



*October 22, 2023*

*21st Sunday after Pentecost*



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

## Introduction

*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

# Welcome to Worship

## *Song of Prayer for Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine*

### **We Pray for Peace** (TUNE: *Be Still My Soul*)

**We pray for peace, O Christ who calmed the waters—  
who stilled the storm, who stilled disciples' fear.  
You spoke with love and with amazing power;  
be with us now when trouble is so near.  
May leaders see the miracle you offer—  
that words and deeds can calm the nations here.**

### Prayer of Confession

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*P* Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
✝ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**All Amen**

*P* Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**All you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.  
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.  
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.  
For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**

**All** For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.  
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.

*P* Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**All** Amen.

## Opening Song

### Shout To The Lord Words and Music by Darlene Zschech

My Je - sus, my Sav - iour, Lord, there is none \_\_\_ like \_\_\_ You; \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ All of my days \_\_\_ I want to praise \_\_\_ the won - ders of Your  
might - y love. My com - fort, my shel - ter,  
Tow - er of ref - uge and strength; \_\_\_ Let ev - 'ry breath, \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ all that I am, \_\_\_ nev - er cease to wor - ship You. \_\_\_  
Shout to the Lord, \_\_\_ all the earth, \_\_\_ let us sing. \_\_\_  
Pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise \_\_\_ to the King. \_\_\_

Moun - tains bow down\_\_\_\_\_ and the seas\_\_\_\_\_ will roar\_\_\_\_\_ at the  
 sound\_\_\_\_\_ of Your name.\_\_\_\_\_ I sing for joy\_\_\_\_\_ at the work\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ of Your hands,\_\_\_\_\_ for - ev - er I'll love\_\_\_\_\_ You, for - ev -  
 er I'll stand,\_\_\_\_\_ noth - ing com - pares\_\_\_\_\_ to the prom -  
 ise I have\_\_\_\_\_ in\_\_\_\_\_ You.\_\_\_\_\_

## Greeting

*P* The Lord be with you

**All** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

*P* Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts.

**All** Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[You may be Seated](#)

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

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whose right hand I have grasped

to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes,  
to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:

<sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains,

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name,

I surname you, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,

<sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun

and from the west, that there is no one besides me;

I am the LORD, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe;

I the LORD do all these things.

*Isaiah 45:1-7*

*L* The word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God!**

## A Reading from Thessalonians, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

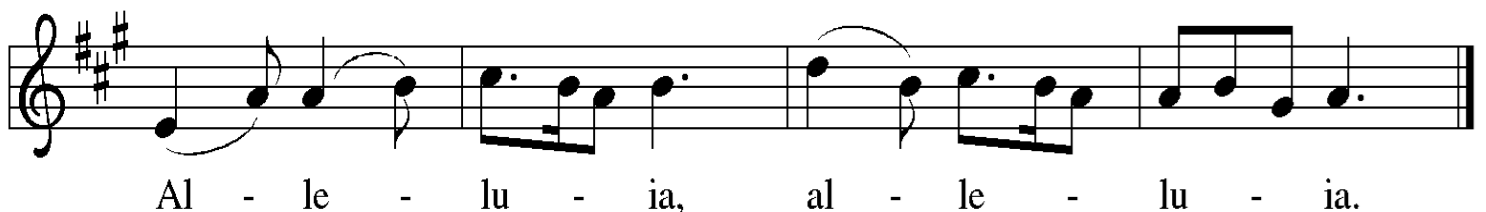
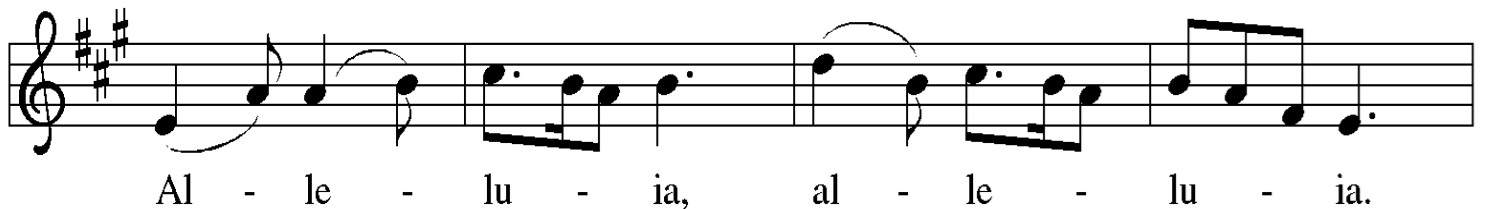
*1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

