

DO
SOME-
thing!!!



November 19, 2023
25th 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

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

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 confess that we are not awake for you.

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.

Amen.

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 Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have.

All Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Reading from Zephaniah, the 1st chapter

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,
“The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians, the 5th chapter

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

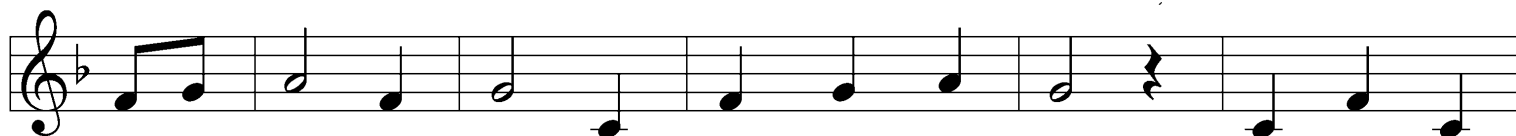
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

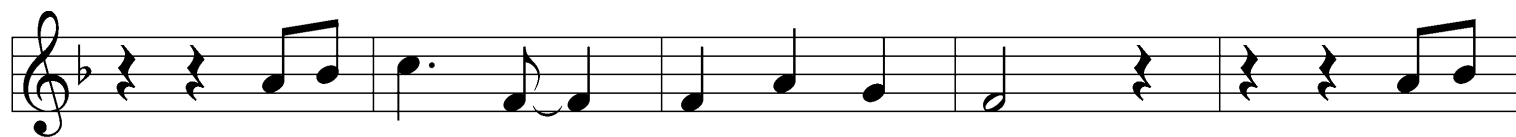
Please stand in body or spirit.



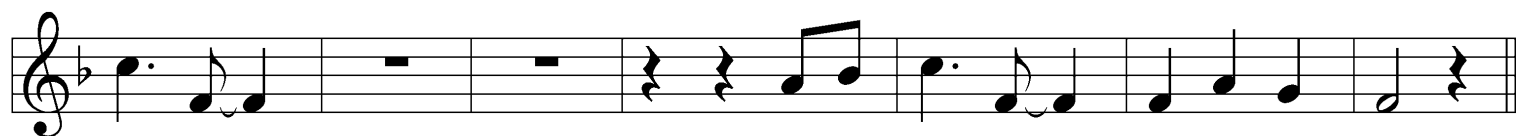
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



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 second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his

master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

Matthew 25:14-30

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

Canticle of the Turning

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.

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.**

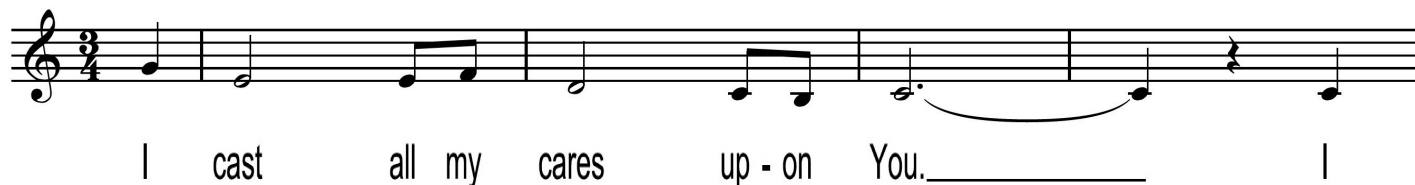
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of 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 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.



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

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.

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.

Communion Songs

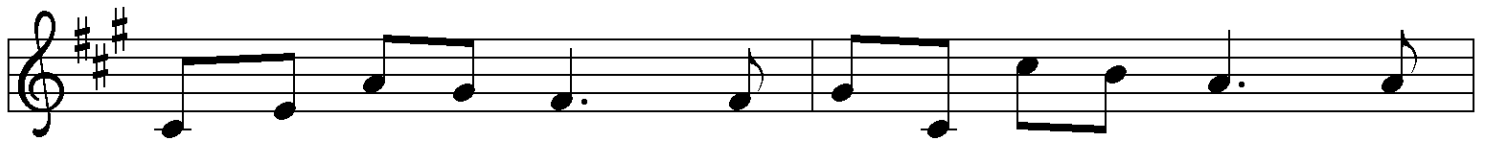
You Are Mine



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 4 "I am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad-ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *to verse 2*
 Come and rest in me. *to refrain*
 all will know my name. *to verse 4*
 up, now walk and live! *to refrain*



Refrain
 Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine."

More Love More Power

Words and Music by
Jude Del Hierro



More love, _ more pow-er, more of You ___ in my ___ life.



More love, ___ more pow - er, more of You _____ in my ___

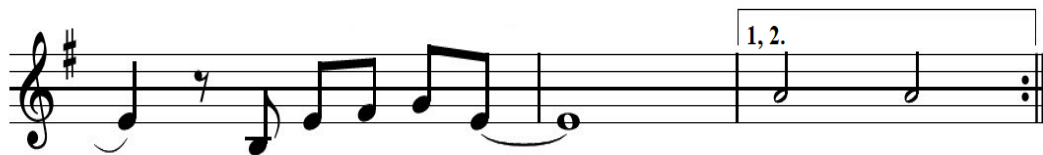


___ life. 1. And I will wor-ship You ___ with all of my heart. ___ And I will wor-ship
2. And I will seek Your face ___ with all of my heart. ___ And I will seek Your



You ___ with all of my mind. ___ And I will wor-ship You ___ with all of my strength.
face ___ with all of my mind. ___ And I will seek Your face ___ with all of my strength.

D.S. al fine



___ for You are my Lord. ___
___ for You are my Lord. ___

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



Does the Fa - ther tru - ly love us?



Does the Spir - it move a - mong us?



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:



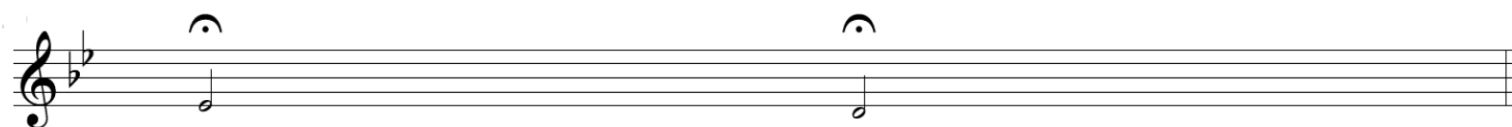
He is.

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.

THERE'S A LOT GOING ON HERE, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN...



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

HOW ABOUT AT THE **END?**



"WE WILL BE WITH THE LORD **FOREVER!**"



I'LL CONFESS. I GOT STUCK AT "CAUGHT UP IN THE CLOUDS," I'M **NOT EVEN GOOD ON A LADDER!**



1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

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Readings for next Sunday,
November 26th
Christ the King!

First Reading:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm:

Psalm 95:1-7a

Second Reading:

Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel:

Matthew 25:31-46

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BE
THE
CHANGE