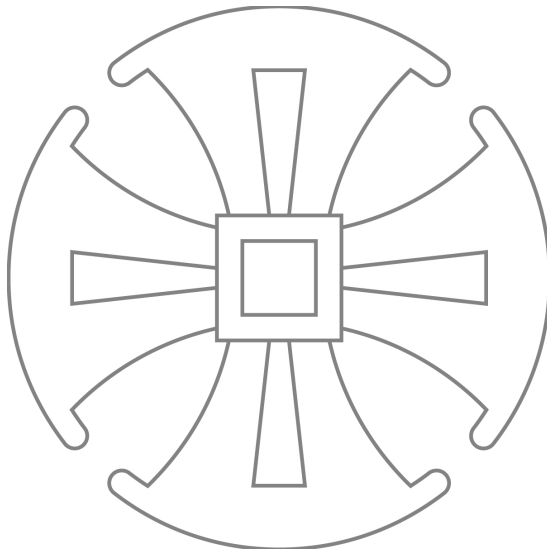


September 27, 2020 at 10am

Pentecost 17



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 – This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day,
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made.

Open to us, open to us

the gates of God;

the gates of God.

We will go in, we will go in,

and praise the Lord, and praise the Lord.

Open to us the gates of God,
we will go in and praise the Lord.
Open to us, open to us
the gates of God.

You are our God, you are our God
we will praise your name;
we will praise your name.
We will give thanks, we will give thanks
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.

You are our God, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name.

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.

Confident in God's loving kindness, let us call to mind our sins, and those of our society, in the misuse of God's creation

Silence

Holy One,
we have taken your gifts for granted and treated your creation as if it belonged to us alone. Heal us from our selfishness and show us the way to wholeness for the whole world, in this day and for generations to come.

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 in the highest, and on earth
Peace to people of good will.

Repeat

First Reading – Exodus 17:1-7

A Reading from the book of Exodus

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out

of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches
Thanks be to God

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

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

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

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

We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,

who has done wonderful works.

God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan,

splitting open the sea and letting them pass through, making the waters stand up like walls;

leading them with a cloud by day, and all the night through with the glow of fire;

splitting hard rocks in the wilderness, and giving them drink as from the great deep; bringing streams out of the cliff, and the waters gushing out like rivers.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Repeat

Gospel Reading – Matthew 21:23-32

God is here

The Spirit is with us

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He

answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Sermon

Hymn – Jesus the Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus the joy of loving hearts,
True source of life, our lives sustain;
From the best bliss that earth imparts,
We turn unfilled to you again.

Your truth unchanged has ever stood;
You rescue those who on you call:
To those yet seeking, you are good;
To those who find you, all in all.

Our restless spirits long for you,
However may our lot be cast,
Glad when your gracious smile we view,
Blessed when our faith can hold you fast.

Jesus, forever with us stay:
Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away;
Spread through the world your holy light.

Affirmation of Faith

Together, let us affirm our faith:

**We believe and trust
in God, the Source of all being,
who spoke all creation into being.**

**We believe and trust
in God the Son, Jesus Christ,
who redeemed the world.**

**We believe and trust
In God the Holy Spirit
who breathes life into the people of God.**

Prayers of the People

Collect of the Day

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief and banish our

anxieties through the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **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

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars

sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy. As we go forth this day, renewed by your word and strengthened by your people, open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to see all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Receive God's blessing that you might be God's blessing: in the name of the Holy Trinity who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

Amen.

Closing Hymn – The Trees of the Field

You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace.

The mountains and the hills
will break forth before you.

There'll be shouts of joy
and all the trees of the field will clap,
will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their
hands.

The trees of the field will clap their hands,
while you go out with joy.

And all the trees of the field will clap their
hands.

The trees of the field will clap their hands,
while you go out with joy.

Dismissal

Go in the name of Christ to treasure and to tend God's beloved world.

Thanks be to God!

Worship with Ascension

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)

On-Site Worship

Due to the pandemic, we have limited space and are observing other important safety precautions. Please visit

churchoftheascension.ca/church-onsite to read about our onsite services before making your reservation.

- **Holy Eucharist:** Mondays at 7:30pm; Wednesdays at 2pm
- **Compline:** the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm, starting Oct. 13.

Zoom Links for Prayer, Fellowship, and Study

- **Thursday Morning Bible Study and Prayer** — 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.
- **Story at the Rectory** — First and third Thursdays at 7:30pm (Meeting ID: 698 700 963; Password 526601); <https://zoom.us/j/698700963?pwd=andFNWV3TC9oY3BVVjBBMms5YnBzQT09>

Church at Home

- **Daily Prayer:** 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. Prayer Team members are also available to pray with you in a phone call.

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.