

September 21, 2025
15th Sunday after Pentecost



#### Ascension Lutheran Church 1105 N. Washington Blvd., Ogden, UT 84404 801.782.2810

Welcome to all God's guests, especially those 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.

Children are always welcome in worship services; however please know the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

## Please silence your cellphone at this time

Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate this congregation's past, present, and future.

We honor the vision of those, who more than 65 years ago, believed that God had a ministry and purpose for them. May we, along with our neighbors, continue planting seeds of God's grace, faith, and love.

# Welcome to Worship Confession and Forgiveness Please stand in body or spirit. Ρ Our lives are so small, O Lord, All Our vision so limited, Ρ Our courage so frail, All Our hours so fleeting P Therefore give us grace and guidance for the journey ahead. We are gathered here because we believe that we are called together into a work we cannot yet know the fullness of. Αll Still, we trust the voice of the One who has called us. Ρ And so we offer to you, O God, these things: All Our dreams, our plans, our vision. Р Shape them as You will, All Our moments and our gifts. Р May they be invested toward bright, eternal ends. All Richly bless the work before us, Father.

beckonings of Your Spirit in this endeavor.

Instead let us listen for Your voice, our hearts ever open to the quiet

Shepherd us well lest we grown enamored of our own accomplishment

or entrenched in old habit.

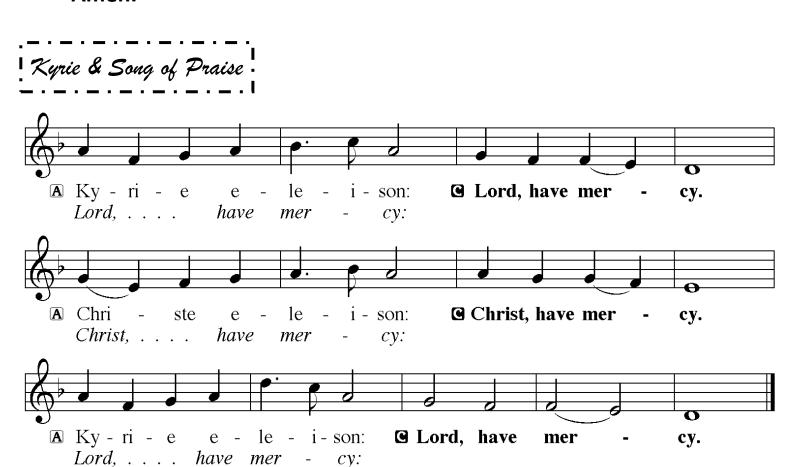
Р

- All Let us in true humility and poverty of spirit remain ever ready to move at the impulse of your love in paths of your design.
- P May our acts of service and creation,
- All frail and wanting as they are,
- P Be met and multiplied by the mysterious workings of Your Spirit
- who weaves all things together toward a redemption more good and glorious than we yet have eyes to see, or courage to hope for.
- May it be so!

  In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit +

  Our sins are FORGIVEN and FORGOTTEN.

### All Amen.







Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Prayer for This Day

P God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another.

All Keep our feet from evil paths.

Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

You may be Seated

A Reading from Amos the 8th chapter

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

<sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, <sup>5</sup> saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup> buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

<sup>7</sup> The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Amos 8:4-7

WA The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

# A Reading from 17 imothy, the 2nd chapter

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>5</sup> For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all — this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

#### WA The word of the Lord

#### All Thanks be to God!

#### Gospel Acclamation Please stand in body or spirit. A1 le 1e lu lu ia, al ia. A1 ia, le. lu. al lu le 1a.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

 $^{1}$  Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property.  $^2$  So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' 5 So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another,

who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Luke 16:1-13

P The Gospel of our Lord.

