

Fill My Future with Vision



SIX STONE JARS

The Economy of Jesus

6th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2025



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

Introduction

We live in a time of anxiety... especially about our wellbeing and sustenance.

The rhetoric of late has highlighted that fear reigns and many are living in an attitude of "taking care of our own."

But time and again we are reminded that in the Kingdom of God, who we should consider "our own" crosses many perceived boundaries.

We are called by Jesus to take care of ***all in need, especially those most vulnerable.***

The Gospel readings for this season after the Epiphany point to the topsy-turvy way that Jesus proclaims an "economy" in which wealth is redistributed for the good of all.

Fill My Days with Meaning

P Being “blessed” is something we too often associate with good luck or privilege or prestige. But in the economy of Jesus, blessedness is quite the opposite. It relies only on active participation in a kingdom of God in which all are blessed and lifted up to a level playing field, especially those whose identity is demeaned by the powers-that-be. Jesus proclaims a vision of the future in which the jars of plenty never run dry and those who need to dip from plenty the most go to the front of the line.

In this world of striving, we feel the yearn to earn.

The world measures our worth in those earnings.

But Jesus had different ideas.

When they believed the scarcity narratives perpetuated by those in power, he imagined a narrative of selflessness that prized humility over hubris.

Opening Song

Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down Vords and Music by Dave Doherty

Come, let us wor-ship and_ bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our
Mak - er.____ Come, let us wor-ship and_ bow down, let us
kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For He____ is our God, and
we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the sheep_____ of His
hand, just the sheep_____ of His hand.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life

All Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection

Merciful God,

All you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults

and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ✚ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

P Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

All Amen.

Prayer for This Day

You may be Seated

P God of Surprising Paradoxes,
we come to you today, lifting to you our feelings of powerlessness against
empire and the rage we feel when bad things happen to good people.

**All In the midst of our confounded search for answers, remind us of your
justice that restores dignity to those who have been laid low and
promises an inheritance of goodness and grace for all people. Amen.**

A Reading from Jeremiah, the 17th chapter

*These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two
ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without
God brings a curse, the power of death.*

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD. ⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Jeremiah 17:5-10

WA The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 1 Corinthians, the 15th chapter

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

WA The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

O - pen the eyes___ of my heart,___ Lord,___

o - pen the eyes___ of my heart;___ I want to see You,___

I want to see You.___

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.”

Luke 6:17-26

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

[You may be Seated](#)

Children's Sermon & Noisy Offering

Message

Pr. Debra Jimenez

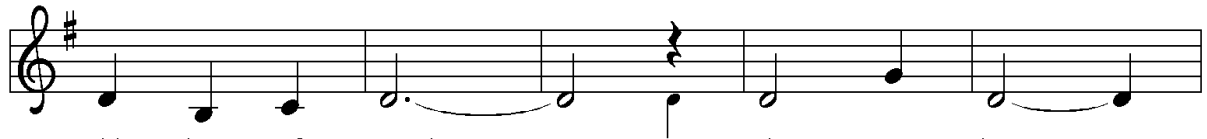
Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

Blest Are They



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -
3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy
4 Blest are they who seek peace; . . they are the
5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they,
her - it the earth. Blest are they who
shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the
chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,



full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled. *(to verse 2)*
hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill. *(to refrain)*
pure of heart; they shall see God. *(to verse 4)*
suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs. *(to refrain)*
yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see. *(to refrain)*



Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king - dom of God!

Installation of Church Council

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.**

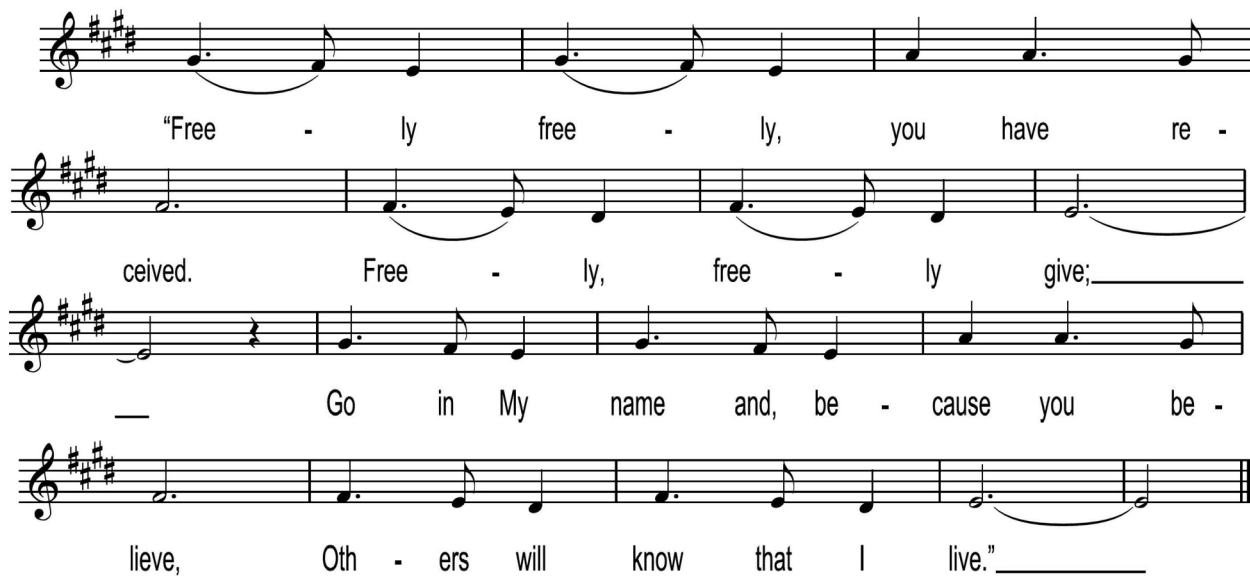
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of 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 In the economy of Jesus, we find abundance in the most unlikely places.
We ask for God's guidance to discern when we need
to change direction or try things differently.
We find abundant meaning in the midst of life's uncertainties
when we look to Jesus.



