



September 15, 2024

17th 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

Hear the call to dine with Jesus — an invitation that means much more than a simple eating experience. It never was simply about eating with Jesus.

The table was the place where he fed people, and also challenged them to acts of hospitality that reflect God's way. When we say "yes" to the place at Christ's table, we accept a way of life that embraces God's definition of love, peace, grace, and joy.

The Table of Peace

P This morning we contemplate together what it means to come to a “table of peace.”

The table of peace can take most any shape. Shape is much less important than what takes place around the table. People meet around tables to negotiate the terms of a contract, a settlement, and even a ceasefire and the end of a war.

For Jesus, peacemaking often took place in the act of sharing a meal with people others would have considered “outsiders.” We like to imagine that Jesus was always in perfect harmony with everyone gathered with him at the table. Do you suppose it is possible that sometimes even Jesus held his breath when he brought people with opposing viewpoints together?

Today, we come to the Table of Peace. Here we will practice patience and compassion – even when we disagree.

The musical score is written on four staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: 'Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace. This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.' The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the last line.

P We gather today to listen, to learn, and to love.

All We are ready to share and to hear what others have to say.

P Though we are all different, we yearn to find a mutual understanding.

All We are standing on common ground.

P We take our seat at the Table of Peace.

All We know that God is already here!

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Before God, with the people of God we confess our brokenness:

Silence for reflection

**All to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

P If we have known aliens in our community,
and have not loved them as ourselves, forgive us, God.

All Forgive us God.

WA Where we have colluded with unjust laws,
and been insensitive to suffering and fear, forgive us, God.

All Forgive us God.

P If we have left it to others to offer hospitality
and made excuses to ourselves for inaction, forgive us, God.

All Forgive us God.

WA Where we have remained ignorant of different customs
and assumed that all should observe ours, forgive us, God.

**All May God forgive us,
Christ renew us,
and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.**

P God says: 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, ✝ you are mine.'

**All In the name of Jesus, we are forgiven!
Amen.**

♪ ♪ **Come to the Table of Peace.** ♪ ♪
Come to the Table of Peace.
This is God's table; not yours or mine.
Come to the Table of Peace.

Prayer for This Day

P O Lord God, giver of life,

All Let peace fill our hearts, our homes, and our world.

Let us dream together, pray together and work together,
to build one world of peace and justice for all.

[You may be Seated](#)

A Reading from Romans, the 14th chapter

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we

live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Romans 14:1-12

L The Word of the Lord,

All Thanks be to God!

Please stand in body or spirit.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,
-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, And we lift our hands be-fore You as a
to - ken of our love, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mathew, the 18th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Matthew 18:21-35

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring
It is in par - don - ing that we are



love; where there is in - ju -
hope; where there is dark - ness,
par - doned, in giv - ing of our -

last time to Coda ⊕



ry, your par - don, Lord; and
..... on - ly light; and
selves that we re -



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er



seek so much to be con - soled as to con -



sole, to be un - der - stood



as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda

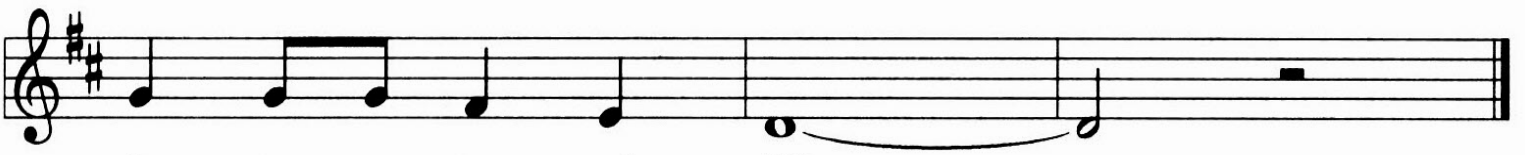


loved as to love with all my soul.

Coda



ceive and in dy - ing that we're



born to e - ter - nal life.

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.**

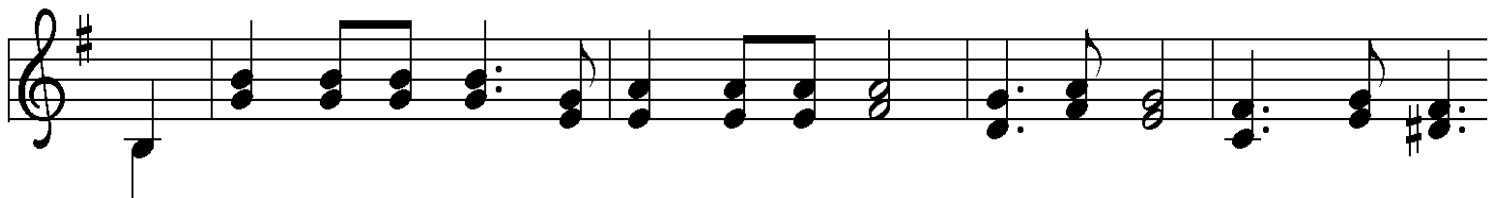
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of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

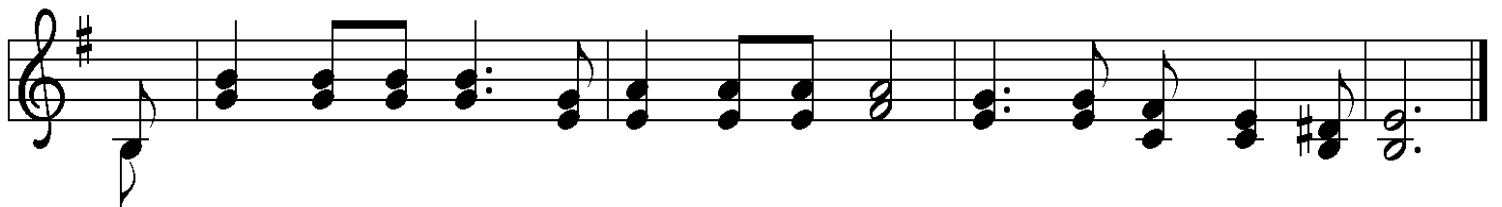
You may be Seated

Prayers of The People

WA Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

(each prayer petition ends with)

WA: Hear us, O God.

