

ASCENSION MEMORIAL CHURCH

A Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

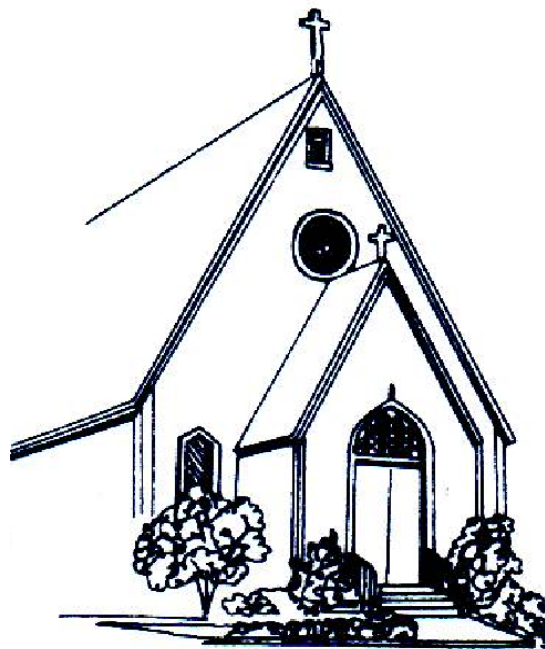
Flourishing ~ Family ~ Community

*To bear witness to the Spirit of God we see in Jesus as an Episcopal community
open to all, centered in worship, Christian education, table fellowship,
care for the environment, and compassion for neighbors local and global.*

April 21, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist Rite I at 8:00 AM



P.O. 547, 31 County Street

Ipswich, MA 01938

e-mail: amcipswich@verizon.net

978-356-2560

www.amcipswich.org

Prelude:

The Tower Bell

Opening Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

The Collect

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Response: Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.*

*He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.*

*He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.*

*Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

*You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.*

*Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

The Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: John 10:11-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory be to thee, O Lord

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Homily – The Rev'd Bradford D. Clark

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Alan and Carol, our Bishops, and for Brad, our Rector; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. In our own parish family, we pray for Sarah and Eric, our Wardens; for the members of the Vestry, and for the staff of this parish. We give thanks and praise for those who celebrate birthdays this week: Claire Curry, Kai Freyleue, katie Atkinson, and Seth Ward. We pray for those members of the parish serving in the armed forces: Jared Conway, Christopher Damon, and Aidan Tacheron. Today we offer our prayers in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton, St. Andrew's Church, Ayer, Trinity Church, Concord, St. Andrew's Church, Framingham, and the Margaret Coffin Prayer Book Society. Today we offer prayers for the following Provinces of the worldwide Anglican Communion: The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East, The Anglican Church of Kenya, and The Anglican Church of Korea. I invite your own thanksgivings now, either silently or aloud.

(pause for thanksgivings)

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. In our own parish family, we pray for: **IRIS; DJ** Asmutis-Silvia; **DANNY** Beaman; **JANICE** Bowers; **KRISTEN** Breen; **SARAH ANN** Coddling; **MARY ELLEN** Donahue; **MATTHEW** Doolittle; **TALIA** Duff; **LUKAS** Henrik Forslund; **ANDREA** French; **DAVID** French; **BOB** Godbee; **NANCY** Grace; **KATHRYN** Hanauer-Stanton; **CAROL** Horsman Swencki; **KEITH** Humphrey; **CAROL** Kingston; **KRISTEN** Leary; **ROSIE** Lepine; **GLENN** Lohnes; **PHOEBE** Lowell; **MIDGE** Manning; **ELIZABETH** Meffen; **CANDACE** Mesa; **FREDY** Montengro; **PATRICIA** Moody; **MARY** O'Connor; **ANDREW** Parsons; **JEFF** Pickul; **JOE** Pickul; **DEBORAH** Porter; **MARYANN** Rohrer; **WILLIAM** Rohrer; **WAYNE** Sanborn; **LEVI** Shaw; **TONI** Talas; **SYDNEE** Trimberger; **JULIE** Wilson; **DAVID** Winn; **and PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT**. I invite your own petitions now, either silently or aloud.

