirits find restoration and broken hearts find balm. We seek to be a place of empowerment, where gifts are named, voices are lifted, and leadership is nurtured. We seek to embody Black excellence, not as pride apart from God, but as the radiant reflection of the Divine image within us, cultivated through faith, discipline, creativity, and love.

In this sacred space, we support one another in mutual care and accountability. We testify to God's goodness in the midst of struggle. We proclaim a Gospel that liberates, restores, and sends us forth.

And when our worship ends, our work continues. Strengthened at the altar and stirred by the Spirit, we follow Jesus out into the world carrying with us the courage of the ancestors, the wisdom of those who have gone before, and the unshakable hope of the Resurrection.

God brought you here! Welcome home.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG/MUSIC

529

The Church's Mission

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.

Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

CM

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

CALLING TO THE ANCESTORS WITH LIBATION

A vessel of water is placed in view. The priest, deacon, or lay leader pours small libations into the font, a bowl or onto the earth at each direction.

All face East.

Presider From the East, where the sun rises and new life breaks forth, we remember the dawn of resurrection and the ancestors who believed in freedom before it came. Like the waters of creation, where the Spirit first moved, God brought life out of chaos and hope out of despair.

Leader We pour this water in thanksgiving for their faith and for the rising of new life among us.

(Water is poured.)

People **Ancestors of hope, rise with us.**

All face South.

Presider From the South, where rivers run deep and tears have fallen, we remember those who passed through the waters of suffering, through rivers of sorrow and baptismal streams of grace. They sang, "Wade in the water," trusting that God would trouble the waters and make a way.

Leader We pour this water in remembrance of their endurance and the Spirit who sustained them.

(Water is poured.)

People **Ancestors of courage, rise with us.**

All face West.

Presider From the West, across the great waters, we remember the Middle Passage, waters that bore witness to pain and loss beyond words. Yet even there, the deep could not drown God's presence. In Christ, the waters of death have become the waters of life.

Leader We pour this water trusting that nothing, not even the depths, can separate us from God's love.

(Water is poured.)

People **Ancestors of faith, rise with us.**

All face North.

Presider From the North, where people journeyed toward freedom, crossing rivers and boundaries into new life, we remember those who followed the waters to liberation. Through baptism, we too have crossed over, from death into life, from bondage into freedom.

Leader We pour this water in thanksgiving for their witness and for the new life we share in Christ.

(Water is poured.)

People **Ancestors of wisdom, rise with us.**

All face the altar.

Presider Ancestors who have gone before us, cloud of witnesses, rejoice with us, for Christ is risen, and the waters of death have become the waters of life. ***Amen and Ashe`***.

SONG OF PRAISE “*Glory to God*” (*spoken*)

***Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.***

***Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.***

***Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.***

***For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.***

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Presider Let us pray.

Presider O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Almighty God, giver of life and love, you created all people in your image and call us to live together in peace: Surround with your compassion all who suffer from gun violence; strengthen those who protect and serve; grant wisdom and courage to those entrusted with authority; comfort the grieving, heal the wounded, and stir your Church to be a voice for justice and peace, that we may

become instruments of your reconciling love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Deacon May the Word of God always be heard in this place. May the experience of our spiritual ancestors be valued in this place. May the Good News of love be proclaimed in this place.

People **May the mystery of Christ unfold before us, may the words of salvation revive us, and may the Spirit of Truth guide us. Let us hear once more the stories of our redemption.**

All are seated.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS 12:1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

THE PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 33:1-12

1 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous; *
it is good for the just to sing praises.

2 Praise the LORD with the harp; *
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.

- 3 Sing for him a new song; *
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.
- 4 For the word of the LORD is right, *
and all his works are sure.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice; *
the loving-kindness of the LORD fills the whole earth.
- 6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, *
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.
- 7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin *
and stores up the depths of the sea.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; *
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to pass; *
he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The LORD brings the will of the nations to naught; *
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.
- 11 But the LORD's will stands fast for ever, *
and the designs of his heart from age to age.
- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS 4:13-25

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned

to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
*People **Thanks be to God.***

SEQUENCE HYMN

330 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

D A7 D

1 Sa - vior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way.
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;

A7 D

In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
 Keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

G D A7 D

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

G D A7 D

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:9-13, 18-26

Deacon Beloved, God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Dn. Valerie E. Patton

OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Deacon Let us affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God.

