



E-Messenger May 9, 2024

*Come and worship
Rejoice in fellowship
Love and serve the Lord!*



Photo from Tom Hobin

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20).

Dear All Saints' Family,

Today we celebrate Ascension Day, a principal feast in the church. Ascension is hard to explain with words. Sometimes words do not do an event justice; they just get in the way. How to picture the risen Lord's final leave-taking as a being on earth? Mark, Matthew, and John don't put a description into words. Luke and Luke's Acts offer a marvelous rendering of Jesus' Ascension. What we celebrate is an empowered Jesus with the Father in heaven.

Healing miracles are easy to see. There is a "before" and "after". One is blind and then one can see. One can't walk and one can walk. One is sick and then better. They happen to humans in our material, physical lives whether we are aware or not. Some miracles are quite well known. A couple dropped in to the church at the end of our Healing Service a week ago Wednesday. They were awed by the majesty, striking colors, and height of the interior. The woman told me the story of a miracle in 18th century Italy that she remembered from her youth.

Then there are miracles of reconciliation - graces that may only be experienced by two people and mostly not made known to others. I highly recommend the movie *Miracle Club* (Netflix). It reminds of the powerful healing presence of God in the ongoing miracles of reconciliation that happen every day in our lives.

Jesus' ascension is one of those immense mysteries of reconciliation. Ascension is part of Jesus' life story. In the Eucharistic prayer we celebrate the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. Jesus' incarnation, resurrection, and ascension are all part of the mystery of the great reconciliation, earth and heaven; God's time and human time; the risen Lord present to us in the details of life, in our death, in heaven, the paradise of God, the Peace, Light, and Joy beyond all we inhabit now.

Our final reconciliation with God in heaven is part of our life story. Ascension draws us closer into the mystery of death - life in Christ in our lives now, in our baptism, as we die, and beyond death. The ongoing miracle of reconciliation that happens over and over in our lives continues when we die. The incarnate, the risen and ascended Lord meets us, fills us, carries us, breathes then Spirit of love into us, now and forever.

Ascension may raise questions for you. Sit with those questions. You may

not get explanation, but in sitting with the risen and ascended Lord, you will experience grace, peace, and comfort. You may want to reflect on Jesus words at the conclusion of Matthew's Gospel: "*And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*"

Collect: Ascension Day

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Easter Peace,

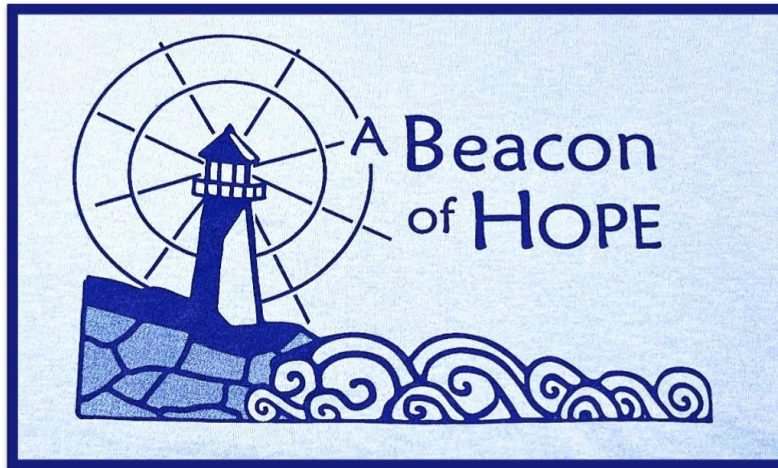
Julie

All are warmly welcome to join our Sunday Service of Holy Eucharist in-person, on Facebook, or via zoom at 9:30 am.

Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85484006164?pwd=ZzAvZVFUM2pKek0rMGVzMFFEcIFiUT09>

The Service program may be found [here](#).



Outreach News



Mothers' Day Bake Sale food items may be picked up in Rose Hall this Sunday, May 12th following our Service.

Monthly Food Collection: This month we are collecting cold cereal although any non-perishable food items are most welcome. Thank you for your generosity!

Wednesday Noonday Prayer and Movie, May 15

Next Wednesday, May 15 all are welcome to join Noonday Prayer followed by a movie at 12:00 pm (in Rose Hall).

May 12

First Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Musa Goll

Response: Psalm 1 Chimmy Amaechina

Second Reading: 1 John 5:19-13 Cora Nagle

Gospel: John 17:6-19

Prayers of the People: Becky Silliman

Chalice: Tom Hobin

Acolyte: Eric Hirsch

Altar Guild: Pattie, Sandy, and Julie

May 19

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Tom Hobin

Response: Psalm 104:25-35,37

Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21 Anne Tait

Gospel: John 15:26-27;16:4b-15

Prayers of the People: Chip Smith

Chalice: Barbara Badio

Acolyte: Dan Mechnig

Altar Guild: April and Alex

Upcoming Events

May 12: Outreach Bake Sale Delivery

**May 15: Noonday Prayer and Faith Inquirers,
12:00pm, Rose Hall**

May 15: Choir Practice

May 18: Garden Work Morning, 9-10:30

May 19: Vestry Meeting following the Service

June 9: Facilities Meeting

Prayers

We pray for our fellow parishioners Derek, Gus, Victor, Gloria, and Wilmar; and for Dorothea Evans Gordon, Naida Thomas, Lusaynie Sirleaf, John Flinton, James, Rachael, Eva McBorrow, Jennifer, Carla, Sawyer L., Elizabeth Pacek, Calie, Ivy, John Dunning, Clara Hutchins, Andrew, Mary Carter, Karen, and Billy.

We pray for those who work for peace in the armed forces especially Hannah Makuch.

We pray for those who celebrate birthdays this week especially Cora Nagle.

We pray for young adults in our congregation - Willcia, Victor, Roma, Kojo, Anne Marie, Sarah, Fatima, Raheem, and Sommie; we pray for Derrick and Natalya who are soon to graduate from high school. May they know the Lord's steadfast presence and love in all

that they do.

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Websites:

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Charlotte Burgess
Ryan Mott
Eric Hirsch
Gloria Perry
Kardi Draper
Pattie Marshall



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