*L* The word of the Lord

**All** Thanks be to God!

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit.*



# Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

*After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.*

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

*Matthew 22:15-22*

*P* The Gospel of our Lord.

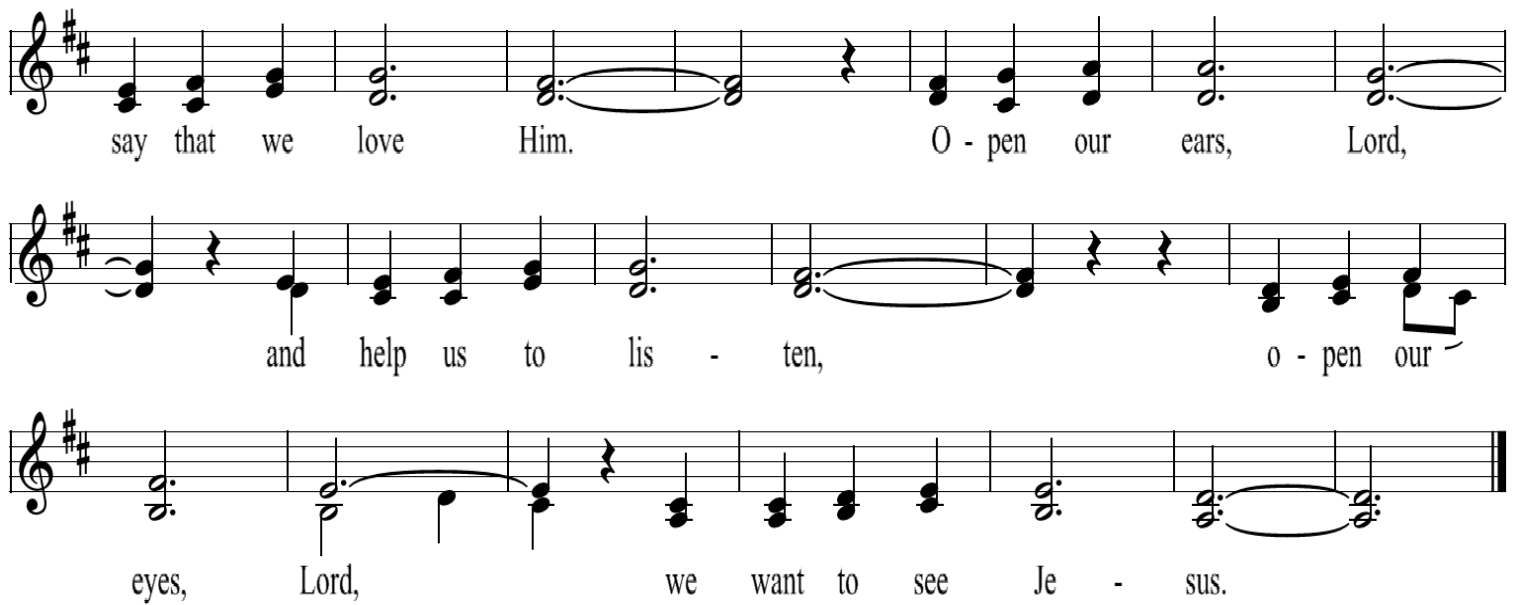
**All** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

[You may be Seated](#)

*P* Please pray with me...