Silence is kept for a time.

Deacon We believe in one God, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

People **We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Creator, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,**

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Creator. Through him all things were made.

Deacon 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 became truly human.

People ***In his life among us, he proclaimed good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, sight to the blind, and release to the oppressed.***

Deacon Jesus ate with outcasts, forgave sinners, challenged injustice, and embodied the boundless love of God.

People ***In word and deed, he revealed the reign of God drawing near.***

Deacon 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 Creator.

People ***He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.***

Deacon We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Creator and the Son. With the Creator and is worshiped and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets.

People ***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

Deacon Let us remember before God all those whose lives have been taken by gun violence, those known to us and those known to God alone.

Silence may be kept.

Leader For the peace of the world, for the healing of nations divided by fear and violence, and for the courage to seek the ways of justice and mercy; we pray to you O God,

People ***Make us instruments of your peace.***

Leader For your holy Church, that we may proclaim not only with our lips but with our lives the reconciling love of Christ, and that we may never grow weary in working for peace; we pray to you O God,

People ***Make us instruments of your peace.***

Leader For the leaders of the nations, especially the President of the United States, members of Congress, governors, legislators, judges, and all entrusted with authority, that they may govern with wisdom, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to the dignity and safety of every human life; we pray to you O God,

People ***Make us instruments of your peace.***

Leader For all first responders, police officers, firefighters, paramedics, emergency room staff, counselors, and all who daily confront the wounds of violence, that they may be protected, strengthened, and upheld in compassion; we pray to you O God,

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Leader For children and young people growing up in communities marked by fear, instability, and violence; for teachers, mentors, parents, and caregivers; and for safe homes, schools, and neighborhoods where all may flourish; we pray to you O God,

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Leader For all who suffer because of gun violence: those who have been injured in body, mind, or spirit; those who mourn loved ones lost; and those whose lives are forever changed by trauma and grief; we pray to you O God,

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Leader For those consumed by anger, despair, hatred, or loneliness, and for all at risk of harming themselves or others, that they may find help, hope, and companions along the way; we pray to you O God,

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Leader For all who have died because of gun violence, especially those whose deaths are known to you alone, that they may rest in your eternal peace and rise in glory; we pray to you O God,

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Leader Grant that we, your people, may not surrender to fear or hopelessness, but persevere in the work of reconciliation, advocacy, and love, trusting in your power to make all things new; we pray to you O God,

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Additional prayers or thanksgivings may be offered. The Presider adds the following prayer.

Presider O God, you sent your Son to break down the dividing walls of hostility and to reconcile all people in your love: Receive the prayers we offer this day, strengthen us to stand against gun violence in every form, and make us bearers of your peace in a wounded world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY HYMN

194

Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,

For — if you lead me, I can - not stray.

Lord, — let me walk each day with Thee.

Fine

Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand, with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in both hands. The lyrics are: 'Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For — if you lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, — let me walk each day with Thee. Fine Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.'

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and power to
 2. Help me tread in the paths of righteous-ness, be my
 3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am

1. help me o-ver my weak-est hour; Help me
 2. aid when sa-tan and sin op-press; I am
 3. blind with-out thy light to see; Lord, just

1. through the dark-ness thy face to see,
 2. put-ting all my trust in thee.
 3. al-ways let me thy ser-vant be.

D.C.

1. Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.
 2. Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.
 3. Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER-PRAYER A

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Presider and People "Holy, Holy, Holy" (sung)

252

Holy, Holy, Holy

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven 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 score includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, notes, rests, and a triplet in the second staff.

Presider 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:

Presider and People ***Christ has died.***
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. ***Amen and Ashe.***

THE GREAT AMEN (*sung*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sung)*

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.***

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

FRACTION ANTHEM *(sung)*

***Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.***

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider 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.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(All are invited to God's Table. You may come forward to receive the Body of Christ or to receive a blessing. Some may wish to remain in your seats. Please use this time to quietly sit and pray or join in the singing of the hymn. Those at home may, if they wish, say this prayer:)

In union, O God, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

OFFERING OUR LIVES

Be Thou My Vision

859

E^b A^b Cm B^b E^b

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

B^b A^b B^b

naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's sun!

