

The Anglican Parish of the Ascension

Induction of Archdeacon Nancy March as Rector
November 24, 2024 at 11:00 am



The Reign of Christ

Celebrant & Preacher: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

The Celebration of a New Ministry & Holy Eucharist – BAS Rite

Processional Hymn: 378

The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: My brothers and sisters in Christ, Archdeacon Nancy March has been chosen to be rector of this parish of the Ascension. After prayerful consideration, and according to the practice of this diocese, Archdeacon Nancy has been appointed to this position of leadership in our common ministry. This ministry continues the good work done through the years in this community and is part of the work and witness of the whole church. It is a new beginning because Archdeacon Nancy brings particular gifts to our ministry together. As we stand in God's presence let us pray that grace will be given to Archdeacon Nancy and to all of us in this ministry, that we may fulfill the responsibilities which are ours.

Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL (Bob Barnes)

Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favourite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the Lord speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

2 SAMUEL 23:1-7

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

REFRAIN The Lord will dwell in Zion for ever.

Lord, remember David, and all the hardships he endured; How he swore an oath to the Lord and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob: "I will not come under the roof of my house, nor climb up into my bed; I will not allow my eyes to sleep, nor let my eyelids slumber; Until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob." **R**

"The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; we found it in the fields of Jearim. Let us go to God's dwelling place; let us fall upon our knees before his footstool." **R**

Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, you and the ark of your strength. Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; let your faithful people sing with joy. For your servant David's sake, do not turn away the face of your anointed. **R**

The Lord has sworn an oath to David; in truth, he will not break it: "A son, the fruit of your body will I set upon your throne. If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their children will sit upon your throne for evermore." **R PSALM 132:1-13**

A READING FROM THE REVELATION TO JOHN (Nathan March)

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. **REVELATION 1:4B-8**

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Reader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Gradual Hymn: 383

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Reader: The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

JOHN 18:33-37

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon (*Bishop Sam Rose*)

Covenant in Ministry

Bishop Sam, standing with Archdeacon Nancy and the church wardens: Bob Barnes, Randy Spurrell, and Lester Pike and before the congregation read the declarations.

Wardens: We certify that the required oaths and declarations have been made, and the letters of appointment and license have been read in our presence.

Bishop Sam: Do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to the responsibility entrusted to you?

Archdeacon Nancy: I do.

Bishop Sam asks the people of the parish to stand and says:

Do you, the people of the Parish of the Ascension, commit yourselves to share with Archdeacon Nancy in the ministry of this parish?

People: We do.

As brothers and sisters in the body of Christ, will you support Archdeacon Nancy and the Parish of the Ascension in their ministry together?

People: We will.

Let us affirm the ministry of our baptism

All: We are the household of God. We confess the faith of Christ crucified, we proclaim his resurrection, we share in his eternal priesthood.

Bishop Sam: I present Archdeacon Nancy as the leader of your ministry, and I invite your welcome.

Archdeacon Nancy: Dear friends in Christ, let us pray that this ministry we share may accomplish the purpose of God's grace. Let us pray for the world, the universal Church, and for ourselves.

Prayers of the People (Tasker King)

Leader: The Holy One of Israel, God of might and tenderness, is in our midst. Let us pray to our God, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For our church and its members; holding in prayer tonight our Bishop Sam, our visiting clergy, and all members of the Anglican Communion. We pray for our church's mission and ministry as we reach out into our world to share the Good News. Let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the lowly – for society's forgotten ones, neglected ones, and unwanted ones. That we may all remember our mission to be the body of Christ in this world so that no one remain forgotten, neglected, or unwanted. Let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the hungry – those starving for food and drink, those craving attentive care, and those thirsting for justice. That through our daily lives we may feel and respond to the call to do to the least of these, and in doing so, be serving Christ through them. Let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the persecuted – those imprisoned for beliefs, oppressed by poverty, and victimized by war and strife. That we may all put to good use the gifts that God has blessed us each with and use our lives in such ways that cries for social justice, freedom of speech, and peace will be made, heard, and acted upon. Let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For care and healing – for the broken hearted, for the despairing, for the terrorized. That all lives may be comforted by the healing peace that can only come from our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**

Archdeacon Nancy: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn: 374

Prayer over the Gifts: Eternal God, by your grace you have raised us up and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms. Receive all we offer you this day, and lead us in those good works for which you have created us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord. You exalted him as Lord of all creation that he might present to you an eternal and universal kingdom: a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace. Therefore, at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow as heaven and earth proclaim the glory of your name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Communion

(Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Barnes and Tasker King)

Hymns During Communion: **Here O My Lord & 84**

HERE, O MY LORD, I SEE THEE FACE TO FACE

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
Here faith can touch and handle things unseen;
Here would I grasp with firmer hand thy grace,
And all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the Bread of God,
Here drink with thee the royal Wine of heaven;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but thine; nor do I need
Another arm save thine to lean upon;
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness:
Mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood:
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;
Thy Blood, thy righteousness, O Lord my God!

Choir Anthem: United in Christ

Prayer after Communion: Almighty God, you have made us a royal priesthood in the Kingdom of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Make known his victory through us, we pray, that all the world may see his light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: 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.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: 381

Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God.