#### All Praise to you, O Christ.

#### You may be Seated

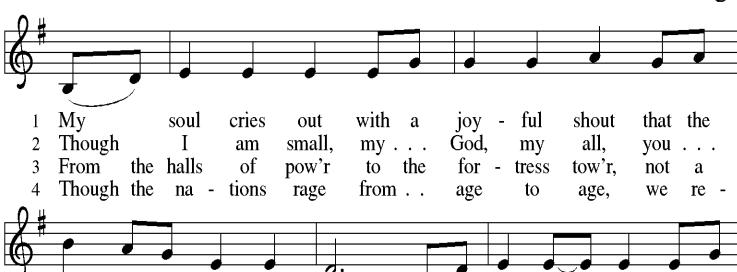
# Children's Sermon & Noisy Offering

Sermon Pr. Debra Jimenez

# Hymn of the Day

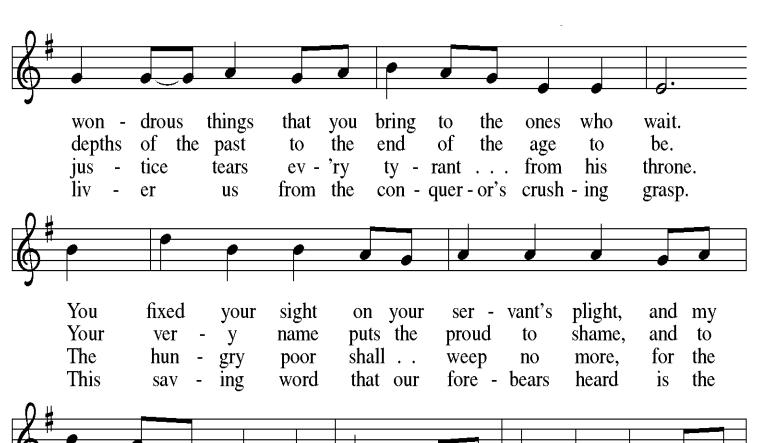
#### Please stand in body or spirit.

# Canticle of the Turning



God of my heart is great, work great. things in me, stone will be left on stone. mem - ber who holds us fast:

and my spir - it sings of the and your mer - cy will last from the Let the king be - ware for your God's mer - cy must de -





weak - ness you did not spurn, those who would for you yearn, food they can nev er earn; prom - ise which holds bound, us

so from east shall my to west you will show your might, put the bles spread, ta ev - 'ry there are the spear till and rod can be



blest. Could the world be a - bout name be to turn? flight, for the world is a - bout to turn. strong to the fed. for mouth be world is a - bout to turn. is crushed by who ing the world God. round. turn a



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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 to the dead.
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.

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.

You may be Seated

# Prayers of the People

WA Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

We Lift Up By Nick Ehrhardt

#### All Ooooh, Oooooh, We Lift Up Our Prayers.

(Repeat throughout)

*Leader* For the planet, for its people.

For the church and it's many shapes of steeples.

For the hungry, for the cold.

For the young and for the old.

For our joy and for our pain.

For the sunshine for the rain.

For the dying, for the sick.

For our loved ones and the glue that makes us stick.

For our leaders for their minds.

For your wisdom as to how we draw our lines.

For the world and its frantic pace.

For the places where we find deeper space.

For all yearning hearts beneath the sun.

For the chance for a prayer for everyone.

(For our words and for our silence. (Pause)

Ooooh, Oooooh, Ahhhmen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Jesus Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

You may be Seated



#### P Let us pray:

You alone, O God, by your gracious and life-giving Spirit, have power to knit our imperfect hearts, our weaknesses, our strengths, our stories, and our gifts, one to another.

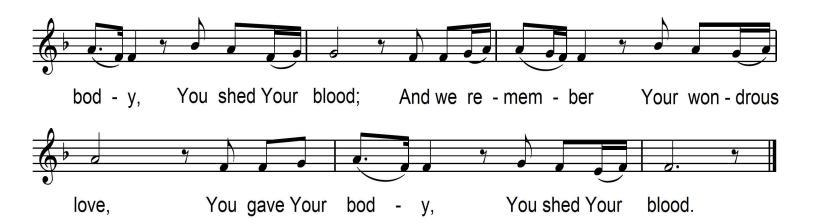
All Unite Your people and multiply our meager offerings, O Lord, that all might resound to Your glory. Amen.

# Holy Communion

- 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.
- P And with our hearts and voices raised we remember...







The Lord's Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

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









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

You may be Seated

# Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

# Gratitude & Blessing

My Hometown Ogden E.K. Bailey Construction

#### Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

- P May our love and our labors now echo your love and your labor, O Lord.
- All Let all that we do here, in these our brief lives,
  in this our brief moment to love,
  in this the work you have ordained for this community,
  flower in a winsome and beautiful foretaste of great glories to come.
- P O Spirit of God, Our Father, now shape our hearts.
  - O spirit of God, Our Redeemer, now guide our hands.
    - O Spirit of God, + Our Sustainer, now build Your kingdom among us.

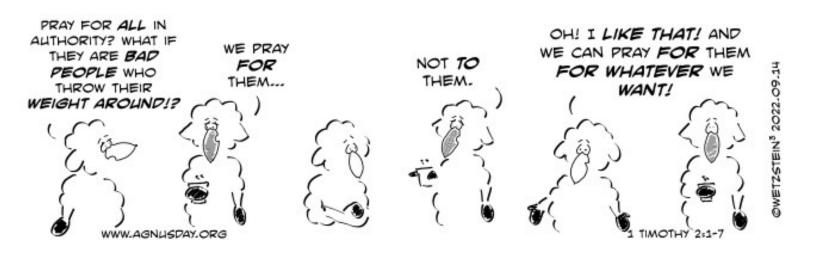
#### All Amen.



# Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Love you neighbor.

#### All Thanks be to God.



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Human Hand Tree https://www.pixtastock.com/illustration/41630196 Used by permission

Readings for next Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm: Psalm 146

**Second Reading:** 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

