



#### Scension 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 the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

#### Introduction

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right.

He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

### Welcome to Worship

#### Please stand in body or spirit.



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893 Prayer for This Day

- P Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever.
- All Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

You may be Seated

A Reading from Daniel, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

- <sup>9</sup> As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.
- <sup>10</sup> A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.
- A thousand thousands served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

<sup>13</sup> As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

<sup>14</sup> To him was given dominion and glory and kingship,

that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away,

and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

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

## A Reading from The Revelation, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

<sup>4b</sup> Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 1:4b-8

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



## Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### All Glory to you, O Lord.

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

<sup>33</sup> Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

John 18:33-37

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

You may be Seated



Each week our congregation is **led by children** to collect pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters. Through this offering, we are reminded that together, the smallest of offerings can change lives and make "hope" tangible.

In recent years, our Noisy Offering has fed 10 children for an entire year through Food for the Poor. The Noisy Offering has helped families by providing:

4 goats; 2 hens; 12 chicks; 2 piglets; mosquito netting; honeybees and a vegetable garden. You've provided a Farmer's Field School, 3 fruit tree seedlings, seeds, and gardening tools. We can't wait to see how the children will choose to share next!

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Please stand in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day

#### Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Phil Wickham, Brian Johnson, Jenn Johnson and Jason Ingram









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 Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

We Lift Up By Nick Ehrhardt

#### Ooooh, Oooooh, We Lift Up Our Prayers. All (Repeat throughout) For the planet, for its people. Leader For the church and it's many shapes of steeples. For the hungry, for the cold. For the young and for the old. For our joy and for our pain. For the sunshine for the rain. For the dying, for the sick. For our loved ones and the glue that makes us stick. For our leaders for their minds. For your wisdom as to how we draw our lines. For the world and its frantic pace. For the places where we find deeper space. For all yearning hearts beneath the sun. For the chance for a prayer for everyone. For our words and for our silence. (Pause) Ooooh, Oooooh, Ahhhmen.

Passing of the Peace

Please stand in body or spirit.

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



Offertory Prayer

- *P* God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.
- All Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

#### All Amen.

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

For our incapacity to feel the sufferings of others, and our tendency to live comfortably with injustice,

#### All God forgive us.

 P For the self-righteousness which denies guilt, and the self-interest which strangles compassion,

#### All God forgive us.

 P For those who live their lives in careless unconcern, who cry 'Peace, peace' when there is no peace,

#### All We ask for your mercy.

*P* For our failings in community, our lack of understanding

#### All We ask for Your Mercy.

P For our lack of forgiveness, openness, and sensitivity

#### All God forgive us.

P For the times we were too eager to be better than others,
When we are too rushed to care, when we are too tired to bother,
When we don't really listen, when we are too quick to act
from motives rather than love,

#### All God forgive us.

*P* Beloved people of God:

These words are trustworthy and true:

Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,

swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are 🕂 forgiven

and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

#### All Amen.

Holy Communion

- *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 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

- 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.



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







## Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- All Amen
- P Let us pray, 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

You may be Seated

## Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

*P* May you recognize in your life the presence, power, and light of your soul.

May you realize that you are never alone,

that your soul in its brightness and belonging connects you intimately with the rhythm of the universe.

May you have respect for your individuality and difference.

May you realize that the shape of your soul is unique, that you have a special destiny here, that behind the façade of your life there is something beautiful and eternal happening.

May you learn to see your *self* with the same delight, pride, and expectation with which God **↓** *sees* you in every moment.

Blessing for Solitude John O'Donohue Sending Song

Ρ



We dare to declare that Christ is king on the eve of a new year in the life of the church. Such simple proclamation, and yet easily forgotten. So central to our faith, and yet dangerous to speak in the shadow of empires. All Christ is King, the patriarchy is not. Christ is King, white supremacy is not. Christ is king, democracy is not. Christ is King, big money is not. Christ is King, the status quo is not. Christ is King, the church is not.

#### Christ is King, and I am not.

It rings in our ears Like auld lang syne –

### Christ is King! The last and truest word of all.

All AMEN!

Ρ

Speak It Plain words for worship and life together by Meta Herrick Carlson



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Readings for next Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent **First Reading:** 

Gospel:

Romans 8:18-25

Luke 2:1-3

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