



*How often have I desired to gather  
your children together as a hen gathers  
her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!*

*2nd Sunday in Lent*

*March 16, 2025*



Ascension Lutheran Church  
1105 N. Washington Blvd.  
Ogden, UT 84404  
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## Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, especially those 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 worshipping 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.**

## Welcome to Worship

### Opening Song

#### Refrain

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Beneath the Tree of Life  
by Marty Haugen

Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of life.

Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of

life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of

heal - ing and re - lease. Come and

2

gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and

pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how

deep and rich the well - spring of your love. *To Refrain*

## 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

*P* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**All** Amen.

*P* Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**All** you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
 but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.  
 We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.  
 We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
 you grant to all people.  
 We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.  
 We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.  
 Transform our lives  
 and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

*P* Beloved in Christ,  
 God's arms are always stretched open wide  
 to welcome the wandering ones home.  
 In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.  
 You have a place in God's house forever.

**All** Amen.

## Kyrie

**P** = presider    **A** = all



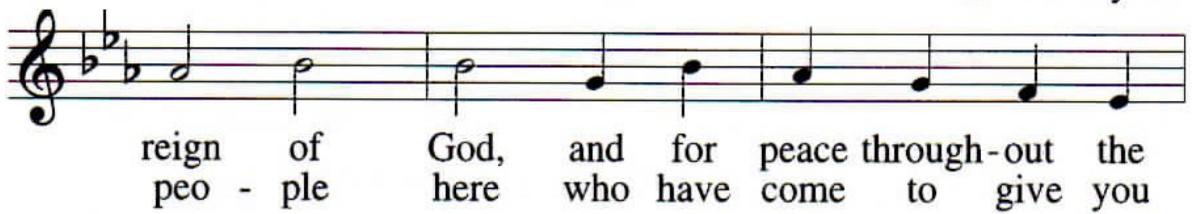
**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



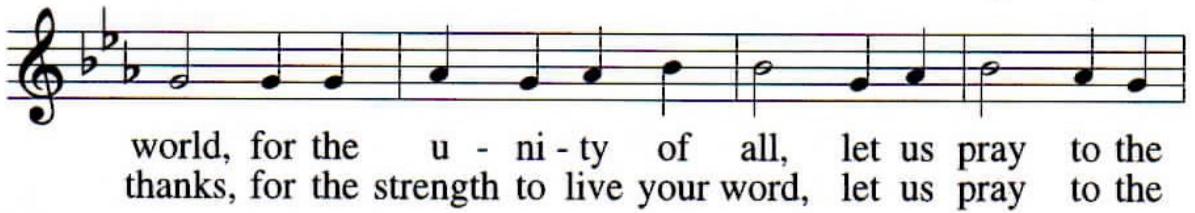
**A** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



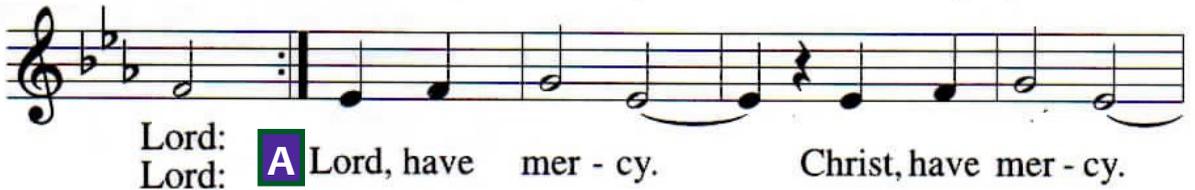
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. **P** 1. For the  
**P** 2. For your



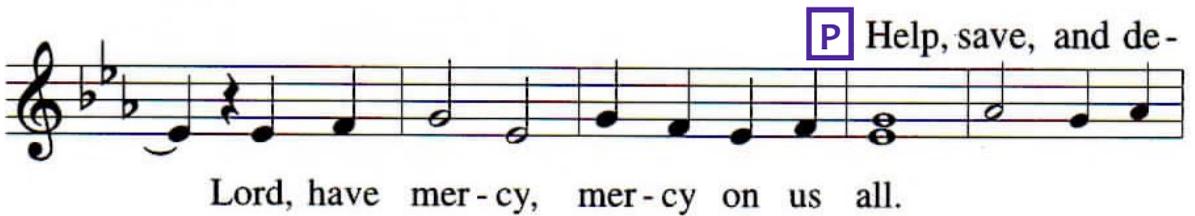
reign of God, and for peace through-out the  
peo - ple here who have come to give you



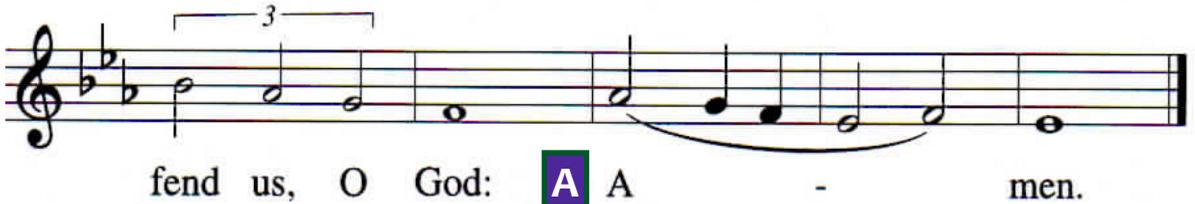
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the



Lord:  
Lord: **A** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



**P** Help, save, and de-  
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.



fend us, O God: **A** A - men.