O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je -  
sus, to reach out and touch Him, and





say that we love Him. O - pen our ears, Lord,  
and help us to lis - ten, o - pen our  
eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

## You Are My King (Amazing Love)

Words and Music by  
Billy Foote



I'm for - giv - en because You were for - sak - en.  
I'm ac - cept - ed; You were con - demned.  
I'm a - live and well, Your Spir - it is with - in me be -  
cause You died and rose a - gain. A - maz - ing love, how

can it be that You, my King, would die for me?  
 Amazing love, I know it's true;  
 it's my joy to honor You.  
 In all I do I honor You.

## The 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* Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us 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)*

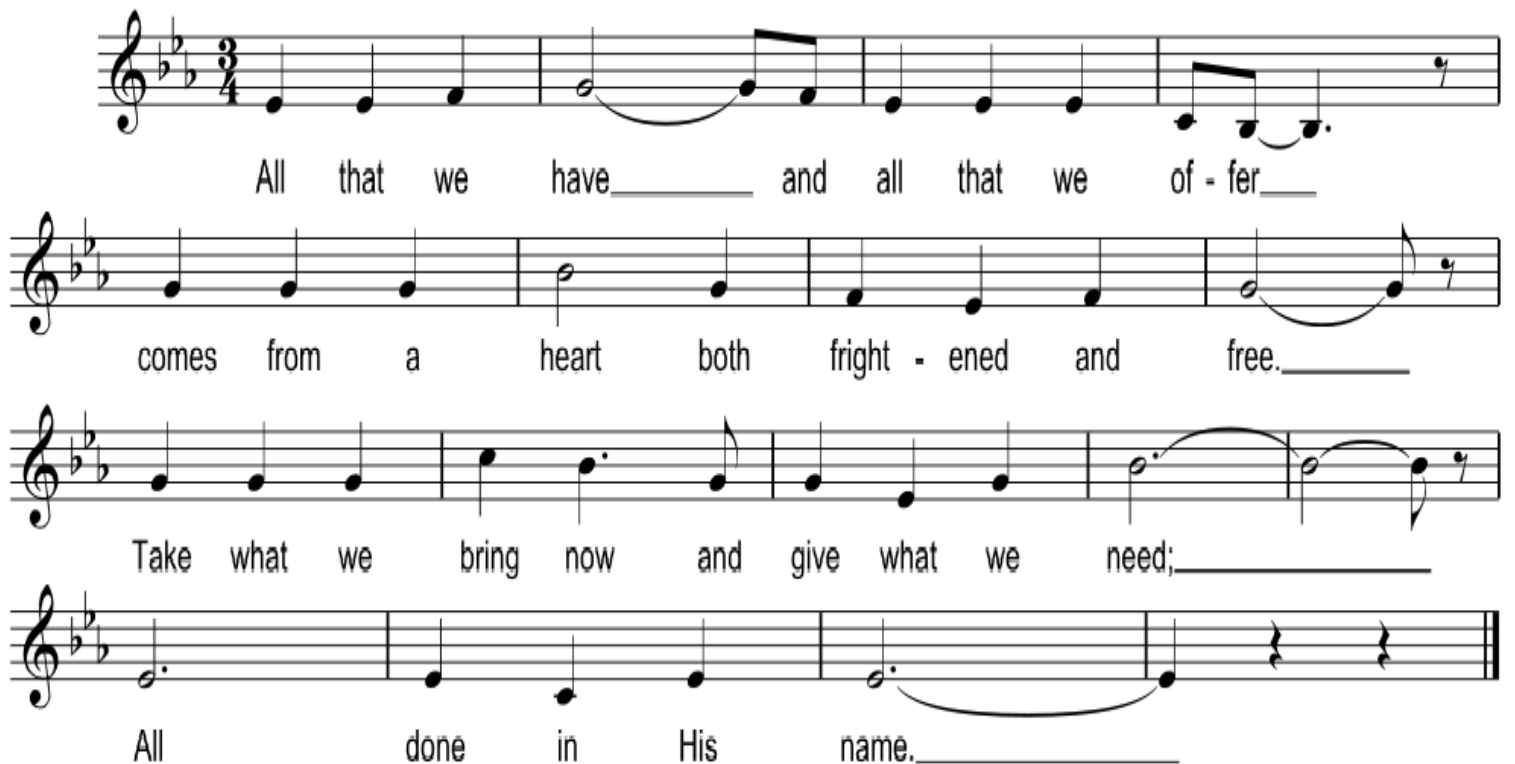
*L:* God of grace,      ***All:* You hear our prayer.**

