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Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 60 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

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor.

That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you" namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

Welcome to Worship

Song of Prayer for the World

"We Pray for Peace"

(TUNE: Be Still My Soul")

We pray for peace, O God of love and justice, communities and countries are at war.

As broken hearts and spirits in depression cry out in crisis needing love and more. Lead us from fear to hope in prayer and action to bring your peace the world is yearning for.



Please stand in body or spirit.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
 full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love
- All Amen
- *P* Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against Gad and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal God our creator,

All in you we live and move and have our being.
Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.
Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.
By you grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our heart through the Holy Spirit given to us.

In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God + forgives you all your sins.

All Amen.





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.



- P O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care.
- All Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

You may be Seated

A Reading from Deuteronomy, the 30th chapter

Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.

⁹The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

¹¹Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹²It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" ¹³Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" ¹⁴No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

- *L* The word of the Lord
- All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from Colossians, the 1st chapter

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:1-14

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!



Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Luke 10:25-37

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be Seated





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 United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need. 🗗 🗗 Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, 🎜 Lord make us whole: Peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer. (each prayer petition ends with) L: God of grace All: You hear our prayer. Please stand in body or spirit. Passing of the Peace Christ become peace with you. Ρ And also with you. All Offering You may be Seated Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, thanks to the Ho-ly One, give give thanks be-cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ. his Son. let the weak say, "I am And now strong," let the poor say, "I am

rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

All Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Please stand in body or spirit.

- 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.



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





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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.

Please be seated for Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

P Go out into God's world as those born of water and Spirit.

Go as those inspired and excited to know that "God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world". No, in fact, our God sent Jesus into the world so that the world might be saved through him.

Go as those living in the mystery of the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

Go knowing you are loved + and are called to love each other.

All Amen.



He's Got The Whole World In His Hands

Verse 1

He's got the whole world in His hands (4x)

Verse 2

He's got the little tiny baby in His hands He's got the child and teenager in His hands He's got the young and older grown-ups in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands

Verse 3

He's got the immigrant outsider in His hands He's got the refugee from war-lands in His hands He's got all who live in danger in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands

Verse 4

He's calling you and me brother to be His hands He's calling you and me sister to be His hands He's calling all who love Jesus to be His hands He's calling all of us to be His hands

Dismissal

P Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
 for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-1

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Readings for next Sunday, July 17th First Reading: Psalm: Second Reading: Gospel:

Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42

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