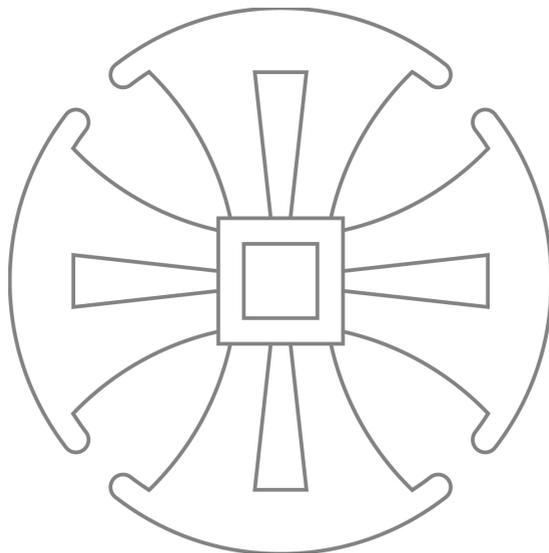


August 23, 2020 at 10am

Pentecost 12



A Liturgy of the Word

Livestream at [Zoom](#) or
watch later on [Facebook](#)



ASCENSION

*We gather on the traditional territory of the
Algonquin Anishinabe Nation.*

Church of the Ascension
253 Echo Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1xS 1N3
613-236-3958
churchoftheascension.ca

The Rev'd Rhonda Waters Incumbent
rhonda@churchoftheascension.ca

Opening Hymn

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

I know that my Redeemer lives.
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead.
He lives, my ever-living Head.

He lives and quiets all my fears.
He lives and wipes away my tears.
He lives and calms my troubled heart.
He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, my kind, wise heav'nly Friend.
He lives and loves me to the end.
He lives, and while he lives, I'll sing.
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

Opening Prayers and Penitential Rite

God is with us

O come, let us worship!

Although we have come together in digital space, we each stand in place on solid ground that is the ancestral territory of peoples who were here long before the Europeans crossed the ocean.

I live in the City of Ottawa which is located on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people.

On whose territory do you live?

Silence

Let us pray,

Loving God,

help us to live respectfully on these lands, seeking justice and peace. Help us to pray to you in faith, to sing to you with

gratitude, and to listen to your word with eagerness; so that we might follow Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence

God knows the innermost workings of our hearts and God's love does not fail.

Confident, therefore, in God's faithfulness, let us confess our own sins and those of our broken world.

We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us; some escape us, some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us; set us free to serve you.

God brings new life for all. You are forgiven. Take hold of this forgiveness and

live your life in the Spirit of Jesus Christ to bring God's healing to the world. **Amen.**

Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Repeat

First Reading – Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace

given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches

Thanks be to God

Psalm 67

Psalm 138

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.

Though you are high, you care for the
lowly;
you perceive the haughty from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you
keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the
fury of my enemies; your mighty hand shall
save me.
O Lord, you will make good your purpose
for me;
your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Repeat

The Gospel – Matthew 15:21-28

God is here

The Spirit is with us

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the

gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Sermon

Hymn – Blessed Jesus at your Word

Blessed Jesus, at your word

we are gathered all to hear you.

Let our hearts and souls be stirred

now to seek and love and fear you.

By your gospel pure and holy,

teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks our night
with your beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us,
you must work all good within us.

Glorious Lord, your self impart!
Light of light, from God proceeding,
open lips and ears and heart,
help us by your Spirit's leading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and praises!

Affirmation of Faith

Together, let us affirm our faith:

**Hear, O Israel the Lord our God, the Lord
is one. Love the Lord your God with all
your heart, with all your soul, with all your
mind, and with all your strength. This is**

**the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it: Love your neighbour
as yourself. There is no commandment
greater than these.**

Prayers of the People

Collect of the Day

O God,
with all your faithful followers of every age,
we praise you, the rock of our life.
Be our strong foundation
and form us into the body of your Son,
so that we may gladly minister to all the
world,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
Our Mother, our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on
earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us. Save us from the
time of trial
and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory are yours, now
and for ever. Amen.

Closing Prayers

Blessed be God who calls us together and
makes us one.

Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin
and gives us hope and freedom.

Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed and is revealed to be Love.

Blessed be God who alone has called us. Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

Glory to God whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

May the peace which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of God's Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And the blessing of the Holy Trinity, the Source of all being, the Eternal Word, and

the Holy Spirit be upon you this day and forevermore.

Amen.

Closing Hymn – I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I heard the voice of Jesus say,

“Come unto me and rest.

Lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.”

I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn and sad.

I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,

“Behold, I freely give

the living water, thirsty one;

stoop down and drink and live.”

I came to Jesus, and I drank
of the life-giving stream.
My thirst was quenched,
my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light.
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun,
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Links for Worship

Zoom Link for Sunday Worship

- **Sunday morning services** are livestreamed at 10am:
<https://zoom.us/j/301177504?pwd=Q3RaZCtIQ3V0OSsreUpFRDV4RDZXUT09>
(or phone 1-587-328-1099). Meeting ID: 301 177 504 Password: 089370
- **Facebook** users can stream an edited version of the service at
[facebook.com/ascensionottawa](https://www.facebook.com/ascensionottawa)
- **Service booklets** are available at
[churchoftheascension.ca/booklets](https://www.churchoftheascension.ca/booklets)

Zoom Links for Prayer, Fellowship, and Study

- **Thursday Morning Bible Study and Prayer** (aka "Lectio") — Thursdays at 10 am:
Email rhonda@churchoftheascension.ca for a link and password.
- **Thursday Evening Prayer and Bible Study** (based on Lectio) — Second and fourth Thursdays at 8pm
Email rhonda@churchoftheascension.ca for a link and password.
- **Story at the Rectory** — First and third Thursdays at 7:30pm:
<https://zoom.us/j/698700963?pwd=andFNVV3TC9oY3BVVjBBMms5YnBzQT09>
(Meeting ID: 698 700 963; Password 526601)

- **Rhonda's Office Hours:** On Mondays from 4 to 6pm, Rhonda is available for private prayer, conversation, or check-in on [Zoom](#). People are also welcome to call 613-236-3958.

Church at Home

- **Daily Prayer:** New for July! A resource for simple daily prayer at home is available at churchoftheascension.ca/home-church
- **Reflections from a Distance** is a weekly email digest of art, poetry, playlists, and personal reflections. Contributions are welcome; please email rhonda@churchoftheascension.ca.
- **Ascension's Prayer Team** welcomes your prayer requests via email at prayerteamascension@gmail.com.

Make a Donation

If you would like make an online contribution to Church of the Ascension, you may do so via e-transfer to treasurer@churchoftheascension.ca, or with a secure online donation at canadahelps.org.