(pause for petitions)

We will exalt you, O God our King.
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. I invite your own remembrances now, either silently or aloud.

(pause for remembrances)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart--especially hearts which choose war and self-interest over peace and service to others--that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace as your beloved community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

The Offertory

The Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the way, the truth, and the life, who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us

everlasting life. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again. For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. ***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.***

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Ministration of Communion

As was the practice of Jesus, Ascension Church observes the practice of open table fellowship. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at the table with Christ. If you desire not to receive the Sacraments, but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward to the communion rail and cross your arms over your chest. The celebrant will pause and share a blessing with you.

Post-Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us; so be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and may the Blessing of the One who created you, redeemed you, and who walks always with you, be with you and all those you love, this day and always. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Go forth now into the world in peace to love and serve God and Neighbor. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

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Assisting at this morning's liturgy:

Altar Guild: Jody Huffcut

Lector/Acolyte: Ed Rauscher

Usher/ Teller: Karen Esperson

Hospitality: Karen Esperson

Audio/Visual Technician: Lucas Callahan

Ascension Memorial Church is grateful to all the people who participate in its many active groups and ministries and who serve on the various committees. Below is a complete listing of members of the Committees, Ministries, and Groups, as well as the Staff and Vestry of Ascension. If you would like to know more about Ascension Memorial Church's committees, ministries, and groups, please contact the parish office at **978-356-2560** or **amcipswich@verizon.net** and we will provide you with the contact information for our leadership team. You may also learn more about our ministries through Realm on our website at **amcipswich.org**.

THE STAFF

The Rev'd Bradford D. Clark, *Rector*

Dr. Frank Corbin, *Director of Music and Parish Business Administrator*

Chase Delano, *Coordinator of Communications, Community Engagement, and Special Projects & Programming*

Geraldine Ortez, *Bulletin Volunteer*

THE VESTRY

Sarah Churchill, *Senior Warden* ~ Eric Gedstad, *Junior Warden*

Kathy Dallos, *Treasurer* ~ Kristin Hertzog, *Clerk*

Lucy Jepsen, *Youth Representative*

Charlie Quimby, *Youth Representative*

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Deborah Couture

Vicki Hughes

Kate Turner

Class of 2025

Jennifer Clark

Lillian Reilly

Stephen Ventola

Class of 2026

Karen Hawkes

Judy Carbrey

Charles Moore

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Mark Carbrey

Kathy Dallos

Karen Esperson

Glenn Roundy

ex officio:

Brad Clark

Frank Corbin

Sarah Churchill

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Glenn Roundy, Chair

Kathy Dallos

Ralph Johnson

Sam Otis

Tom Parkins

David Scudder

Stewardship

Brad Clark

Joel Barrett

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Rosemary Attridge

Richard Attridge

Kitty Bartholomew

Frank Corbin

Kathy Dallos

Katie Finch

Jane Good

Patti Gorman

Laura Gresh

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Gail Lull

Debbie Moore

Suzanne Nolan

Lillian Reilly

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(AMC Youth Group)

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Kristin Hertzog

Charlie Quimby

Charlie Jepsen

Lucy Jepsen

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Jenna Lees-Rolfe

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Charlie Jepsen

Lucy Jepsen

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Charlie Quimby

Jennifer Reed

Joanna Suomi

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Lucy Jepsen
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Kristin Hertzog
Sarah Joss-Green
Jenna Lees-Rolfe
Charlie Quimby
Jennifer Reed
Joanna Suomi

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Suzanne Nolan, Chairs**

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Kitty Bartholomew
Katie Finch
Emily Hayes
Jody Huffcut
Debbie Moore
Rick Ostberg

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Rick Attridge
Bob Brown
Brad Clark
Eric Gedstad
John Moberger
Sarah Churchill

Green Initiative
Vicki Hughes, Chair

Kitty Bartholomew
Karen Esperson
Katie Finch
Erica Fuller
Patti Gorman
Jody Huffcut
Paula Jones
Suzanne Nolan