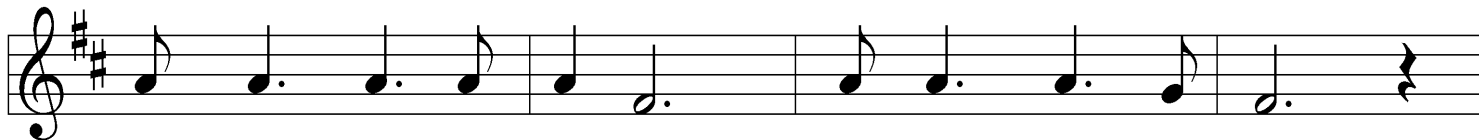
All: Your mercy is great.

Passing of the Peace

P Jesus Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offertory



What have we to of - fer? What have we to share?



Coins from the cof - fer, hearts filled with care.



God will not fal - ter; so let us dare



lay it at the al - tar there.

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God,

All source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts we bring and with our lives,

help us to serve one another and all in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

Please stand in body or spirit.

P God in Community, Holy and One,
we lift our prayers to you, saying ...

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 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




Communion Songs

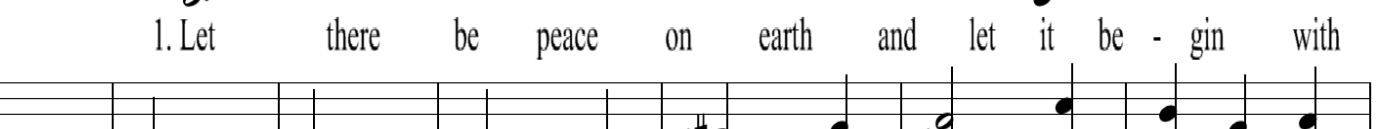
Let There Be Peace On Earth

Words and Music by
Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

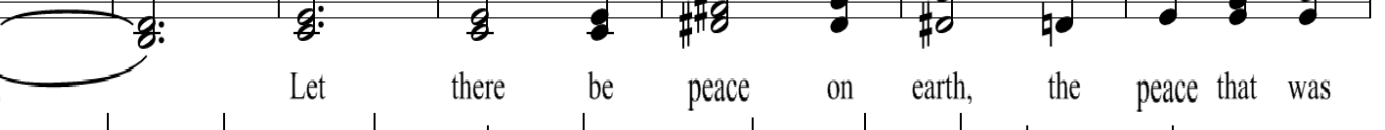
VERSE 1




1. Let there be peace on earth and let it be - gin with



me; Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was



meant to be. With God as our Fa - ther,



broth - ers all are we. Let me walk with my broth - er

VERSE 2



in per - fect har - mo - ny. 2. Let peace be -



-gin with me, let this be the mo - ment now. With



ev - ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow:



To take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e -



-ter - nal - ly. Let there be peace on earth and

1.

let it be - gin with me.

2.

let it be - gin with me.

You Are My Hiding Place Words and Music by Michael Ledner

You are my hid - ing place, You al - ways

fill my heart with songs of de - liv - er - ance; When -

Fine

ev - er I am a - fraid, I will trust in You.

I will trust in You. Let the weak say,

D.C. al Fine

"I am strong in the strength of the Lord!"

He Is Lord



He is Lord, he is Lord, he is ris-en from the dead and he is Lord;



ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con-fess that Je - sus Christ is 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 Holy God,

All you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[You may be Seated](#)

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P This Table of Peace requires much of us.

It asks us to listen to others when we are bursting with words of our own.

It asks us to speak with courage and grace when
perhaps we would rather stay silent.

It asks us to be patient when we are raring to go!

It asks us to save a seat for people whose opinions differ from ours,
and to treat everyone with kindness and dignity,
because we need each other — all of us — to survive.

The grace of God abounds!

The invitation of Christ is wide!

The power of the transforming Spirit will surprise us every time!

May the blessings of hospitality you find here
go with you and move through you to others
wherever you go this week.

All Amen.

Sending Song

Let The Peace Of God Reign

*Words and Music by
Darlene Zschech*



1. Fa ther of life, draw me clos - er, Lord, my heart is set on
2. Oh, Ho - ly Spir - it, You're my com - fort, strength - en me, hold my



You; Let me run the race of time, with your life en - fold - ing mine, and let the
head up high; And I'll stand up - on Your truth, bring - ing glo - ry un - to You, and let the

peace of God, let it reign. reign. Oh, Lord, I hun - ger for more of You,
 peace of God, let it
 rise up with - in me let me know Your truth; Oh, Ho - ly Spi - rit, sat - u -
 rate my soul, and let the life of God fill me now; Let Your heal - ing pow'r breathe
 life and make me whole, and let the peace of God, let it reign._____

Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

All Thanks be to God!

Readings for next Sunday,
 September 22nd
 18th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading:

Philippians 1:21-30

Gospel:

Matthew 20:1-16

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