



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

Welcome to Worship...

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 your-selves "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 a nursery is provided for children under 4 years of age.

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

### Welcome to Worship

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

#### Please stand as you are able.

#### All Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

All we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected.

We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves.

We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.

Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

P Rejoice in this good news:

In 

Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

#### All Amen.

### **Opening Song**

### Christ, Be Our Light

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come.

#### Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
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#### Greeting

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

### All And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

- P Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people.
- All Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

You may be Seated

### A Reading from Nehemiah, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the LORD is your strength."

<sup>1</sup>All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Word of God, Word of Light.

#### All Thanks be to God

### A Responsive Reading from Psalm 19

Please join in a responsive reading of the Psalm. Leader will read the light print while the congregation responds with the bold.

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- <sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- <sup>4</sup>their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

- <sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- <sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

- <sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

# <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Psalm 19

### A Reading from 1 Corinthians, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup>But strive for the greater gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Word of God, Word of Life.

#### All Thanks be to God

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Text: John 6:68, adapt. Lutheran Book of Worship—Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress Used by Permission OneLiscense.net A-705915

### Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:14-21

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.

#### **Beautiful Saviour**

Verse 1

All my days I will sing this song of gladness Give my praise to the Fountain of delights For in my helplessness You heard my cry And waves of mercy poured down on my life

Verse 2

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer I will sing of the blood that never fails Of sins forgiven, Of conscience cleansed Of death defeated and life without end

Chorus

Beautiful Saviour Wonderful Counsellor Clothed in majesty Lord of history You're the Way the Truth the Life Star of the Morning glorious in holiness You're the Risen One heaven's Champion And You reign You reign over all Verse 3

I long to be where the praise is never ending Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades Where countless worshippers will share one song And cries of worthy will honour the Lamb Chorus

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### 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.

### Prayers of the People

L The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

り Lord, hear our prayer we offer up to you; O Lord, hear our prayer. ュュ

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: God of grace,

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.

Offering

You may be Seated

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.

All that we have and all that we offer As comes from a heart both frightened and free.

Take what we bring now and give what we need, all done in your name.

### Offertory Prayer

- P Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.
- All Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

### The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

- P The Holy One be with you
- All And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts
- All We lift them up to our God.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
- All It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
   that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
   almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
   By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
   In the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him you beloved Son,
   And in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

#### Verse 1 (Presider)

After giving thanks You broke it and said, "This is My body broken for you, and as you eat it remember Me." This is My body broken for you, and as you eat it remember Me."

#### Verse 2 (Presider)

On the night You were betrayed You held the cup.

After giving thanks You lifted it up

"This is My blood poured out for you, and as you drink it remember Me.

"This is My blood poured out for you, and as you drink it remember Me.

#### Verse 3 (All)

So we thank You for the wine and for the bread; For we see the life You gave and the blood You shed. And we remember Your wondrous love You gave Your body You shed Your blood. And we remember Your wondrous love You gave Your body You shed Your blood.

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### The Lord's Prayer

- P Let us boldly approach the throne of grace, praying as Jesus taught:
- 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 Come to God's table.There is a place for you and enough for all.

### Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

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

#### All Amen

- P We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
- All Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

#### Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name,
 bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

#### All Amen

Sending Song

### I Love to Tell the Story

of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

#### Refrain

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

- 2 I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!

  I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy word. Refrain
- 3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

  And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. Refrain

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

### **Dismissal**

P Go with Christ into a weary world.Share the good news.

All Thanks be to God.

Readings for next Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm: Psalm 71:1-6

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

Front Cover:

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