

6th Sunday after Pentecost



...he began to send them out two by two...

July 4, 2021



Ascension Lutheran Church

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All are welcome!

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 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.

Introduction

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

Welcome to Worship

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

All Amen

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our provider,

All help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life

and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

All Amen.

Opening Song

As We Gather

As we gather may Your Spirit work within us
As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We'll be blessed because we came
We'll be blessed because we came

CCLI Song # 35469 Mike Fay | Tom Coomes
CCLI License # 1924512

The Greeting

P The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom.

All Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[You may be Seated](#)

A Reading from Ezekiel, the 2nd chapter

In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

¹[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. ²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day.

⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and

you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.”⁵ Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Ezekiel 2:1-5

L The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 2 Corinthians, the 12th chapter

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ’s grace is sufficient for us.

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows.
³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

L The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Mark 6:1-13

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.](#)

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me; in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with one voice 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 Intercession

L Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

♪ ♪ The Spirit intercedes for us
with sign too deep for words to express. Oh, oh. ♪ ♪

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Lord, in your mercy

All: You hear our prayer.

Sharing the Peace

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the peace of our risen Lord by “speaking” that peace through sign language.

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

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 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.

Sharing the Meal

P The body of Christ broken for you.

All Amen.

P The blood of Christ shed for you.

All Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

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

All Amen

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand as you are able.

P The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✝ be upon you now and forever.

All Amen.

Sending Song

Send Us Out

We have been called by the Lord. We have been saved by the Word.
Now let the Word be restored. Now let the Gospel be heard.

Refrain

**Send us out to teach what God has done.
Send us out to reach ev'ry single one.
Send us out. Send us out.**

We who were bound by our shame, ruled by our fears within.
Stand and declare by the name freedom from all of our sin. *Refrain*

Bridge

Teach what God has done. Reach ev'ry sing one.
Teach what God has done. Reach ev'ry sing one. *Refrain*

Dismissal

P Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you. *Ephesians 4:23*
Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

All Thanks be to God.

Readings for next Sunday,
July 11th

First Reading:	Amos 7:7-15
Psalm:	Psalm 85:8-13
Second Reading:	Ephesians 1:3-14
Gospel:	Mark 6:14-29

Front Cover:

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