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# Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 60 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of community, communion and commitment. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

### Welcome to Worship

#### Please stand in body or spirit.

### Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, 

→ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

#### All Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

All we confess that we have not followed your path

but have chosen our own way.

Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.

When met by those in need,

we have too often passed by on the other side.

Set us again on the path of life.

Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.

#### Amen.

P Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins

but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of  $\bot$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

#### All Amen.

Opening Song

## **Kyrie Eleison**

#### Refrain

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2 That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4 For your spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

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P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.



- P O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world.
- All In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

  Amen.

You may be Seated

### A Reading from Isaiah, the 65th chapter

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name.

<sup>2</sup>I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks;

<sup>4</sup>who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places;

who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long.

<sup>6</sup>See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps

<sup>7</sup>their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.

 $^8$ Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Isaiah 65:1-9

#### L The word of the Lord

#### All Thanks be to God!

### A Reading from Galatians, the 3rd chapter

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:23-29

L The word of the Lord

#### All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. 
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

#### All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

<sup>26</sup>Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had

demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup>for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup>Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission.
<sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Luke 8:26-39

- P The Gospel of our Lord.
- All Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be Seated

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

## **Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace Chorus

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures Chorus

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, The sun forbear to shine But God who called me here below will be forever mine Will be forever mine, You are forever mine

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You may be Seated

# Receiving of New Members Through Affirmation of Baptism

Katie Young

Rev. Gordon Young

### Presentation

PDear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present Katie Young and Rev. Gordon Young, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister and brother whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called them to yourself,

enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith.

Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

## Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the Ρ faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**Response:** I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**Response:** I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**Response:** I renounce them.

- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- All I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- All I believe in the Holy Spirit,
  the holy catholic church,
  the communion of saints,
  the forgiveness of sins,
  the resurrection of the body,
  and the life everlasting. Amen.

# Affirmation

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P People of God, do you promise to support this sister and brother and pray for them in their life in Christ?

Response: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD, the spirit of joy I your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

P Let us rejoice with this sister and brother in Christ.

WA: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Prayers of Intercession

L United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: God of grace All: You hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise God above! Praise God above ye Heav'nly Host!

Praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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### Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

All Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

<u>Please stand in body or spirit.</u>

- P The Lord be with you
- All And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- All We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- All It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- In the night in which he was betrayed,
   our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
   broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
   Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
   Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

# The Lord's Prayer

- P Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:
- All 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, forever and ever. Amen.

### The Invitation

You may be Seated

P In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.Come to the banquet.

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant





### One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. Refrain
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. Refrain
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. Refrain

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#### I Surrender All

Verse 1

All to Jesus I surrender, All to Him I freely give I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live

Chorus

I surrender all, I surrender all All to Thee my blessed Savior I surrender all

Verse 2

All to Jesus I surrender, Humbly at His feet I bow Worldly pleasures all forsaken, Take me Jesus take me now

Verse 3

All to Jesus I surrender, Make me Savior wholly Thine Let me feel the Holy Spirit, Truly know that Thou art mine Verse 4

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord I give myself to Thee Fill me with Thy love and power, Let Thy blessing fall on me

Verse 5

All to Jesus I surrender, Now I feel the sacred flame O the joy of full salvation, Glory glory to His name

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### Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

#### All Amen

- P Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.
- All Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love.This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Please be seated for Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Go out into God's world as those born of water and Spirit.

Go as those inspired and excited to know that

"God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world".

No, in fact, our God sent Jesus into the world so that the world might be saved through him.

Go as those living in the mystery of the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

Go knowing you are loved + and are called to love each other.

#### All Amen.

# Sending Song

## **Soon And Very Soon**

Verse 1

Soon and very soon We are going to see the King (3x)

Chorus

Hallelujah hallelujah We're going to see the King

Verse 2

No more crying there We are going to see the King (3x)

Verse 3

No more dying there We are going to see the King (3x)

Ending

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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### Dismissal

P Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-1

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

#### All Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Readings for next Sunday,
June 26

**First Reading:** 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

Psalm: Psalm 16

Second Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

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