



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

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

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

Morning has Broken

- Morning has broken like the first morning;
 blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
 Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
 Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!
 Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
 God's recreation of the new day!

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The Greeting

- P The Lord be with you.
- All And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us.
- All Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Reading from Jeremiah, the 23rd chapter

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Jeremiah 23:1-6

L The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from Ephesians, the 2nd chapter

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God

in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Ephesians 2:11-22

L The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

ュュ Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. ュュ

Gospel Reading

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure

even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be Seated

Sermon Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

In the Garden

Verse 1

I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses And the voice I hear falling on my ear the Son of God discloses

Chorus

And He walks with me, And He talks with me And He tells me I am His own And the joy we share as we tarry there None other has ever known

Verse 2

He speaks and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing

And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing Chorus

Verse 3

I'd stay in the garden with Him tho' the night around me be falling
But He bids me go thro' the voice of woe His voice to me is calling Chorus

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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.

Prayers of Intercession

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

I lay all of my burdens down at Your feet.

And anytime that I don't know what to do,

I will cast all my care upon You.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Hear us, O God. All: Your mercy is great.

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.



While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.

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

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Offertory Prayer

- P Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.
- All Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

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.
- 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,

All 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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

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

<u>Please stand as you are able.</u>

All Amen.

Sending Song

Jesus My Lord

Chorus

Have you seen Jesus my Lord? He's here in plain view. Take a look open your eyes; He'll show it to you.

Verse 1

Have you ever looked at the sunset with the sky mellowin' red And the clouds suspended like feathers? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Verse 2

Have you ever stood at the ocean with the white foam at your feet, Felt the endless thunderin' motion? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Verse 3

Have you ever looked at the cross with a man hangin' in pain, And the look of love in His eyes? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Verse 4

Have you ever stood in the family with the Lord there in your midst, Seen the face of Christ on your neighbor? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord?

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Dismissal

P You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.Go in peace. Share the good news.

All Thanks be to God.

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Readings for next Sunday,

July 25th

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm: Psalm 145:10-18

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

Gospel: John 6:1-21

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