



November 12, 2023
24th 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

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

Welcome to Worship

Prayer of Confession

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

All Amen

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection

Holy One,

**All We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.**

P Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

All Amen.

Opening Song

LEADERS:

Do You feel the world is broken?
Do You feel the shadows deepen?
But do you know that all the dark won't stop
the light from getting through?

CONGREGATION:
(After each question)



LEADERS:

Do you wish that you could see it all made new?

CONGREGATION:



LEADERS:

Is all creation groaning?
Is a new creation dawning?
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst?

CONGREGATION:
(After each question)



LEADERS:

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this?

CONGREGATION:



CONGREGATION:

Is an - y - one wor - thy? Is an - y - one whole? Is
an - y - one a - ble to break the seal and o - pen the scroll? The Li - on of Ju - dah who
con - quered the grave, He is Da - vid's Root and the Lamb who died to
ran - som the slave.

LEADERS:

Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this?

CONGREGATION:

He is.

Greeting

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.

All Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Reading from Amos, the 5th chapter

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians, the 4th chapter

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

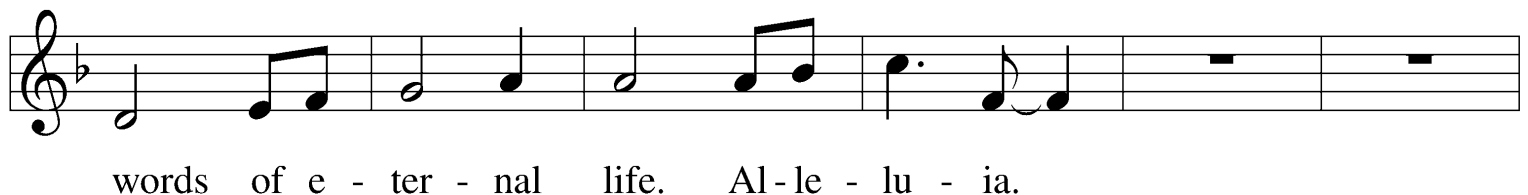
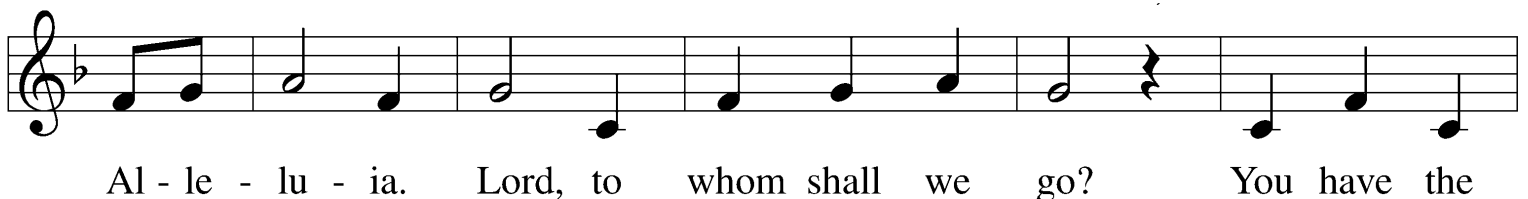
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.



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

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

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

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Matthew 25:1-13

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

I Will Offer Up My Life Words and Music by Matt Redman

1 I will of - fer up my life in spir - it and truth,
 2 You de - serve my ev - 'ry breath, for You've paid the great cost,
 — pour - ing out the oil of love as my wor - ship to You.
 — giv - ing up Your life to death, e - ven death on a cross.
 — In sur - ren - der I must give my ev - 'ry part.
 — You took all my shame a - way, there de - feat - ed my sin,

Lord, re - ceive the sac - ri - fice of a bro - ken heart.
 o - pened up the gates of heav'n and have beck - oned me in.
 Je - sus, what can I give, what can I bring to so faith - ful a friend,
 to so lov - ing a King? Sav - ior, what can be said, what can be sung
 as a praise of Your name for the things You have done?
 Oh, my words could not tell, not e - ven in part
 of the debt of love that is owed by this thank - ful heart.

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.

Prayers of The People

You may be Seated

L Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

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: You hear us, O God. ***All:* Your mercy is great.**

Passing of the Peace

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of ten staves. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours, we are an offering. 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 voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering, we are an offering." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes).

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, 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 voices, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to You, we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

CCLI Song # 16220
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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 There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

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

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



All are Welcome!

Communion Songs

Blessed Assurance Words and Music by
Fanny Jane Crosby and Phoebe Palmer Knapp



1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! _____ O what a
2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! _____ Vi - sions of
3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion - all is at rest, _____ I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! _____ Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
rap - ture now burst on my sight; _____ An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest; _____ Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God, _____ born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood. _____ This is my
bove _____ ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. _____ This is my
bove, _____ filled with His good - ness, lost in His love. _____ This is my



sto - ry, this is my song, _____ prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day