A^b E^b Cm A^b B^b

thou my best thought, by day or by night;
 Thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be,
 thou and thou on - ly first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

E^b Cm A^b Fm E^b

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing and I one with thee.
 high King of heav - en, my treas - ure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider God be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

Send us now into the world, to walk in the strength of those who came before, to sing the songs they taught us, to labor for justice, to rejoice in hope, and to live as your beloved community, until your dream of freedom and wholeness is fulfilled for all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen and Ashe.

THE BLESSING

Presider May the God of peace, who formed us in love and created us for community, strengthen your hearts with courage, steady your hands for the work of justice, and fill your spirits with compassion for all who suffer.

And may Christ, who broke the power of violence through the cross, make you instruments of his reconciling peace in your homes, your communities, and the world. And the blessing of God Almighty, the grace of Christ the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with forever. ***Amen.***

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

196

1. What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine,
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

1. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; What a bless - ed - ness,
 2. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; O how bright the path
 3. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; I have bless - ed peace

1. what a peace is mine, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 2. grows from day to day, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 3. with my Lord so near, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
 Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Lean - ing, lean - ing, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus

THE SENDING

Deacon Ancestors who sang by the rivers, who crossed through waters seen and unseen, rejoice with us now for God is with us, and we are not alone.

People ***We go forth in hope and in power. Ashe and Alleluia!***

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go forth into the world, remembering your baptism, trusting the waters that carry you, and singing the song of the risen Christ. Walk through every river unafraid, for God goes with you, the Spirit surrounds you, and the ancestors rejoice beside you. Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

People ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!***

TODAY'S LITURGICAL LEADERS

Presider

The Rev. Renee L. Fenner, Rector

Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Dn. Valerie E. Patton

Worship Leader

Stanley Johnson

Reader

Adrienne Dillon

Acolyte

Laura Mabry

Ushers

Allen Dukes

Charles Henderson

Minister of Music

Terrell Thompson

Choir Members

Adrienne Dillon, Walter Fox, Michael Griffin, Stanley Johnson, Barrie Jones, Helen Owens, and Machel West

OUR MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement: We are a Christ-centered historic African American Episcopal congregation called to embody God's love through inspiring worship, deep relationships, and faithful service. Rooted in the richness of our heritage and sustained by the Spirit, we foster a welcoming community where all are seen, valued, and connected. We commit ourselves to being Love in action: serving our neighbors, enriching one another, proclaiming the Good News with joy, justice, peace and hope.

Vision Statement: Rooted in heritage. Formed in love. Sent to serve.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ASCENSION VESTRY – 2026

Senior Warden-Gaylard Williams (2027)
Co-Junior Wardens-Betty Brown
Dawn Johnson

Vestry Clerk
Margarett Williams

Treasurer
Rickey Mabry

Class of 2027
Adrienne Dillon
Sondra Harrell

Class of 2028
Michael Griffin
Stanley Merridith

Class of 2029
Betty Brown
Dawn Johnson

Convention Delegates
Adrienne Dillon (2027)
Caroline Moore (2027)

Alternate Delegate
Donna Black (2027)



LIFTING UP OUR VOICES

"Even in dark times, we not only dream, we do. We not only see what has been, we see what can be. We shoot for the moon, and then we plant our flag on it. We are bold, fearless, and ambitious. We are undaunted in our belief that we shall overcome; that we will rise up. This is American aspiration."

—Kamala Harris

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LISTS

We are always ready to pray for family members, friends, neighbors and all those in need of our prayers.

