

**RULES  
ARE  
RULES!**



*...but I say to you...*

6th Sunday after the Epiphany

*February 12, 2023*





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 space is available for  
parents who need to tend to their little ones.**

#### Introduction

*In today's reading we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.*

## Welcome to Worship

### Confession and Forgiveness

*Please stand as you are able.*

*P* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

**All Amen.**

*P* Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**All we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have not practiced your righteousness.**

**Our hearts have turned away from you.**

**For the sake of the world you so love,  
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another  
for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*P* Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass  
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

**All Amen.**

## Opening Song

Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down Words and Music by  
Dave Doherty

Come, let us wor-ship and\_ bow down, let us kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our  
Mak - er.\_\_\_\_ Come, let us wor-ship and\_ bow down, let us  
kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For He\_\_\_\_\_ is our God, and  
we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the sheep\_\_\_\_\_ of His  
hand, just the sheep\_\_\_\_\_ of His hand.

## 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 God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak  
mortals we accomplish nothing good without you.

**All** Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do,  
and give us grace and power to do them,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[You may be Seated](#)

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

*Wisdom literature has a high estimation of human possibilities. We are God's trusted creatures. Wisdom invites people to choose to keep God's commandments. Contrariwise, God does not command people to be wicked or give them permission to sin.*

<sup>15</sup>If you choose, you can keep the commandments,  
and to act faithfully is a matter of your own choice.

<sup>16</sup>He has placed before you fire and water;  
stretch out your hand for whichever you choose.

<sup>17</sup>Before each person are life and death,  
and whichever one chooses will be given.

<sup>18</sup>For great is the wisdom of the Lord;  
he is mighty in power and sees everything;

<sup>19</sup>his eyes are on those who fear him,  
and he knows every human action.

<sup>20</sup>He has not commanded anyone to be wicked,  
and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

*Sirach 15:15-20*

*L* Word of God, Word of Light.

**All Thanks be to God**

## A Reading from 1 Corinthians, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

*Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.*

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

<sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. <sup>9</sup>For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

*1 Corinthians 3:1-9*

*L* Word of God, Word of Life.

**All Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand as you are able.*



Thy Word is a lamp un-to\_\_\_ my feet and a light un-to my path.

*Last time Fine*



Thy Word is a lamp un-to\_\_\_ my feet and a light un-to my path.

Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire.

<sup>23</sup>So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup>“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

*Matthew 5:21-37*

*P* The Gospel of our Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

[You may be Seated](#)

Sermon

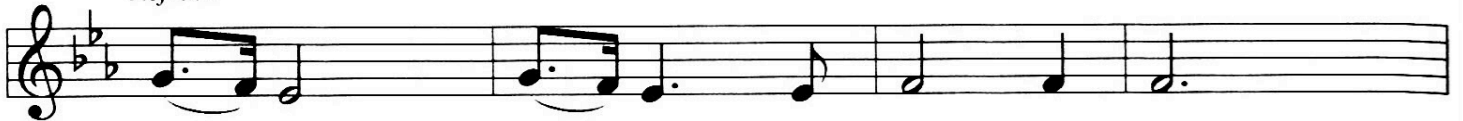
**Pr. Debra Jimenez**

# Hymn of the Day

# Lead Me, Guide Me

*Refrain*

Please stand in body or spirit.



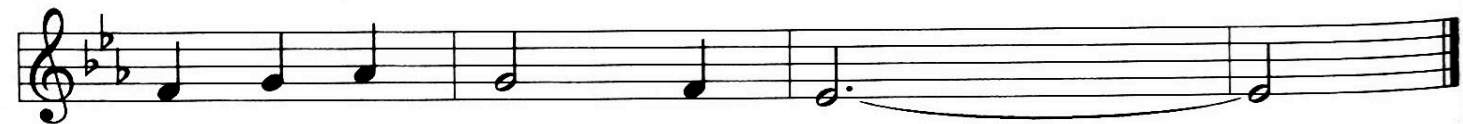
Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r  
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,  
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.  
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.  
I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.  
I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.  
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

*Refrain*

You may be Seated



## Installation of Church Council and Financial Team

*Doug Baker*

*Jim Craig*

*Ada Ingram*

*Kelly Martin*

*Joanna Wolf*

*Mylitta Barrett*

*Cindy Day*

*James Jimenez*

*Nicole Shane*

*Katie Young*

*Sharen Kamp—FT*

*Pat Refsdal—FT*

*Dorothy Harman—FT*

### 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* Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.



O Lord, hear our prayer we of-fer up to you; O Lord, hear our prayer.

*(each prayer petition ends with)*

*L:* Merciful God...

