



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Third Sunday After Pentecost, Proper 6, Year A
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10 am
June 14, 2026

405 Talbot Hall Road
Norfolk, Virginia 23505
(757) 423-6715

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

“Draw Me Close”

Kelly Carpenter

Processional Hymn

“O Zion, Haste”

Blue Hymnal 539

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

“Glory to God”

Blue Hymnal S-280

Collect and Lessons

Book of Common Prayer p. 357

The Collect

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Old Testament

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Psalm

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my
supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called
upon him.

10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

The Old Testament Epistle

Romans 5:1-8

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sequence Hymn

“Spread O Spread, Thou Mighty Word”

Blue Hymnal 530

The Gospel

Matthew 9:35-10:23

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Reverend John Baldwin

Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

Prayers of the People Form III

Book of Common Prayer p. 387

The Ascension Discernment Prayer

(Recited together at the end of the Prayers of the People)

O God of wisdom and guidance,

We ask that you lead our parish in this season of discernment.

Bless our Search Committee with clarity,

Bless our Vestry with faithfulness,

And bless our whole congregation with patience and hope.

**May the Holy Spirit guide and instill in the people of Ascension a
glorious vision of the future.**

**And finally, we ask that You prepare the priest You are calling
to join us,**

and prepare us to welcome them and serve together in your name.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Book of Common Prayer p. 359

The Peace

Book of Common Prayer p. 360

Holy Communion

Offertory

“Guide My Feet”

Maroon Hymnal 684

Eucharistic Prayer B

Book of Common Prayer p. 367

Sanctus

Blue Hymnal S-125

The Lord’s Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 364

Breaking of the Bread

Book of Common Prayer p. 364

Communion*

Communion Hymn

“I Come with Joy”

Blue Hymnal 304

Post Eucharistic Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 365

Recessional Hymn

“The Summons”

Maroon Hymnal 687

Dismissal

Book of Common Prayer p. 366

Postlude

“Viennese Sonatina No. 1 First Movement”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**You may come to the rail to receive communion or a blessing. Communion wine may be received from the common cup or by intinction. If you choose intinction, please hold the bread up for the Lay Eucharistic Minister to take it from you who will dip it in the second cup and return it. If coming for a blessing, or if not receiving the communion wine, simply approach the rail and cross your arms over your chest.*

In Our Prayers

Joe Beck, Susan Beers, Gloria Carter, Billy Clark, Linda Day, Marilyn Doughty, Elaine Evans, Diane Forrest, William Grygar, Kate Hien, Rebecca Hirschler, Katie Hughes, Sharon Jones, Bryan Knight, Sally Miller, Phoebe Montagna, Alessandra Myers, Shana Paul, Sydney Rudolph, Linda Sawyer, Diane Shepheard, Doug Thompson, Courtney Wheeler, and Margaret Wynn.

We pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Susan our Bishop, and John, our Guest Priest.

We pray for the people of Ascension, that formed by our Baptismal promises we might embody God's community of Shalom in the world.

We give thanks for the blessings of this life.

We give thanks for the birthdays of Bennett English (6/19) and Doug Thompson (6/19).

We give thanks for our buildings and grounds volunteers.

The Ascension Discernment Prayer

O God of wisdom and guidance,

We ask that you lead our parish in this season of discernment.

Bless our Search Committee with clarity,

Bless our Vestry with faithfulness,

And bless our whole congregation with patience and hope.

May the Holy Spirit guide and instill in the people of Ascension a glorious vision of the future.

And finally, we ask that You prepare the priest You are calling to join us,

and prepare us to welcome them and serve together in your name.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

We welcome The Reverend John Baldwin as our supply celebrant and preacher this morning.

We give thanks to Karla Stead for playing the piano for us this morning. Welcome Karla!

June 21st Service: Next Sunday we will have Morning Prayer (No Eucharist). Look forward to spending time in really focusing on the words we hear, read, pray, and sing. Katherine Lawrence will be the Worship Leader.

ROMEOs & JULIETs: The ROMEOs and JULIETs will join together for food, fun, and fellowship on Friday, June 26th at Surf Rider East Beach (9500 30th Bay St. Norfolk, VA, 23518). They'll meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP by calling or texting Donna Killmon at 757-270-5094.