Delphine Booker	Canon Desiree Brattin	Harold Briggs
Linette Cayetano	Bessie Clemmons	Jennifer Dawson
Jacky Dew	Rick Earley	Michael Griffin
Renee Griffin	Ronald Hawkins	Stella Hughes
Jan R. Jenkins	Erika Jones	Greg Kelley
Amber King	Winifred Lemmie	Regina Lewis
Johnetta Martin	Diana Oliver	Helen Owens
Betty Patton	Michelle Pendelton	Gwen Perry
Everett Quinn	Marion Robinson	Rick Rollins
Florence Ross	Lisa Shelley	Patricia Thomas
Antoinette Williams	James Williams, Sr.	Bill Young

We continue to pray for all those who are still affected by last year's tornado. We pray especially for our adopted family and so many others. We pray for our companion churches of St. Stephen's and the Vine (Ferguson) and St. Peter's (Ladue). Our prayers also continue for all veterans and those who are currently serving in the military, especially:

Sgt. Omar Fernandes (Brantley)-United States Air Force
Captain Jovonny Carrion-United States Army
Staff Sgt. Ashley Cole-United States Air Force
Captain Steven C. Roberts, II – United States Air Force Reserve
The Rev. Jamal Scarlett-Lieutenant Commander and Navy Chaplain
Major Christopher Westfall-United States Air Force

We will keep the practice of keeping names on our prayer list for six weeks. If you would like to include someone on our prayer list, please fill out a 'Prayer Request Form' located at the Ushers' station. Thank you!

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Please note that during the summer months our Wednesday Evening Prayer and Thursday Morning Bible Study groups will be on hiatus until the Fall. We'll see you then!

STRATEGIC PLAN AND LOGO

Last Sunday our Senior Warden, Gaylard Williams, introduced our strategic plan for 2026 and beyond. If you did not receive a booklet, please pick one up as you leave today. Also, as part of our re-branding efforts we are asking parishioners to help us pick out a new logo! Please see an usher for a sheet and circle or place a check mark next to the one you like best. Today is the last day of voting.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES OF 2026

Deacon Valerie E. Patton, B.B.A., M.A., M.S.W., M.A.P.S., D.H.L.

On May 15, 2026, Webster Alumna Valerie Eugenia Patton '82 received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Webster University. She is a lifelong Episcopalian and member of All Saints and Ascension. Patton has an extensive record of public service in the St. Louis region, serving as a deacon, professor, business executive, and board member to numerous non-profit organizations. She also helped many local companies develop inclusive business practices. Her ministry passions include, but are not limited to, food insecurity, education, social justice, and community engagement. She holds degrees from Howard University, Washington University in St. Louis, and Eden Theological Seminary. She loves travel, the arts, taking long walks, and hanging out with those she loves.

Camryn Moore, daughter of Ebony Crittenden and granddaughter of Joyce Crittenden, is graduating from Washington University in St. Louis with a Bachelor's degree in Biology with Specialization in Genomics and Computational Biology and a minor in Spanish. During her time at Washington University, she has been involved in research, mentoring, tutoring, and service. She has also studied abroad in Chile, where she gained clinical and cultural experience working with patients in an indigenous traditional medicine clinic. After graduation, Camryn plans to continue gaining clinical experience as she prepares to apply to medical school.

Sydney Smith is a 2026 graduate of Spelman College in Atlanta. Sydney graduated with a major in mathematics. She is currently doing an internship at a hospital in Atlanta with hopes of one day becoming an IVF physician with her focus being the care for people of color. Sydney is the oldest daughter of our adopted family!

REMEMBER OUR ADOPTED FAMILY

Please remember our adopted family in the new year! Our family consists of a single mother and her two daughters, ages 19 and 22. Let us continue our monetary fund to help pay for repairs to their home. We can provide food and personal items, and gift cards to stores such as Schnuck's, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, Kohl's, and Aldi's. "Whatever you do to the least of them; you do unto me (Matthew 25:40)."

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION SUNDAY

Today as we celebrate our graduates, we also recognize Gun Violence Prevention Sunday in the diocese. On this day, we are called to honor gun violence survivors, remember gun violence

victims, and the call for meaningful action to save lives in our prayers. Don't worry if you forgot to wear orange. Just see an usher for an orange ribbon!

CAMP FIREBIRD 2026

Registration for Camp Firebird 2026 is now open and filling quickly for both campers and counselors. Camp dates are July 26–31. Scholarships are available through the Diocese (please indicate need on the registration form). Co-directors Erin Pickersgill and Katrina Moore are available to give more information and answer questions. Please go to the Diocese of Missouri website or reach out at mocampfirebird@gmail.com.