## Passing of the Peace

*P* Christ become peace with you.

***All*** And also with you.

## Offering



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* Let us pray:

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

**All** We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**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* And with our hearts and voices raised we remember...



**(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* 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 Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live..

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*

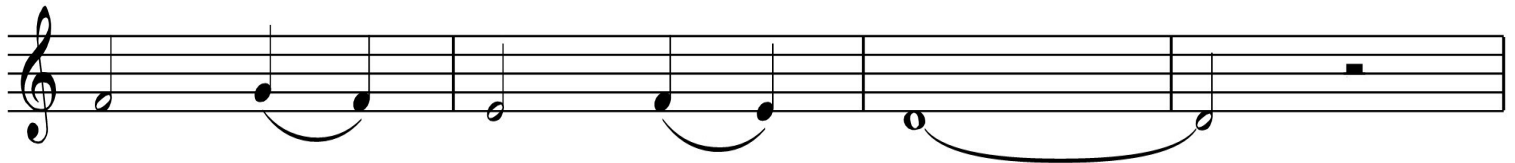
## Communion Songs

### Seek Ye First

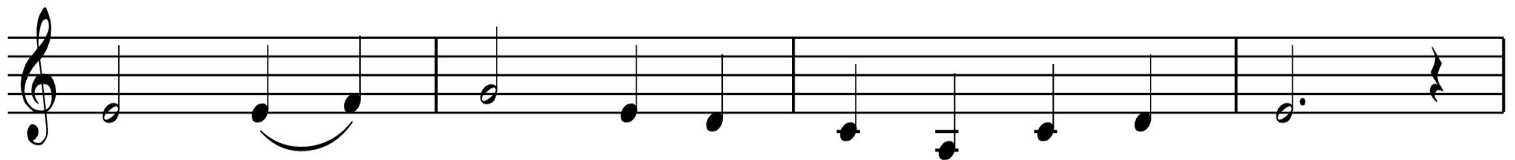
Words and Music by  
Karen Lafferty



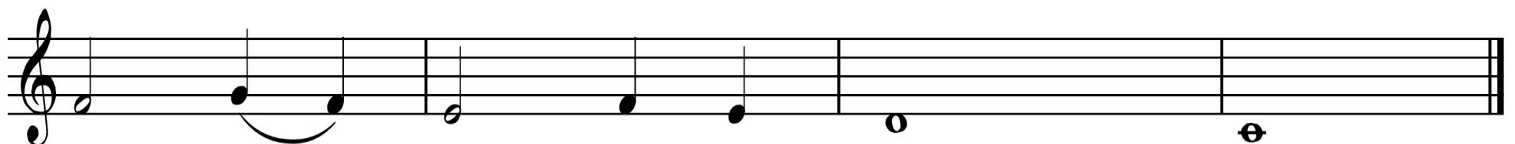
1 Seek ye \_\_\_\_\_ first the \_\_\_\_\_ king - dom of God  
2 Man shall not live by \_\_\_\_\_ bread \_\_\_\_\_ a - lone  
3 Ask and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ giv - en un - to you,



and His \_\_\_\_\_ right - eous - ness, \_\_\_\_\_  
but by \_\_\_\_\_ ev - 'ry \_\_\_\_\_ word \_\_\_\_\_  
Seek and \_\_\_\_\_ ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ find, \_\_\_\_\_