Lawn Barbers
Eric Gedstad, Coordinator

Paul Damon
Karen Esperson
Ted Flaherty
Glenn Gibbs
Mark Godin
Paul Philpy

Hospitality & Coffee Hour

Rosemary Attridge &
Richard Attridge
Tyler Berube
Marge & Bob Brown
Deborah Couture
Kathy Dallos
Karen Esperson
Katie Finch
Jody Huffcut
Ralph Johnson
Paula Jones &
Robert Spurrier
Debbie Moore
Suzanne Nolan
Alura Ollio &
R.J. Ollio
Joan Williams
David Winn &
Kathy Pischke-Winn
The Vestry

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Rev. Brad Clark
Debbie Moore
Carroll Perry
Cary Perry

Bible Study
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Gary Freeman
Leah Olendzenski
Michelle Thibeault

Education for Ministry
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Beth Smith, Chair

Men's Group
Brad Clark, Chair

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Ted Flaherty
Eric Gedstad
Glenn Gibbs
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Charlie Moore
Bryan Townsend
Steve Wilson

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Sarah Churchill
Frank Corbin
Arthur Kazianis
Dottie Phillips

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**Jennifer Clark,
Chair**

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Christine Day
Ted Flaherty
Erica Fuller
Jody Huffcut
Charlie Moore
Debbie Moore
Ed Rauscher
Lillian Reilly

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Brad Clark
Trish Everitt
Lucy Martineau
John Moberger

Helen Ayer Awards

Jennifer Clark
Karen Esperson
Suzanne Nolan

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Tricia Moody
Charlie Moore
Debbie Moore
Nora Sanchez

Visioneers
Rosemary Attridge
Kitty Bartholomew

Don Cheney
Kathy Dallos
Chase Delano
James Field
Mark Godin
Lucy Jepsen
Arthur Kazianis
Jenna Lees-Rolfe
Charlie Quimby
Steve Suomi

Music
Frank Corbin, *Chair*
Doug Brendel
Brad Clark
Trish Everitt
Sonja Dahlgren Pryor
Kate Turner
Jane Wolff

The Choir
Frank Corbin,
Lucas Callahan
Lori Coppen
Christine Day
Trish Everitt
Marisa Exelby
Roxy Giddings
Ralph Johnson
Penny Jones
Carol Kingston
Hugh McCall
John Moberger
R. J. Ollio
Tom Parkins
Sherrill Pierce
Thomas Schmidt
Sandy Starr
Marion Sokolov
Judith Thurston
Tanya Tupper

Altar Guild 8:00
Joanne Ventola, *Chair*
Jody Huffcut
Paula Jones
Dottie Phillips
Joan Williams

Acolytes/Lectors 8:00
Richard Ostberg
Edward Rauscher
Michael Smith
Robert Spurrier
John Walker

Ushers 8:00
Karen Esperson
Margot Hayden
Jody Huffcut
Rick Ostberg
Mike Smith
Steve Ventola

Tellers 8:00
Karen Esperson
Rick Ostberg
Dottie Phillips
Stephen Ventola
Joan Williams

Altar Guild 10:15
Joanne Ventola, *Chair*
Marge Brown
Phyllis Greene
Linda Messer
Debbie Moore

Acolytes 10:15
Tyler Berube
Jane Carolan
Charlie Jepsen
Caroline Jepsen
Lucy Jepsen
Ralph Johnson
John Moberger
Paul Philpy
Charlie Quimby

Lectors 10:15
Tyler Berube
Doug Brendel
Jane Carolan
Kathy Dallos
Dawn Edwards
Ted Flaherty
Eric Gedstad
Glenn Gibbs
Vicki Hughes
Ralph Johnson
John Moberger
Jack O'Mara
Paul Philpy

Ushers 10:15
Joel Barrett
Jane Carolan
Jennifer & Tim Clark
Ted Flaherty
Ralph Johnson
Glenn Roundy
Kate Turner

Tellers 10:15
Donald Cheney
Jennifer Clark
Ted Flaherty
Ralph Johnson
Kate Turner

