

# What's Happening @ ASCENSION

Week of April 28, 2024

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## Week at a Glance

- SUN** Sunday School (8:45am) Adults and Children  
Worship (10am) YouTube  
Prayer Group 7pm (Zoom)
- MON** Small Group Bible Study (Zoom, 7:00pm)
- WED** Bible Study with Pastor Sean, 6pm (In person, YouTube)
- THUR** Bible Study 1:30pm (In person, YouTube)
- FRI** Coptic Church Good Friday in the Chapel  
Parents Night Out Rescheduled to May 10th
- SAT** LWML Spring Fling (8:30am to noon)

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### Date Change: Parents Night Out May 10th

To support our young families, we normally provide free babysitting on the first Friday of each month from 6-9pm here at church. This month the date is moved to May 10th. If you are able to help with childcare, please sign up on the sheet by the Sunday coffee/goodies table or contact Heather at (517) 918-1644. Thank you!

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**There will be an Usher Training** meeting after the service on Sunday, May 5th. This will be for all ushers, experienced or not. The meeting should last only 15 minutes or so. Thank you to everyone who volunteers to usher every week. We appreciate you!

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## Sunday Notes

**Flowers by the Altar** are provided by Peter and Hillary Matusiak

**Coffee and snacks** today are provided by Marion Hart.

## CPR/AED/First Aid Classes

For those who expressed interest in CPR/AED/First Aid training – We have a two-day option on Tuesday, May 14th and Thursday, May 16th from 6 to 9pm. The class will be conducted at the Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center (5825 Wise Rd, Lansing). Registration costs \$75 and must be completed by calling **(517) 483-7626**.

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## Ascension's Annual Church Picnic and Festival

will be held on Sunday, May 19th here at the church. We will have food provided, fellowship, games, bounce, house, etc. Baby sitters provided. Our theme is Bee Faithful. Bring your favorite games and ideas for next year.

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**Women of Ascension is collecting new socks and new underwear** for the Lansing City Rescue Mission. We will collect until the Church Picnic on May 19th. They will be sorted and packed on May 19th. There will be a collection box by coffee/snack table. Let's pack it out!



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## Contact Info

### Church Office

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Email: office@ascensioneastlansing.org  
Web: ascensioneastlansing.org

### Pastor Sean McCoy

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## Readings for April 28, 2024

### First Reading

Acts 8:26–40

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"

<sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle

1 John 4:1–21

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup>By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup>And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.