**All:** receive 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.*



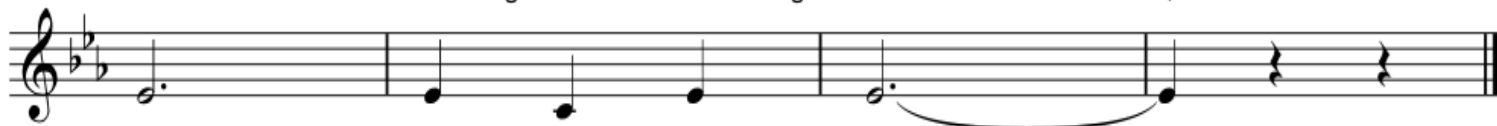
All that we have \_\_\_\_\_ and all that we of - fer \_\_\_\_\_



comes from a heart both fright - ened and free. \_\_\_\_\_



Take what we bring now and give what we need; \_\_\_\_\_



All done in His name. \_\_\_\_\_

## Offertory Prayer

*P* Liberating God,  
you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.

**All** Receive these offerings in thanksgiving  
for all your works of merciful power,  
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.  
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, 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.

*P* Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.



**All:** On the night You were be - trayed You took the bread;\_\_ Af - ter



giv - ing thanks,\_\_ You broke it and said, "This is My \_\_

bod - y, bro - ken for\_\_ you, and as you  
 eat\_\_ it, re - mem - ber Me; This is My\_\_  
 bod - y bro - ken for\_\_ you, and as you  
 eat\_\_ it, re - mem - ber Me." On the  
 night You were\_\_ be - trayed\_\_ You held the cup;\_\_ Af - ter  
 giv - ing thanks,\_\_ You lift - ed it up. "This is My\_\_  
 blood, poured out for\_\_ you, and as you drink\_\_ it, re - mem - ber  
 Me; This is My\_\_ blood, poured out for\_\_ you, and as you  
 drink\_\_ it, re - mem - ber\_\_ Me." 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 re -  
 mem - ber Your won - drous\_\_ love, You gave Your  
 bod - y, You shed Your blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous  
 love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your blood.

## The Lord's Prayer

*P* Let us 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 and taste the joy of God!



1 Be still\_\_ and know\_\_ that He\_\_ is God.\_\_  
 2 Be still\_\_ and know\_\_ that He\_\_ is God.\_\_  
 3 Be still\_\_ and know\_\_ that He\_\_ is God.\_\_



Be still\_\_ and know\_\_ that He\_\_ is\_\_ ho - ly.\_\_  
 Be still\_\_ and know\_\_ that He\_\_ is\_\_ faith - ful.\_\_  
 Be still\_\_ and know\_\_ He is\_\_ our\_\_ Fa - ther.\_\_

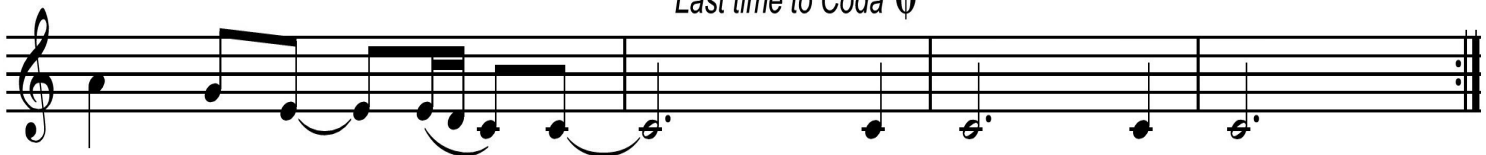


Be still,\_\_ oh, rest - less soul\_\_ of mine.\_\_  
 Con - sid - er all\_\_ that He\_\_ has done.\_\_  
 Come rest\_\_ your head\_\_ up - on\_\_ His breast;\_\_

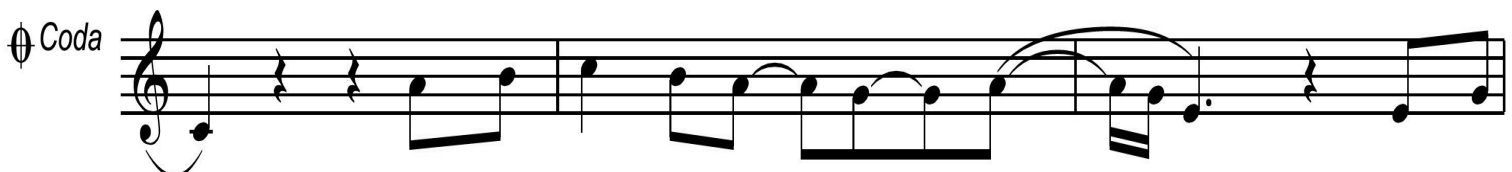


\_\_ Bow be - fore the Prince\_\_ of\_\_ Peace.\_\_     ? Let the  
 \_\_ Stand in awe and be\_\_ a - mazed,\_\_ and know that  
 \_\_ Lis - ten to the rhy - thm\_\_ of\_\_     ? His un -

*Last time to Coda* ⊕



noise and clam - or\_\_ cease.\_\_     Be still.  
 He will nev - er\_\_ change.\_\_     Be still.     Be still.  
 fail - ing heart\_\_ of\_\_ love,\_\_



\_\_ beat - ing for His lit - tle\_\_ ones,\_\_ call - ing

each of us \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ come. \_\_\_\_\_ Be still.

