



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

We began a journey last week. For these four weeks we will be training our "traveler's

mindset" and heart and soul, expanding our horizons, our understanding, and our love for the world and its people. We focused last week on leaving home. This week we find ourselves in "The Encounter" with things that feel "far from home."

The Encounter



Jesus often crossed paths with others not from his "tribe." He did not shy away.

Actually, he most often sought out these opportunities. He met people in their daily lives and locales, such as the Samaritan woman at the well and her community, and engaged with them at the point of their deepest yearning.

When we seek out and open to new encounters, new people, new relationships, we allow ourselves a spiritual rendezvous with humanity.

And in this act, we discover more depth within us

than we previously imagined.

Ρ

How can we shift our perception,

redefining "strangers" as "friends we have not yet met?"

Leaving home, we set our seeing, I na quest for deeper meaning. What we find can change us for the love of all the creation and its beings.

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Weary travelers are part of so many stories of encounter and hospitality. Jesus was surely weary, stopping at a well in the heat of the day for a drink. In his encounter there, a woman gives him a drink.

The scripture we will read about this says that Jews and Samaritans do not share things in common. But it seems they did share something in common in that moment. They shared a thirst for water, and ultimately the water of life that flowed between them from the Heart of the Divine. Let us remember our own thirst for the living water, especially when we are weary and afraid. Let us pray:

All Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves,

through what we have done and left undone.

Forgive us when we forget your hospitality,

and the call to extend it to others.

Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love. Lead us to travel in your ways. Amen.

P Know this:

The cup of grace is extended to us already and always.

At our moments of isolation,

Jesus offers invitation and relationship.

He is our constant companion,

inviting us to meet and companion one another,

traveling together toward the Kin-dom of Love.

All In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen!



Prayer for This Day

P Sojourning God,

your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other.

 All Open us to the depth of our connections even when it seems difference is so profound.
 Show us our shared humanity so that we will know what others love, see that we love the same, and share the burdens and the love.
 Nudge and guide us, we pray. Amen.

You may be Seated

A Reading from Psalm 146

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

Psalm 146

- L The Word of the Lord,
- All Thanks be to God!



Gospel Reading

- *P* The Holy Gospel according to St John, the 4th chapter.
- All Glory to you, O Lord.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest' ?But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.

John 4: 7-40

- *P* The Gospel of our Lord.
- All Praise to you, O Christ.



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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

WA One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.



(each prayer petition ends with)

WA: Lord, In your mercy,

All: You hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

- *P* Jesus Christ become peace with you.
- All And also with you.





P Let us pray: Holy Community of Love,

All use our gifts as you reach out to heal the broken, as you take the hands of those who feel lost,

and as you pull out a chair to welcome the ones who've been told, "There's no place for you." This feast is for all of us. Amen.



P The Holy Living God be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

Ρ

- 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.

S When I'm singin' Lord walk with me When I'm singin' Lord walk with me When I'm praisin' all of God's goodness Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

God of Grace,
It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you.
Your delight filled the skies and land
with colors beyond the spectrum of our knowing.
Your playful creating offered up humankind
with such diversity that we cannot comprehend it.
Your breath left waters frothy and lungs exploding
with the power of life and prophetic utterances.

 And yet we back away from such promise, unable to claim your love as ours.
 But here you are to meet us-speak to us-once again,

P always faithful, always present in this Body, the table ... in this Body, the people. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

> Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so...

Ρ

We remember...

We offer ourselves...

We claim a new freedom in this truth.

I invite you to raise your hands in the ancient Christian posture of prayer...

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.Make them be for us the vision of your Reign realized, so that we may be for the world your dream come true.

By your Spirit open us to each other and to the world, making us one in You, through Christ,

in the power of Your redeeming Grace!

When I'm lovin' Lord walk with me When I'm lovin' Lord walk with me When I'm caring for all God's children Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

God in Community, Holy and One, Ρ we lift our prayers to you, saying ... Our Father, who art in heaven, All 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

The Lord's Prayer

P Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

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





Make Me a Channel of Your Peace 0 1 Make chan - nel of your peace. me a Make 2 chan - nel me of your peace. a Make chan - nel 4 me of your peace. a Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your Where there's de - spair life, in let me bring It is par - don that in ing we are love; where there is in ju hope; where there is dark - ness, par - doned, in of giv ing our last time to Coda \oplus 0 don, Lord; and your ry, par -ly light; and on selves that we re 1 O O where there's doubt, true faith in you. where there's sad - ness, ev er joy. 2 0 3 Mas - ter, that Ι grant may nev - er seek SO much to be con - soled as to con -0 sole, to be der - stood un -



P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen

- P Jesus, Bread of life,
- All we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.
 As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
 In your name we pray. Amen.

<u>You may be Seated</u>

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

P As you encounter others, especially those not in your immediate circles, may you be aware that these very moments are spiritual acts of expanding your horizon, traveling beyond your preconceptions,

and embracing the infinite delight of this earth and its beings.

And may the Creator continue your unfolding, the Christ accompany your deeper knowing, the + Spirit enliven your growing, until one day we all gather in the Kin-dom of Love.











- WA In all your travels,...remember... We are the walking feet of Jesus.
- All Thanks be to God!

Front Cover:

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Readings for next Sunday, Aug 4th 11th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Isaiah 65: 17-25 Revelation 21: 22-26



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