



*But love your enemies,  
do good, and lend,  
expecting nothing in return.*

**7th Sunday after Epiphany**

*February 20, 2022*



**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 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**  
**a nursery is provided for children under 4 years of age.**

*Please silence your cell phones at this time.*

## Introduction

*Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.*

## Welcome to Worship

## Confession and Forgiveness

*Please stand as you are able.*

*P* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who creates us,  
redeems us,  
and calls us by name.

**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

# Drawn to the Light

1 People who walk in darkness have sought  
a light in the heart of the darkest night.  
Just when we thought all would be lost,  
we were drawn to the light of God.

*Refrain*

Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night,  
drawn to the light and the morning.  
Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight  
to be drawn to the light of God.

2 How can we tell a heaven from hell  
if ev'ryone dwells in the dark of night?  
Morning dispels, gently compels,  
and we're drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none!  
The Lamb is the one who is shining bright,  
bids us to come! Life has begun  
when we're drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

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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* O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope.

**All Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*You may be Seated*

## A Reading from Genesis, the 45<sup>th</sup> chapter

*Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.*

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and

your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

*Genesis 45:3-11, 15*

L Word of God, Word of Light.

**All Thanks be to God**

## A Responsive Reading from Psalm 37

*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>Do not be provoked by evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup>**For they shall soon wither like the grass,  
and like the green grass fade away.**

<sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the LORD<sup>1</sup> and do good;  
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup>**Take delight in the LORD,  
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,  
and see what God will do.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light  
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

<sup>8</sup>**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

<sup>10</sup>**In a little while the wicked shall be no more;  
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

<sup>11</sup>But the lowly shall possess the land;

they will delight in abundance of peace.

<sup>39</sup>**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;  
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

<sup>40</sup>You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;  
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you  
they seek refuge.

*Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40*

## A Reading from 1 Corinthians, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter

*In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.*

<sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup>So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

*1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50*

L Word of God, Word of Life.

**All Thanks be to God**

[Please stand as you are able.](#)

♪ ♪ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? ♪ ♪

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

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## Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup>“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup>“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

*Luke 6:27-38*



*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 as you are able*

## **Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

*Prayer of St. Francis*

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
- 2 Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
- 3 O Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.
- 4 Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

## 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

*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.

***♪ ♪ O Lord, hear our prayer we offer up to you;  
O Lord, hear our prayer. ♪ ♪***

*(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

*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 ♪ ♪  
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.

## Holy Communion—a note of instruction

During the Great Thanksgiving, you are invited to lift your communion cup as the Words of Institution are sung. Following The Lord's Prayer, together we will receive the body and blood of our Lord as the pastor says, "The body of Christ, given for you." "The blood of Christ shed for you."

*Please stand as you are able.*

## 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.**

*P* 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 your beloved Son,  
And in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

Verse 1 (Presider)

♪ ♪ On the night You were betrayed You took the bread. ♪ ♪  
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.

CCLI Song # 451177 Gerrit Gustafson | Martin Nystrom

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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.**

[You may be Seated](#)

## The Invitation

*P* This is God's table.  
There is a place for you and enough for all.

## Receiving the Gifts of Grace

*P* The Body of Christ given for you.

**All Amen.**

*P* The Blood of Christ shed for you.

**All Amen.**

## 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.](#)*

*P* 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'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me**

- 1 I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 2 Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 3 When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.  
  
Singing glory, hallelujah? Jesus lifted me.

1

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## Dismissal

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

**All Thanks be to God.**

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Readings for next Sunday,  
February 27<sup>th</sup>  
The Transfiguration of Our Lord

**First Reading:**

Exodus 34:29-35

**Psalm:**

Psalm 99

**Second Reading:**

2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

**Gospel:**

Luke 9:28-43a

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