And all these things shall be add - ed un - to you-  
That pro - ceeds from the mouth \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ God-  
Knock and the door shall be o - pened un - to you-



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

# Above All

Words and Music by  
Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche

(1) A - bove all pow - ers, a - bove all kings, a - bove all  
na - ture and all cre - a - ted things; A - bove all  
wis - dom and all the ways of man,  
You were here be - fore the world be - gan. (2) A - bove all  
king - doms, a - bove all thrones, a - bove all  
won - ders the world has ev - er known; A - bove all  
wealth and treas - ures of the earth,  
there's no way to meas - ure what You're worth.  
Cru - ci - fied, laid be - hind the stone; You lived to die, re -  
ject - ed and a - lone; Like a rose, tram - pled on the ground,  
You took the fall, and thought of me, a - bove



## 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* Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

**All Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Please be seated for Stewardship of  
Life & Ministry Announcements

## Benediction & Sending

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*(Leaders sing each line, the congregation repeats.)*

May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord make His face to shine on you.  
And be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift His countenance on you.  
May the Lord lift His countenance on you.  
May He keep you in perfect peace.

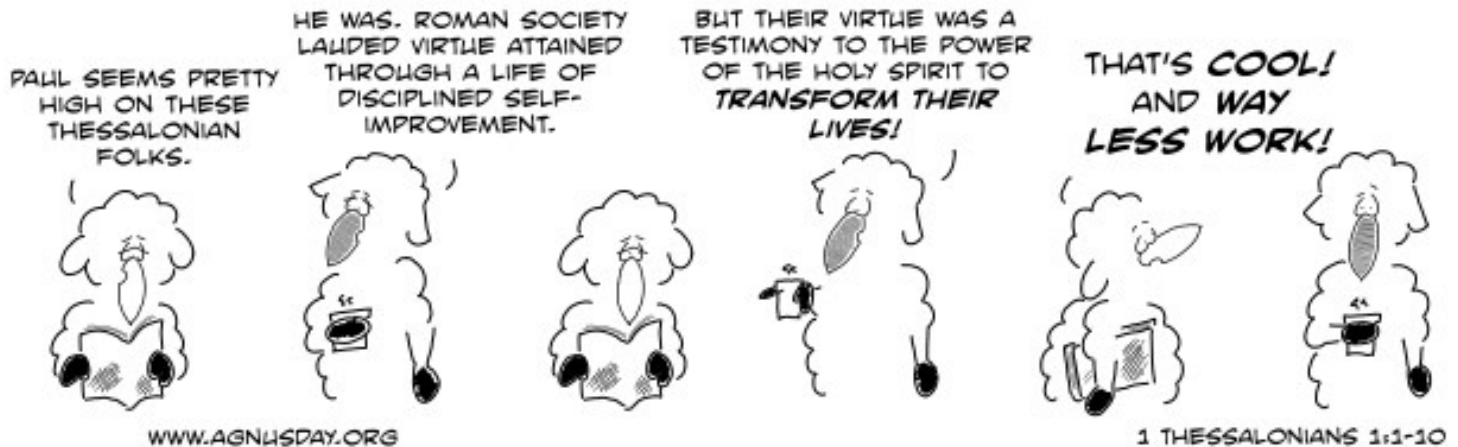
# Dismissal

*P* Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

*Romans 12:12*

Go in peace. God is at work in us.

*All* Thanks be to God.



**Front Cover Image:**

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Readings for next Sunday,  
October 29<sup>th</sup>  
Reformation Sunday

**First Reading:**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**Psalm:**

**Psalm 46**

**Second Reading:**

**Romans 3:19-28**

**Gospel:**

**John 8:31-36**

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Next Sunday is REFORMATION SUNDAY

**WEAR RED!**