Columbarium Visiting Hours: To help us better accommodate visits and ensure the church office is available to assist as needed, the Columbarium will be open for visitation Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If you would like to visit outside of these hours, we kindly ask that you contact the church office in advance so that special arrangements can be made. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we continue to care for this sacred space and all who visit their loved ones here.

Breakfast with Jesus -Throughout the summer, adults will gather at 9am for coffee and goodies to discuss the scripture for the day. We will have a nursery from 9-11am all summer. We will not have Godly Play until the fall.

Chanco Chatter

Chanco on the James has been named a 2026 Best of Virginia winner for Sleepover Summer Camp! This honor reflects the vibrant community that makes Chanco such a special place — campers, families, staff, alumni, and supporters whose enthusiasm and dedication continue to shape unforgettable summers along the James River. At Chanco, camp is more than a summer experience. It is a place where young people grow in confidence, build lasting friendships, and encounter joy, faith, and community in meaningful ways. Registration for Summer 2026 is open, and sessions are filling quickly. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of the camp community that earned this statewide recognition. The countdown to summer memories has begun — reserve your camper's spot today! To register, visit <https://chanco.org/camps/camp-info/>

Creation Care

Thanks for participating in our trial recycling program! You can mix all your items together in your collection box. Drop off your items during office hours at DIOSOVA 11832 Rock Landing Drive Suite 100, Newport News (M-F 9-3) or Church of the Ascension 405 Talbot Hall Road, Norfolk (M-Th 9am-12pm). Ascension will also have a small outdoor collection box in their outdoor breezeway beginning April 2026. You can also mail your box to:

Attn: Creation Care Team, 405 Talbot Hall Road, Norfolk, VA 23505.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN BE RECYCLED

- **BEAUTY PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING** - Empty Cosmetic, Hair & Skin Care Packaging including Aluminized Tubes, Cosmetic Cases & Sticks, Plastic Packaging
Unacceptable Items: Aerosol & Pressurized Cans, Cardboard, Electronic Items, Nail Polish Bottles & Removers, Partially Full & Full Packaging, Perfume Bottles, Wood & Bamboo, Wooden Eyeliner Pencils
- **PENS, PENCILS & MARKERS** - Pens, Pencils (non-wood), Highlighters, Markers & Caps, Mechanical Pencils, Pen & Pen Caps, Permanent Markers & Caps. Unacceptable Items: Paint Brushes, Wooden Pencils

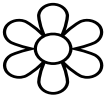
- **BOTTLE CAPS** – Metal & Plastic Drink Bottle Caps Unacceptable Items: Bottles, Packaging, Liquids
- **WATER FILTERS** - Any Brand & Any Size Water Filters Unacceptable Items: Air Filters, Oil Filters
- **CONTACT LENSES & PACKAGING** - Contact Lenses, Plastic Film, Pods, And Cardboard Packaging Unacceptable Items: Contact Lens Solution, Bottles
- **ORAL CARE WASTE & PACKAGING** - Floss Containers, Toothbrush & Toothpaste Outer Packaging, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste Tubes & Caps Unacceptable Items: Floss, Other Oral Waste Care Items
- **COFFEE BAGS** – Empty Coffee Bags Unacceptable Items: Capsules, Coffee Grounds, Discs, Filters, Coffee Electronics, Other Coffee Packaging
- **CORKS** – Synthetic Beverage Corks Unacceptable Items: Natural Corks, Aluminum Champagne Twists, Bottle Caps, Bottles, Foil, Screw Tops
- **STRAWS** – Any Size Plastic Straws Unacceptable Items: Paper Straws, Biodegradable Straws
- **DISPOSABLE CUPS & LIDS** – Paper Coated Cups, Plastic Cups, Plastic Lids Disposable Cups
& Lids that have been rinsed and dried Unacceptable Items: Biodegradable Plastic Cups & Lids, Juice Boxes & Pouches. Other Rigid Plastic Containers
- **GLUE STICKS & BOTTLES** – Empty Craft Glue Stick Containers & Empty Glue Bottles
Unacceptable Items: Industrial Adhesive Containers

Questions – contact Canon Lynn Farlin at 757-676-6188 or lfarlin@diosova.org



Outreach, Collections, & Opportunities:

Catholic Worker Needs: As the rainy season comes to an end and warmer summer temperatures begin to arrive, there is an increased need for seasonal items to help everyone stay comfortable and prepared. Currently, we are especially in need of t-shirts, Gatorade, and white crew socks with full tops rather than low-cut tennis-style socks. These items would be greatly appreciated and will help meet the needs of those we serve during the summer months. Thank you so much for your kindness and support!



