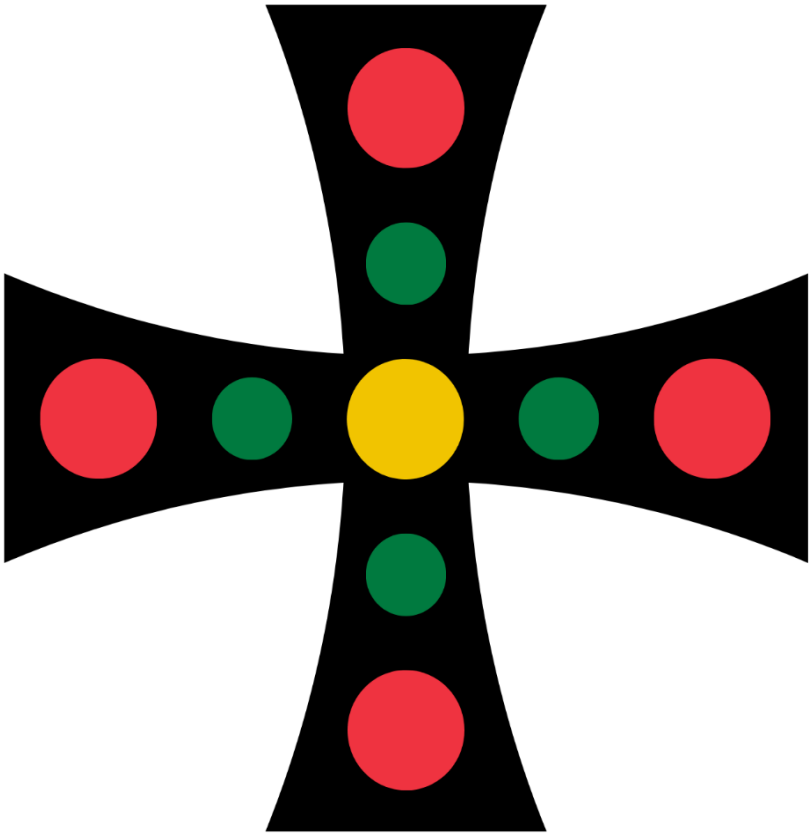


THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF

ALL SAINTS AND ASCENSION

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Men's Day

November 8, 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.

