



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 world seems to be consumed with division-often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in

our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors who we might consider to be on the "other side" politically and ideologically.

As we attempt to come together, the idea is not that we are obliterating either one or trying to change each other, but rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place.

The "purple space" is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what.

Blue and Red Make Purple: Kindness

P Did you know that more than 99% of our DNA is the same from one human to another? This surely makes us kin.

The word "kindness" originally developed from a root word that meant "family" or "with the feeling of relatives for each other."

And so we consider the implications of spending so much of our time feeling estranged from, and resentful toward, those whose less than 1% DNA moves them in a different direction from us.

And we begin to dream of finding a "purple space" in which to exchange goodness.



P The act of simply coming together is "revolutionary," which in its earliest form meant "finding a course around a central point." We gather around the Light of Christ as the center and guiding light of our lives. This becomes our point of reference for our relationships and our love in the world. This is our "kindness revolution."

> J We're accepted as we are, J J
> We're accepted as we are.
> Through God's love all is reconciled, We're accepted as we are.

- *P* For all the ways we colonize each other–
 with expectations, beliefs, judgments, and our own fear...
- All God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.
- P For all the ways we squander right relationship choosing being "right" over "relationship"…
- All God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.
- WA For all the ways we deny equality and the belovedness of alldeeming some "in" and others "out..."
- All God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.
- P Jesus said, "I have come to set the prisoner free."
 No matter what binds you this day, freedom is yours through new life in Christ.

In the name of him who came to loose the chains, we are forgiven.

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

Cast aside your doubts and fears.
 Cast aside your doubts and fears.
 Peace and love freely offered here;
 Cast aside your doubts and fears.

Prayer for This Day

Ρ

God of Mercy, we ask you to come mighty close, for we are a divided world, and we are not sure of our footing in this moment. All Steady us, and invite us
 to "do unto others" in ways that build up
 your kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.
 We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Center That Holds, and in the power of the Spirit That Transforms. Amen.

You may be Seated

A Reading from Colossians, the 3rd chapter

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

P The word of the Lord.

Colossians 3:12-13

All Thanks be to God.







- *P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.
- All Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6:31-36

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

You may be Seated







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

WA We come to prayer today as "others."
 In Jesus' edict to "do unto others," we are all someone's "other."
 We are all unknown or different to someone else.
 And yet, we are only less than 1% "other."





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





- 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.

he 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 Holy are you and blessed is your son, Jesus.To those who were imprisoned

by status, law, illness, poverty, gender, age, and disease, he said, "your belief has set you free. You are a child of God." He invited disciples, friends, and strangers alike to his tables.

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.

Holy Spirit, transform this meal and transform this body so that we might be free to love without condition, invite without hesitation, go without reservation,

and proclaim your Kindness to all the world!

All Amen

Please stand in body or spirit.

God in Community, Holy and One, Ρ 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 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



Communion Songs

Merciful God

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend



Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God





- 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



P May the Holy One show you the way to Do Unto Others with Kindness.

May the Christ whose Light is the Center of All-That-Is ground you in the assurance that no one is outside of love.

May the Spirit show forth through you in extraordinary acts you never imagined you had the power to achieve.

And may you know the peace that surpasses all understanding, + especially when it is difficult to understand.

All Amen.





- Dismissal
- WA Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:23
 Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.
- All Thanks be to God!



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