### Refrain



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life.



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of

life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of  
 heal - ing and re - lease. Come and  
 gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

## Prayer for This Day

*P* God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world.

**All** Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, 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 Genesis, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then

he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup> But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup> He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup> He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates."

*Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18*

WA The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

## A Responsive Reading from Psalm 27

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze  
upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a  
rock.

<sup>6</sup> Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup> My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not,  
O God of my salvation.

<sup>10</sup> Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup> Subject me not to the will of my foes,  
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

<sup>13</sup> This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!

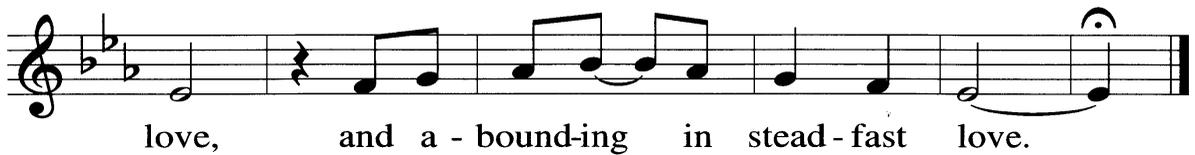
<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD and be strong.  
Take heart and wait for the LORD!

Psalm 27

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Re - turn to the Lord, your  
God, who is gra - cious and mer-ci-ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound-ing in stead - fast



## Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup> He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup> Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup> Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup> See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

*Luke 13:31-35*

*P* The Gospel of our Lord.

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

[You may be Seated](#)

## Children's Sermon & Noisy Offering

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

Hymn of the Day

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,  
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.  
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.

## Affirmation of Faith

*P* This Affirmation of faith was originally used by the Iona Community and was written during a time of great trouble in the world – the time of nuclear proliferation. We know that the world is still troubled. We live in a time of war and rumors of war. It is good for us to use new language – different words – to remember, to see with new eyes God’s activity in this world – and to acknowledge God’s invitation to us.

**We believe that God is present  
in the darkness before dawn;  
In the waiting and uncertainty  
Where fear and courage join hands,  
Conflict and caring link arms,  
And the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God  
Who sits down in our midst  
To share our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith  
That takes us beyond the safe place:  
Into action, into vulnerability  
And into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change  
And put ourselves on the line;  
To bear responsibility, take risks,  
Live powerfully and face humiliation;  
To stand with those on the edge;  
To choose life  
And be used by the Spirit  
For God’s new community of hope.  
Amen.**

*You may be Seated*

## Prayers of the People

WA Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.



Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.



Those who seek God shall nev-er go want-ing. Noth-ing can trou-ble,



noth-ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

*(each prayer petition ends with)*

*L:* God, in your mercy, *All:* **receive our prayer.**

## 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.**

*You may be Seated*

## Offering

*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.*

We will sing our offertory in canon (in a round).



1. Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.  
2. Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.  
3. Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.



Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.  
Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.  
Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.  
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.  
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.  
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.  
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

## Offertory Prayer

*P* Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.

**All** As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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* And with our hearts and voices raised we remember...

♪ ♪ Remember Me ♪ ♪

Verse 1

On the night You were betrayed You took the bread.  
After giving thanks You broke it and said,  
“This is My body broken for you, and as you eat it remember Me.  
This is My body broken for you, and as you eat it remember Me.”

Verse 2

On the night You were betrayed You held the cup.  
After giving thanks You lifted it up  
“This is My blood poured out for you, and as you drink it remember Me.  
“This is My blood poured out for you, and as you drink it remember Me.

Verse 3

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 remember Your wondrous love  
    You gave Your body You shed Your blood.  
And we remember Your wondrous love  
    You gave Your body You shed Your blood.

## 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* All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

### LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the



world: have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the



world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

# Sanctuary / Create in Me

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, — pure and ho - ly, tried and true; — With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a liv - ing — sanc - tu - ar - y for — You.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, O Lord, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words connected by hyphens and some phrases separated by long horizontal lines. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.



Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and re - new a right spir - it with - in 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!"

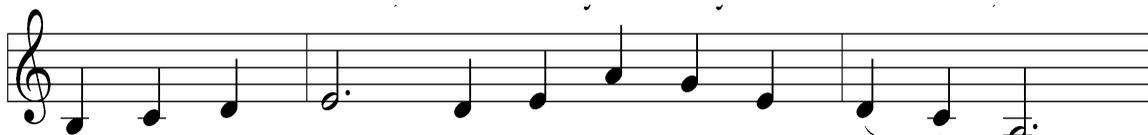
## Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

*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**





e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,  
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing  
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,



un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:  
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:  
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:



O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,  
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—  
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,



who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;  
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;  
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;



O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,  
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:  
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,



we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.  
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.  
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

## Dismissal

*WA* Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

***All*** Thanks be to God.

Front Cover:

Photo by [Lukáš Kačaliak](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Readings for next Sunday,  
March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Lent 3

**First Reading:**

**Isaiah 55:1-9**

**Psalm:**

**Psalm 63:1-8**

**Second Reading:**

**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

**Gospel:**

**Luke 13:1-9**

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