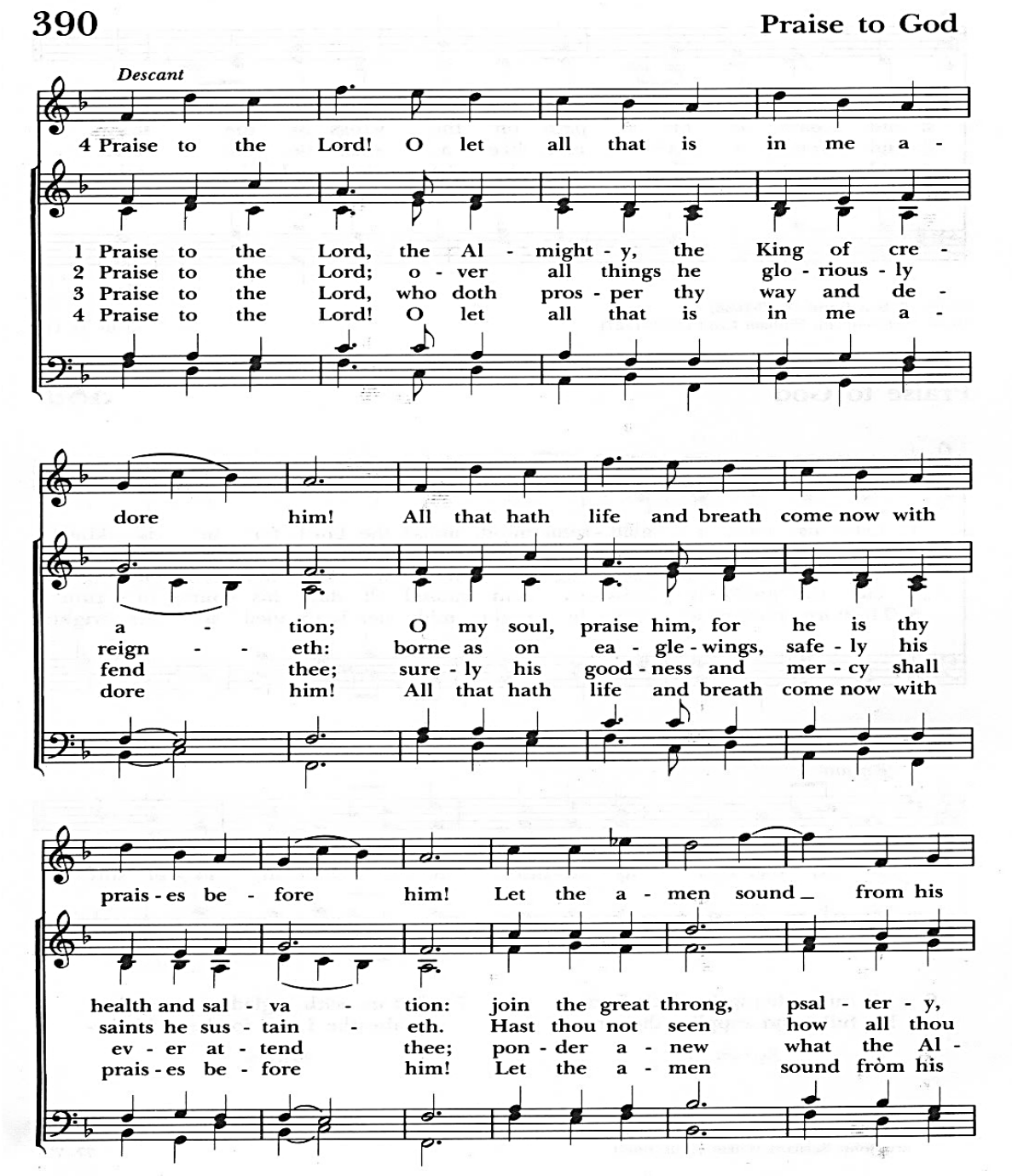
God brought you here! Welcome home.

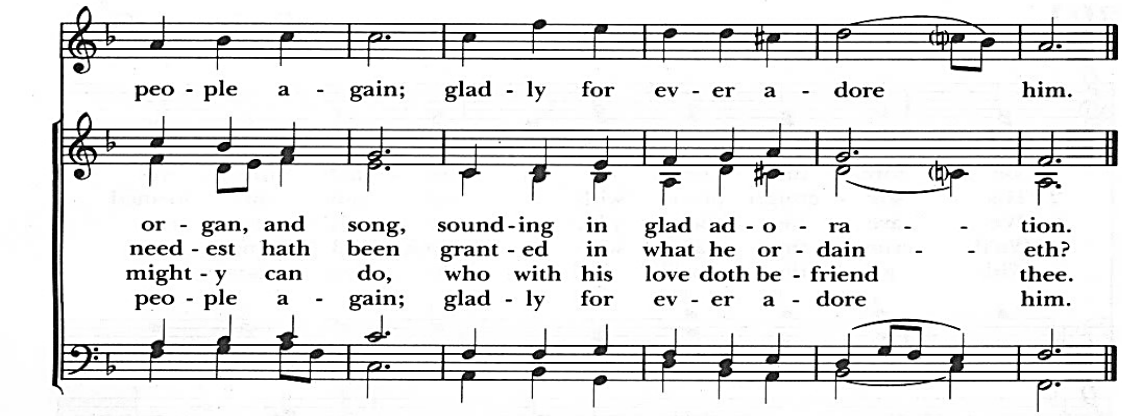
GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG/MUSIC





Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.
Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665;
harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971) 14 14. 478

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

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" (sung)*

Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name,

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,

Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name.

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 the Father.

Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, Lord we praise your Holy name.
A--------men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Presider O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 Spirt of Truth guide us. Let us hear once more the stories of our redemption.***
All are seated.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOSHUA 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

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

THE PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 78:1-7

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

A READING FROM PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in

the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN

TRUSTING THE TRIUNE GOD

363 Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine



THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:1-13

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, O Christ.***
Deacon Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

REFLECTION Mr. Cory Dancy

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.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III

Deacon With faith and in hope, we bring our prayers and petitions to you, O God.

Loving God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially those on our prayer lists.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

For the future we cannot yet see: Give us faith when we are tempted to fear, freedom when we cling to what was, and patience when we cannot see what you are doing. Place in our hands the tambourine for the journey, the song, the practice, and the joy that will sustain us.

Spirit of God, give us courage to rise.

Presider Gracious God, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***

Deacon Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

All ***God our Creator, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins and deliver us from the power of evil. For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.***

Presider God, who is both power and love, forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit and raise you to new life in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. ***Amen and Ashe'.***

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Presider Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Center Of My Joy - Richard Smallwood

Words & Music : Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither, Richard Smallwood

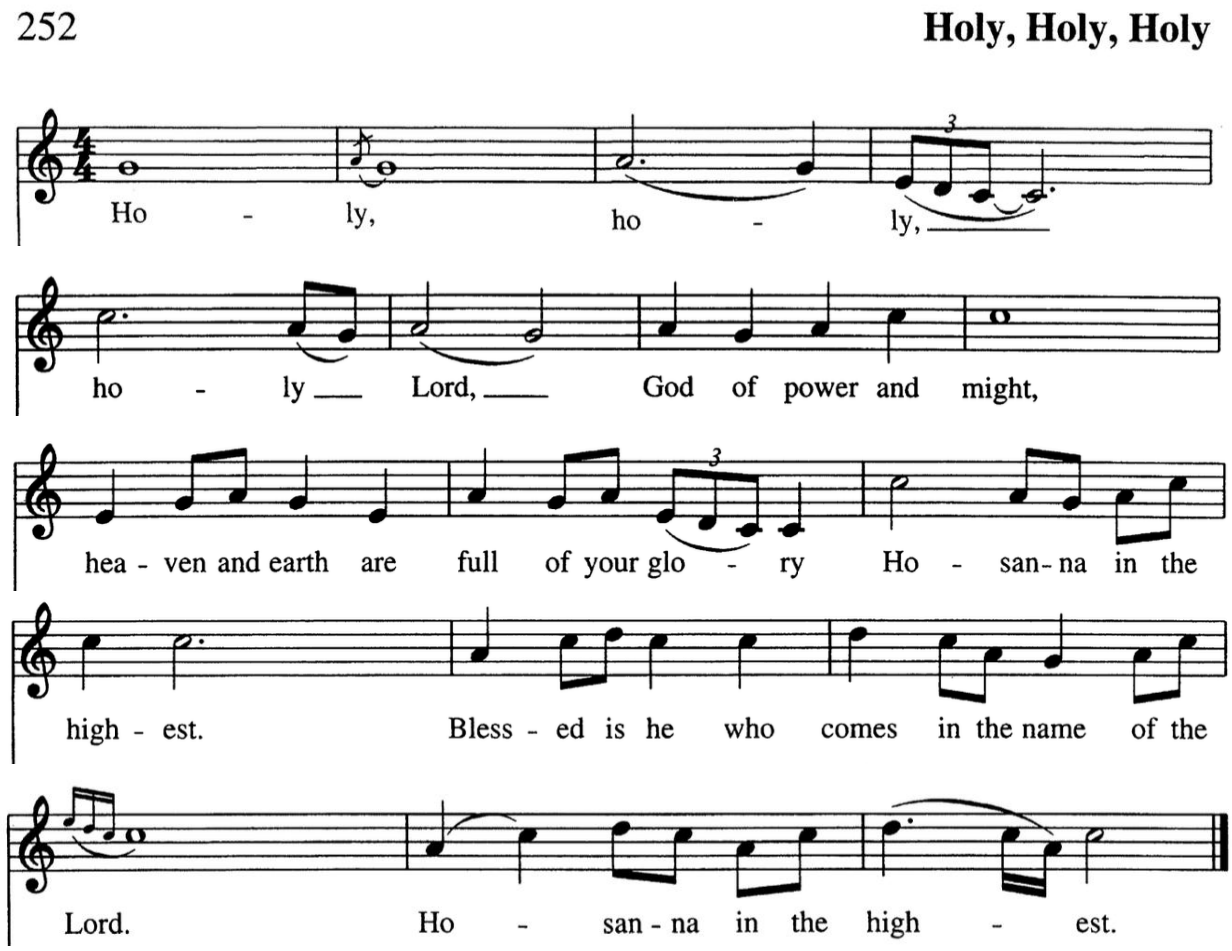


EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II *(Enriching Our Worship)*

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 We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Presider and People "Holy, Holy, Holy"



The Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with [_____ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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" *(Traditional melody, 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 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

LAMB OF GOD *(sung)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take 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



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'.





ANNUAL MEN'S DAY PROGRAM

November 8, 2026

PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES	WILLIAM YOUNG
HISTORY OF ASA MEN'S CLUB	MICHAEL WATSON