BUS TRIP TO BRANSON

We are invited to take a bus trip to Branson, MO to see the Sight and Sound production of the stage play, "David" this September! K and K Tiger Travel (Karen and Kem Mosley) invite you on their bus trip September 11-September 12, 2026. The cost is \$350 which includes transportation, a one-night hotel stay, two shows ("David" and "Downtown Motown"), two meals, and lots of fun and fellowship. For more information, please see available brochures or contact Karen at 314-450-6503 or email her at kandktigertravel@gmail.com.

SEEKING NEW MEDIA LEADER(S)

By the end of 2026, I will be stepping down from my roles managing the ASA website, weekly email blast, and outdoor sign display. We are now seeking one or more individuals to take the lead in managing these communication ministries—whether all three areas or just one. If you feel called to work in this ministry to ASSURE THAT THESE SERVICES ARE NOT DISCONTINUED AT ASA, please [contact me](#). *Sanford Hamilton*

ASA FOOD MINISTRY – FEED THE NEED

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ! Thank you for your generosity in feeding our brothers and sisters in the beloved community who are food-insecure! The need is becoming increasingly significant as we continue to partner with the Urban League and as decisions are made in our national government. We want the following items to restock our food pantry:

Paper Products

Paper Towels

Toiletries

Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Deodorant

Canned Vegetables or Meal

Chili, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Vegetables, Corn, Carrots, Peas, Baked Beans, Great Northern Beans, Chicken Noodle Soup, Vegetable Soup

Canned or Packet Meat or Protein

Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken Breast, Vienna Sausage, Spam, Luncheon Loaf

Starches

Mac and Cheese, Rice, Spaghetti

Breakfast

Packaged cereal (oatmeal, grits, Cream of Wheat)

When purchasing canned items, please consider getting pull-tops, as many do not have can openers. *Deacon Valerie*

SIBLING SUPPORT NETWORK

Do not forget that help is there for those dealing with the loss of a sibling due to violent crime. For more info and survey, please go to: [sibling support network.org](http://sibling-support-network.org) or contact Cheeraz Gormon for more information – cgormon@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please consider sponsoring the altar flowers for a Sunday Eucharist. Your sponsorship will allow us to make our worship space beautiful. You can make a dedication to your deceased loved ones or give recognition to living loved ones or in thanksgiving for God's blessings. Check out our website for a form or see an usher!

COFFEE HOUR/FELLOWSHIP SIGN UP

Coffee Hour allows us time to fellowship with each other after Sunday Eucharist. Thank you to those who have sponsored a Coffee Hour so far this year! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you find yourself unable to host by yourself, please think about signing up with another parishioner to provide treats. Refreshments may consist of fruits, pastries/Danish, juice, coffee, tea, and other goodies. **Please note that hosts are also responsible for cleanup.**

COMPLETING OFFERING ENVELOPES

PLEASE HELP make the Tellers' job a lot easier by doing the following:

- Write your name on each envelope.
- Write your number on the envelope if you are not using the one assigned to you.
- See Deborah Dukes or Betty Brown if you do not remember your number.
- If you are writing a check, include the check number in the top right corner.
- If you are paying with cash, please write "Cash" in the top right corner instead of a check number.
- Use one envelope for one donation.
- If your donation is for anything other than your pledge, PLEASE, include on the envelope what it is for, i.e., ECW Dues, Men's Club, etc.

INITIAL OFFERING

All parishioners are asked to contribute at least \$5.00 to the "Initial Offering" Fund to help defray the cost of the new envelopes that were purchased for this year. Use the blue and white envelope that says "Initial Offering" or indicate it on your envelope. Thank you.

PAYPAL

Did you forget to bring your pledge with you to church? Or perhaps you cannot attend Sunday morning service. Then you should consider using Pay Pal to send in your pledge/contribution. It's fast, easy, and a guaranteed safe way to contribute. Some of our parishioners are already taking advantage of this service. For more information, go to our website and click on the "Connect Tab" and then click on "Online Contributions."

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