"Free - ly free - ly, you have re -
ceived. Free - ly, free - ly give;
Go in My name and, be - cause you be -
lieve, Oth - ers will know that I live."

WA In this pause, O God, we ponder the many gifts you have given us.
Our gratitude seems never enough for the plenty you provide.
We call to mind the gifts of creation, of relationships, of sustenance.

Silence for reflection

WA In this pause, Christ Jesus, we ponder the ways your love is still at work in the world.

Our awe and wonder at the goodness of others is profound.
We call to mind acts of kindness, generosity, and selflessness.

Silence for reflection

In this pause, Holy Spirit, we come asking you for strength.

The temptation to live by the economics of not-enough is so strong in us.
We ask for revelation in our thinking and doing,
so that we might live with meaning in this house.

Silence for reflection

Loving God, Christ Jesus, Holy Spirit, we are yours.

We bring to you now the concerns of our day, of our communities,
knowing that already you are present, already you are working
to bring about comfort and healing.

Silence for reflection

We lift before you all those on our prayer list; we pray for physical,
emotional, and spiritual healing and strength.

We pray for places and people on this earth ravaged by war.

We pray for those affected by severe weather, wildfires and landslides.

We pray for those who've lost all their worldly goods;
for those who've died and those who mourn.

We pray for first responders,

and all those who work to bring healing to the injured.

We pray for refugees, for those who are without a safe place to call home.

Give us courage to live out your Gospel so that we may seek justice and
mercy for all people.

Silence for reflection

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that
your promise is revealed among the people.

All Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by “speaking” that Peace through sign language.

P Jesus Christ become Peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

You may be Seated

While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me. Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Offertory Prayer

P God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

All Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

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 When we grow afraid and weary and cannot fathom your care,
hoarding resources for ourselves and “our kind,”
your love remains steadfast.

You deliver us from captivity to worldly illusions of security,
make covenant again and again to be our Sustenance,
and you continue to speak to us through your prophets
who proclaim abundance for all people.

All Come, Holy Spirit, come to us again.

WA Come, Holy Spirit,
renew the hearts of all gathered for praise and prayer.
Create in us a desire for justice, peace, and liberation for all people.

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.

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

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Let us together approach the throne of grace
as we pray as Jesus taught us:

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 The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of abundance.

shed for you and
for all people
for the forgiveness of sin



All are Welcome!

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

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



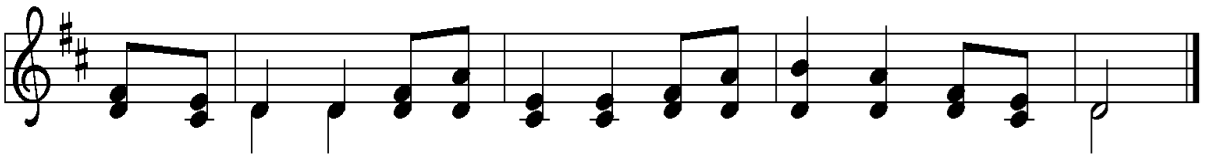
- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

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 Let us pray,
Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.

All **Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

You may be Seated

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The jars are full in the Kingdom of God.
The house is full of the vision we need
and the vision we are called to proclaim.

Transformed by the economy of Jesus,
to bear witness to God's grace,
may we go out to invest in the transformation of our communities
with the help of God, ✝
the guidance of Jesus,
and the power of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen**

Sending

All The People Said Amen

Words and Music by
Matt Maher, Trevor Morgan
and Paul Moak



1. You are not a-lone
2. If you're rich or poor,



if you are lone - ly. When you feel a - afraid, you're not the on - ly.
well, it don't mat - ter. Weak _ or strong, you know love is what we're af - ter.



We are all the same, in need of mer - cy, _ to be for - giv - en and be
We're all bro - ken, but we're all in this to - geth - er. _ God knows we stum - ble and fall, _



free. It's all you got to lean on, but thank God, it's all you need. ____
_ and He so loved the world, He sent His Son to save us all.

§



And all the peo - ple said, "A - men." Whoa. ____ And all the peo - ple said, "A -



-men." Give thanks to the Lord, _ for His love _ nev - er ends. _

last time to Coda ⊕



And all the peo - ple said, "A - men."

men." Bless-ed are ___ the poor in spir - it who are torn a - part. Bless-ed are _

___ the per - se - cut - ed and the pure in heart. Bless-ed are ___ the peo - ple hun - gry for an -

-oth - er start, ___ for theirs is the king - dom, the king - dom of God. ___

- men." And all the peo - ple said, "A - men."

Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Live your life with vision.

All Thanks be to God.

Front Cover:

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Readings for next Sunday,
February 23rd

First Reading:

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalm:

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Gospel:

Luke 6:27-38



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