MUSICAL SELECTION "We've Come This Far By Faith"	MALE CHORUS
INTRODUCTION OF OUR SPEAKER	GAYLARD WILLIAMS
GUEST SPEAKER	CORY DANCY
ASA MAN OF THE YEAR INTRODUCTION	STANLEY JOHNSON
CLOSING REMARKS	STANLEY JOHNSON

PLEASE JOIN THE MEN OF THE CLUB DOWNSTAIRS FOR A LIGHT MEAL AFTER OUR WORSHIP

THE BLESSING

Presider Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those whom we love or those who walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind and may the Divine Mystery that is beyond our ability to know be your companion along the way. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the grace of Christ the Son and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN



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. Amen and Ashe'.***

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.

People ***Thanks be to God!***

TODAY'S LITURGICAL LEADERS

Presider
The Rev. Renee L. Fenner, Priest-in-Charge

Deacon
The Rev. Dr. Dn. Valerie E. Patton

Worship Leader
Margarett Williams

Reader
Machelle West

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 Machelle 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)
Junior Warden-Betty Brown

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

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

Alternate Delegate
Donna Black (2027)



LIFTING UP OUR VOICES

"Unless we start to fight and defeat the enemies in our own country, poverty and racism… we are exposed in the eyes of the world as hypocrites."

— Shirley Chisholm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LISTS

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

Cline H. Booker
Bessie L. Carter
Michael and Janice Griffin
Shanna Kar and Family
Johnetta Martin
Helen Owens
Marion Robinson
James Williams, Sr.
Canon Desiree Brattin
Bessie Clemmons
Stella Hughes
Winifred Lemmie
Avis McGhee
Betty Patton
Florence Ross
Bill Young
Harold Briggs
Rick Earley
Marvalda Jones
Regina Lewis
Diana Oliver
Everette Quinn
Lisa Shelley

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 Javonny 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!

CELLPHONE REMINDER

Friends, just a quick reminder to turn off or silence your cellphones as you get settled for Sunday service. Unless "Jesus Is Calling" as the hymn goes, your ringtone is distracting worship.

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour is sometimes referred to as an extension of the service. It's a time to relax and enjoy fellowship and food with church friends. We are extremely grateful for our Hospitality Team that provides refreshments on the 1st Sunday of each month and at other times when needed. As we enter the fall term, we are asking others to step up as well by volunteering to host a gathering. The signup sheet is on the board near the ushers' station. Your offering does not have to be anything elaborate-coffee, tea, juice, cookies, doughnuts or fruit. Or you can be as fancy as you please! Don't want to host alone? Pair up with someone else! Come about 30 minutes early to set

the serving table (s) and start the coffee. There are plenty of paper plates, cups, napkins, plastic cutlery and tablecloths (although you might want to check before your scheduled (Sunday). And with a few helping hands, cleanup can be a breeze! Please consider this extended ministry so that we can get to know each other better!