Sunday Seeds

Below are just a few of the ways Ascension is serving our community:

- Each month, members of our church family lovingly prepare 100 sandwiches, which are delivered to Catholic Worker for distribution to those experiencing homelessness.
- **Challenge:** Before your child visits or spends the night at a friend's home, ask whether firearms are present in the house and whether they are stored securely and locked. It may feel like a difficult conversation, but it is an important step in helping keep children safe.

Please watch for upcoming volunteer opportunities—we welcome your participation and support!

Reminder: The deadline for announcements is Tuesday at 5pm. Announcements received after that time may not make it into the bulletin or the emailed announcements.

Weekly Studies:

Tuesday Centering Prayer meets at 7:45am on Tuesdays on Zoom for one hour. The meeting opens at 7:30 for chatting, then at 7:45 we proceed with the reading of a psalm, 20 minutes of silent prayer/meditation followed by a discussion of the reading. The group is currently reading *After the Apple: Women in the Bible - Timeless Stories of Love, Lust, and Longing* by Naomi Harris Rosenblatt. We are a diverse group with members joining from three countries and various religious backgrounds. You are invited to join us at any time. To get on the Zoom invite list, please contact Anji Harris (anjiharris54@gmail.com) or Sally Miller (757-489-5293) or samiller903@yahoo.com).

Re-Imagining Church meets on **Thursdays at 12pm**. The meeting serves as a time of spiritual reflection and planning as we listen for and try to follow God's call to Ascension. Please join us; your perspective may be how God is informing us of what we should be doing next.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88559209322?pwd=BubDI0FA8IXIwryikkt4Jito7gq0r.1>

Meeting ID: 885 5920 9322 **Passcode:** 346720

Thursday Mid-Morning Seekers' Bible Study will watch a video, read scripture passages, and discuss the questions together. I recommend joining the meeting early in case you have any issues getting connected. I hope to see everyone on Thursday at 10:00 am! If you are not on the email group or have trouble accessing the Zoom, please contact Susan Meredith at merbec@cox.net or [757-617-1959](tel:757-617-1959).

Meeting ID: 832 5615 4914 **Passcode:** 614216

A Look at the Week Ahead:

Tuesday

7:30 am Centering Prayer – Zoom

10:00 am Food Pantry – Pantry

11:30 am Buildings & Grounds – Rose Hall

7:00 pm Vestry Meeting – Conference Room

Thursday

10:00 am Food Pantry – Pantry

10:00 am Mid-Morning Seekers' Bible Study – Zoom

12:00 pm Re-Imagining Church – Zoom

Sunday

9:00 am Breakfast with Jesus – Hall for Coffee Then Lounge
(Nursery from 9-11am)

10:00 am Morning Prayer Service (No Eucharist) – Sanctuary

OUR VISION IS

Honoring the Past
Looking Forward in Hope
Be the Face of Healing
Healing is the Core Value

Your Vestry is here to serve you!

Susan Meredith*	2024-2026	merbec@cox.net	757.617.1959
Anji Harris+	2023-2026	Anjiharris54@gmail.com	757.831.3474
Pat Duncan	2023-2026	Patlduncan2020@gmail.com	478.777.0904
Karen Newbern^	2024-2027	newby0325@gmail.com	757.685.6935
Luke Suber	2024-2027	lukesuber@yahoo.com	361.779.7216
Carol Evans	2024-2027	cevens1017@gmail.com	757.335.1774
Robin Kruger	2025-2028	Rekruger54@gmail.com	757.470.9882

*Senior Warden +Junior Warden ^Register

Clergy

Bishop The Right Reverend Susan Haynes

Supply Priest The Reverend John Baldwin

Guest Pianist Karla Stead

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