

“Even if I knew that tomorrow
the world would go to pieces,



I would still plant my apple tree.”

Martin Luther

November 13, 2022

23rd Sunday after Pentecost



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Ogden, UT 84404
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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 worshipping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Introduction

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

P In this second week of our stewardship campaign, I invite you to think about the story of the Prodigal –

It is the story of a family in all its raw truth.

One son believes he is ready to take his early inheritance and to head out into the world.

The other son goes about doing what needs to be done – quietly harboring resentment in his heart.

The father extravagantly loving, forgiving, and rejoicing.

P As you imagine this setting, where do you locate yourself? Are you sometimes the wandering sibling, lost and longing to go home? Are you the dutiful older sibling – doing all the right things but unable to rejoice when others receive grace? Since we are made in God’s divine image, are you able to imagine yourself in the role of the prodigal parent – extravagantly loving, forgiving and rejoicing?

Joy is at the center of this story – divine joy – the joy of one who was lost and has come home. What about the older son reluctant to enter the celebration?

What do you celebrate – or fail to celebrate?

Are there parties you refuse to enter or simply ignore?

How can we become people of joy – a congregation of joy – even more than we already are?

When it comes to generosity, can we give for the sake of joy?

Sometimes we hear the story.

Left side Sometimes we tell it.

Right side Sometimes we ignore it altogether.

P Sometimes we’re the ones who offer the welcome

Left side Sometimes we’re the ones who return

Right side Sometimes we’re somewhere in between

P Sometimes we’re lost.

Left side Sometimes we’re found.

Right side Sometimes we’re a little bit of both

P But all the time, God is writing the story.

Left side All the time, God is calling us home.

Right side All the time, God waits for us, ready to celebrate.

All Come, let us worship God!

P When once we had no way of knowing, God breathed wisdom.
When once we were formless and void, God made us in the Divine image:
Creators, redeemers, sustainers!

From generosity – for generosity.

Come, let us worship God!

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

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 our neighbors.

We have ignored voices that call for your justice.

We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness.

We have spoken and acted in ways

that disrupt your beloved community.

We truly repent of things we have done and left undone.

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

Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness,

follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.

P Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out, and restores us to life through
the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,

in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

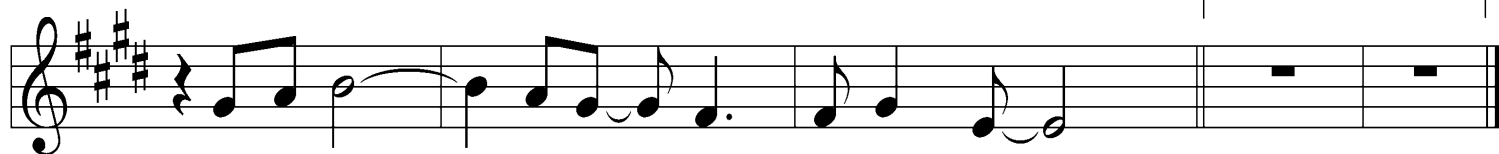
Opening Song of Praise

Kyrie eleison

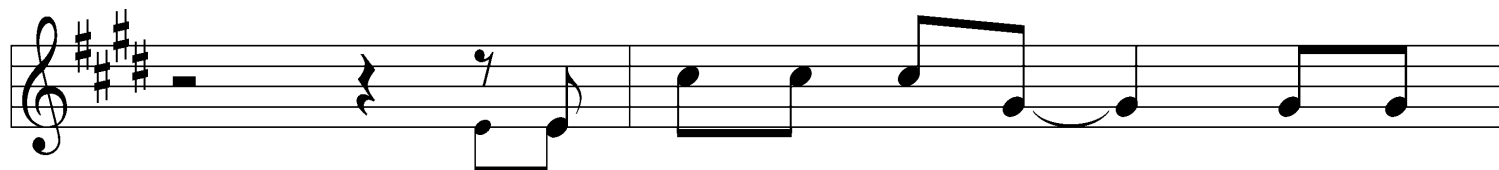


Refrain Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Last time



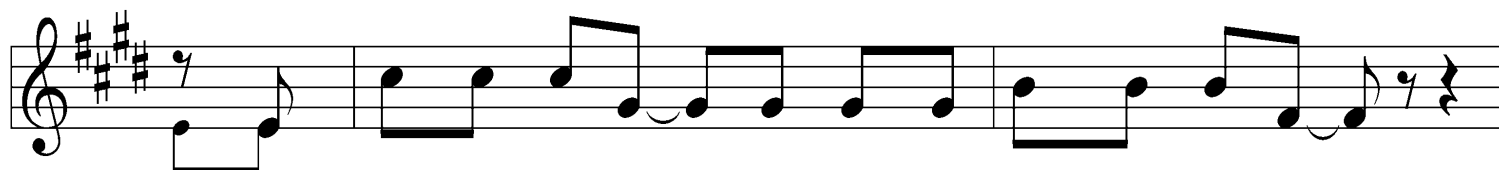
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the
2 That we may live out your im -
3 For peace in our hearts, for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you



health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;
cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;



for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

P O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy.

All Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[You may be Seated](#)

A Reading from Malachi, the 4th chapter

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

¹See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a}But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Malachi 4:1-2a

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 98

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

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Psalm 98

A Reading from 2 Thessalonians, the 3rd chapter

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and

exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below each staff.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then

he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

Luke 21:5-19

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez



Please stand in body or spirit.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O_____ my soul;

Wor - ship His ho - ly name._____ Sing like nev - er be - fore, O my soul; I'll
2nd time to Coda

wor - ship Your ho - ly name._____ 1The

sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing, it's time to sing Your song____

__ a - gain.____ What - ev - er may_ pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore_ me,
D.S. al Coda

let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes. Bless the
♩ *Coda*

2You're rich in love and You're slow to an - ger. Your name is great and Your

heart is kind.____ For all Your good - ness, I will keep on sing - ing;__

Ten thou - sand rea - sons for my heart to find. Bless the

Lord, O my soul, O_____ my soul; Wor - ship His ho - ly name.____

____ Sing like nev - er be - fore, O my soul; I'll

wor - ship Your ho - ly name. 3And

on that day, when my strength is fail - ing, the end draws near, and my

time has come; Still, my soul will sing Your praise un - end - ing

ten thou - sand years, and then for - ev - er - more! Bless the

Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Wor - ship His ho - ly name.

Sing like nev - er be - fore, O my soul; I'll

wor - ship Your ho - ly name. Bless the wor - ship Your ho - ly name.

wor - ship Your ho - ly name, Lord, I'll wor - ship Your ho - ly name.

Sing like nev - er be - fore,

O my soul; I'll wor - ship Your ho - ly name,

wor - ship Your ho - ly name, wor - ship Your ho - ly name.

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 Intercession

L United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

I cast all my cares up - on You. I
 lay all of my bur - dens down at Your feet. And
 an - y - time that I don't know what to do, I will
 cast all my cares up - on You.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Lord, in your mercy, **All:** You hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

[You may be Seated](#)

We Are An Offering

Words and Music by
Dwight Liles

We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an
 of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
 lives, they are Yours, we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have,



all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You.
 We lift our voi - ces, we lift our hands, we lift our
 lives up to You, we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

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Offertory Prayer

P Gracious God,
 Take this offering. Add it to that welcome, to that feast and robe, and ring
 that you offer the least and the lost.

All Add it to your party fund, and then make *us* the party planners,
 the door openers, the cupcake makers, the decorating committee,
 the potluck organizers, the people of God who make everyone feel
 wanted and welcomed and loved back to life.

Do all this and more in Jesus' name, 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 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.
Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

All Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

♪ ♪ **Do This In Remembrance Of Me** ♪ ♪

Chorus—**All**

Do this in remembrance of Me
Do this in remembrance of Me
This is My body this is My blood
Do this in remembrance of Me

Verse

Presider—This is My body given for you

All—Do this in remembrance of Me

Presider—This cup's the new covenant sealed in My blood

All—Do this in remembrance of Me

For whenever you eat this bread

And whenever you drink this cup

As you do you proclaim the Lord's death

Until He comes Chorus

CCLI Song # 4695183

Billy Christopher

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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.

The Invitation

P Christ spreads a table before you.
Gather here with all the saints.
All are welcome.

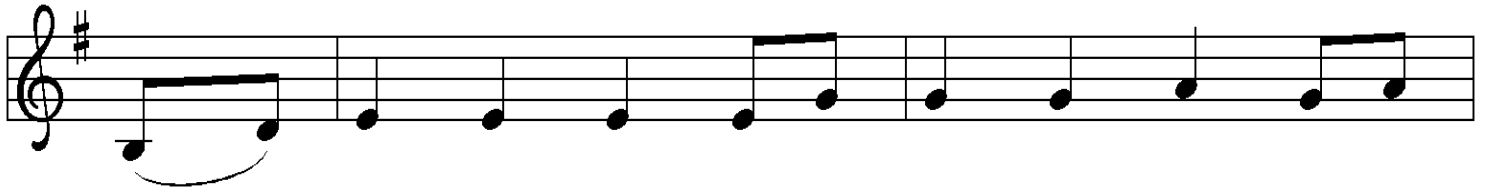
shed for you and
for all people
for the forgiveness of sin



All are Welcome!

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



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

I Surrender All



1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, All to Him I free - ly give;
 2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to Thee,



I will ev - er love and trust Him, In His pres - ence dai - ly live.
 Fill me with Thy love and pow - er, Let Thy bless - ing fall on me.



I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all.



All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

Words by Judson W. VanDeVenter, Music by Winfield S. Weeden

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Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

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, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise.

**All Enliven us to be your body in the world
and to serve those who are in need;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated for Stewardship of
Life & Ministry Announcements*

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P God saw you afar off this morning and *ran* to greet you. The robe, the ring, the sandals on your feet—that's how much God loves you, delights in you, gracefully welcomes you home.

Go, then, in peace, and bring God's extravagant, joyful love to a weary world—putting grace into action!

And may God the Creator, God the Redeemer, ✝ and God the Sustainer be with you as you go. Amen.

All Amen.

My Life Is In You

Words and Music by
Daniel Gardner

My life is in You, Lord, my
strength is in You, Lord, my hope is in
You, Lord, in You, it's in You. My You. I will
praise You with all of my life, I will praise You with
all of my strength; With all of my life, with
all of my strength. All of my hope is in You. My
Coda
You, in You.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.

All Thanks be to God.

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