Be still.

## Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,  
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.  
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993  
 Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey  
 Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

## 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* Holy One, we thank you for the healing  
that springs forth abundantly from this table.

**All Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness,  
and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

# *Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements*

## Benediction

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

*P* The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod  
✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

**All Amen**



# My Life Is In You

Words and Music by  
Daniel Gardner

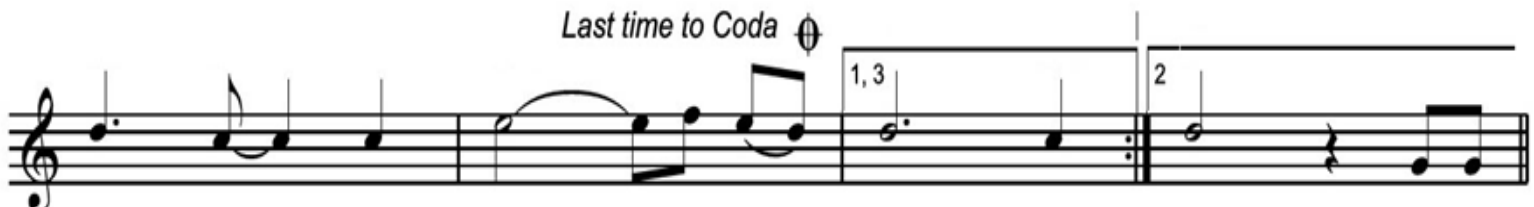


My life is in You, Lord, my

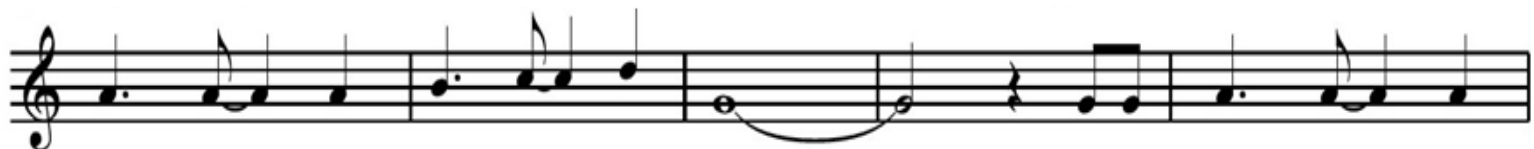


strength is in You, Lord, my hope is in

*Last time to Coda*



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. Follow the way of Jesus.

***All* Thanks be to God.**

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Readings for next Sunday,  
February 19<sup>th</sup>

**First Reading:**

**Exodus 24:12-18**

**Psalm:**

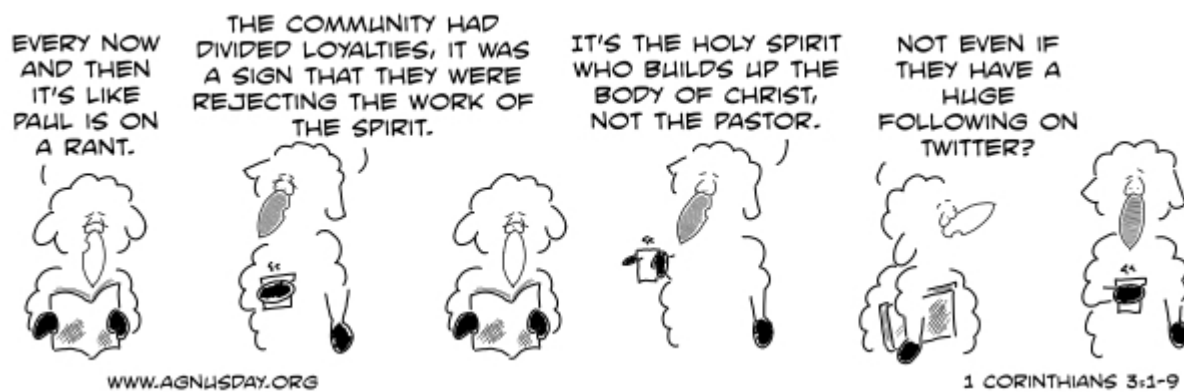
**Psalm 2**

**Second Reading:**

**2 Peter 1:16-21**

**Gospel:**

**Matthew 17:1-9**



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