long; _____ This is my sto - ry, this is my song, _____ prais - ing my



Sav - ior all the day long. _____

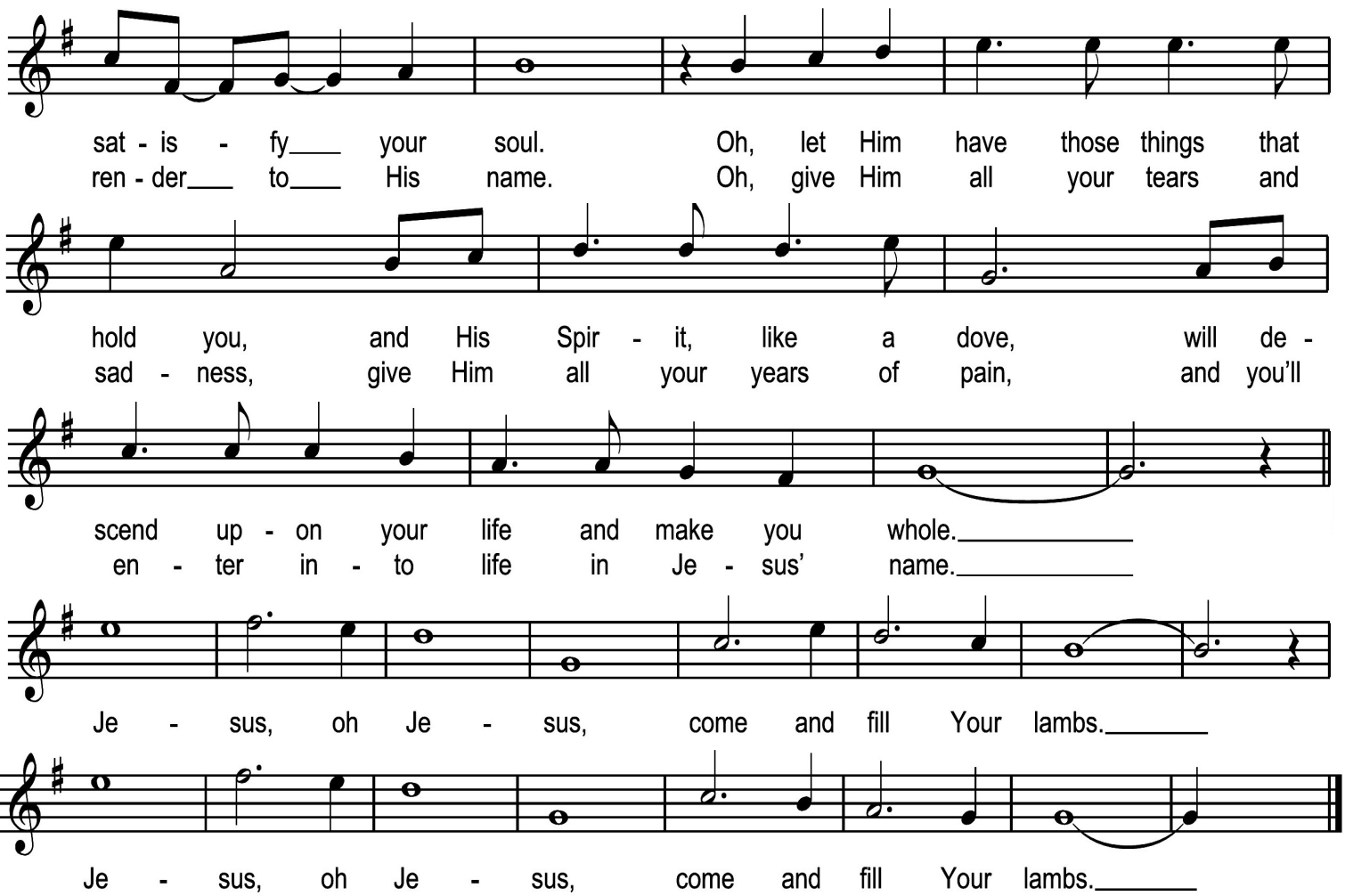
Spirit Song Words and Music by
John Wimber



1 Oh, let the Son of God en - fold you with His
2 Oh, come and sing this song with glad - ness as your



Spir - it and His love; Let Him fill your heart and
hearts are filled with joy; Lift your hands in sweet sur -



sat - is - fy your soul. Oh, let Him have those things that
ren - der to His name. Oh, give Him all your tears and

hold you, and His Spir - it, like a dove, will de -
sad - ness, give Him all your years of pain, and you'll

scend up - on your life and make you whole.
en - ter in - to life in Je - sus' name.

Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs.

Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs.

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

Please stand in body or spirit.

P May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

All Amen.

Closing Song

ONE VOICE:



Does the Fa - ther tru - ly love us?

MEN:



Does the Spir - it move a - mong us?

WOMEN:



And does Je - sus, our Mes - si - ah, hold for - ev - er those He loves?

CONGREGATION:
(After each question)



He does.

CONGREGATION:



Does our God in - tend to dwell a - gain with us?

He does.

CONGREGATION:



Is an - y - one wor - thy? Is an - y - one whole? Is



an - y - one a - ble to break the seal and o - pen the scroll? The Li - on of Ju - dah who



con - quered the grave, He is Da - vid's Root and the Lamb who died to



ran - som the slave. From ev - 'ry peo - ple and tribe, ev - 'ry



na - tion and tongue, He has made us a king - dom and priests to God to reign



with the Son. Is He wor - thy, is He wor - thy of all bless - ing and hon - or and



glo - ry?

LEADERS:

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this?

CONGREGATION:



He is. Is He wor - thy, Is He
wor - thy? He is. He is.

Dismissal

P ¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God;

1 John 3:1

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Front Cover Image:

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Readings for next Sunday,
November 19th
Pentecost 25

First Reading:	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm:	Psalm 90:1-12
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel:	Matthew 25:14-30

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