PLEASE JOIN US

Please join us for Sunday Eucharist at 9am and Tuesday Eucharist at Noon. Wednesday Evening Prayer begins on Zoom at 6pm. And Thursday Morning Bible Study begins at 10am on Zoom.

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 12. 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 Schnucks, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, Kohls, and Aldi's. Uber gift cards would also be appreciated. "Whatever you do to the least of them, you do unto me (Matthew 23:40)".

TRUNK OR TREAT THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that helped make our annual Trunk or Treat a success! We had 302 children and 163 adults making a total of 465 serviced. -Carla Banks

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Did you move to a new address this past year? Change your phone number? Get a new email address? Then be aware that we have begun updating our member's contact data in preparation for the 2027 church directory. Please submit any updates of your contact information made over the past year. Send your changes to Sanford Hamilton by Monday, Nov. 30.

SOCKTOBER

As part of our Community Outreach, the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) has begun collecting socks. We request and appreciate your donations of clean new pairs of socks of all sizes for adults and children. Feel free to drop off your donations into the box marked for sock donations in the parish hall on Sundays, or on Monday thru Wednesday during normal parish business hours. If you have questions, contact Deborah Dukes.

CONVOCATION IS HOSTING CONVENTION

Our Emery Washington Convocation is hosting this year's Diocesan Convention which will be held November 12-14. There are roles available for sign up during our in-person time together on Saturday, November14. Many of them center around the Eucharist (vergers, crucifers, psalmist, readers, Prayers of the People, ushers, and more). Hosts are also needed to assist people navigate the convention space. To sign up, please see the Emery Washington Convocation Newsletter or contact Convocation Dean, the Rev. Tom Albinson at talbinson@csmsg.org.

THE 187TH DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Mark your calendars for the 187th Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, taking place November 12–14, 2026, at Manchester United Methodist. Drawing inspiration from Jesus' Great Commission in Matthew 28, Bishop Deon K. Johnson invites the people of the diocese to gather

for a time of prayer, discernment, storytelling, and renewal as we continue to explore what it means to be a Church that is sent into the world to share God's love, hope, and healing.

Convention will once again include both virtual business sessions and opportunities for in-person gathering. Delegates are expected to participate in both, and all members of the diocesan household are warmly encouraged to take part in the in-person events. Voices from across the diocese are also invited to participate in the Convention Choir on Saturday, November 14, at 10:30 a.m. Under the leadership of Cathedral Director of Music Dr. Connor Scott, diocesan choirs will join together in a combined choir for this special celebration.

Nominations are now open for Diocesan Leadership! The Committee for Nominations and Election Procedures is working to identify suitable clergy and especially laypersons to run for the positions of Cathedral Chapter, Diocesan Council, Disciplinary Board, and Standing Committee. Questions can be referred to the Rev. Dave Malek: rector@stbarnabasstl.org.

Watch for additional information regarding registration, resolutions, nominations, and other important Convention updates.

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*

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER

Please join us at 6:00pm for prayer! We spend approximately 35-40 minutes on Wednesday evenings in prayer, which includes a segment where we focus on ASA, the community around it, those who need our help, etc. Evening Prayer is a calming experience to provide those who need to relax from the busy workday or personal issues of the day or week. Although there is a leader

for the evening, each person usually takes a part, such as a reading, during that time. We rotate leaders each week.

ASA Evening Prayer (Every Wednesday 6pm-7:15pm September 2026 to May 2027)

<contact parish office for Zoom login info>

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held every Thursday at 10:00 am via Zoom. This year Bible Study will focus on three books of the Bible: The Gospel of John, Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, and the Book of James. The character of God is on full display in the Gospel of John. It will help us to know our Savior more and deepen our faith in HIM. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians makes for a great study for it overflows with truth about who we are in Christ, our blessings through Christ, and how this should affect our lives as his church. The Book of James offers direct, practical wisdom for everyday Christian living. It challenges believers to match their words with actions, care for the needy, and to persevere through trials. Please join us! - *Joyce Crittenden, Leader*

ASA Bible Study (Every Thursday 10am-11am September 2026 to May 2026)

<contact parish office for Zoom login info>

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 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!

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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