

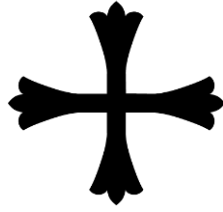
Divine Service

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

JUNE 23, 2019 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00A.M.



Welcome! Please fill out the Record of Fellowship, which is the red book at the end of your pew.

PRELUDE

We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit

Dietrich Buxtehude

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 563 (stanzas 1-5)

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Psalm 130:3-4

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

[Luke 18:13]

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination:

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

[John 20:19-23]

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing, grant us Your grace to keep Your commandments that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sitting

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 15:1-6

A The Old Testament Reading for the First Sunday after Trinity is from Genesis, chapter 15.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."² 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?"³ And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir."⁴ And

behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir."⁵ And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."⁶ And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL


Psalm 33:12-22; antiphon: Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b

Antiphon

Cantor introduces the first time then congregation repeats:

Brad Hall

Voice



Great is the Lord, and great-ly to be praised, and his great-ness is un-
 search-a-ble. On your won-drous works, I will med-i-tate, and
 I will de-clare your great-ness.



L Blessèd is the nation whose God | is the LORD,*
 the people whom he has chosen as his | heritage!

C The LORD looks down from | heaven;*
 he sees all the chil- | dren of man;

A 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen

cannot love God whom he has not seen.²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Standing

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 20:31

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P 19 "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. 22 The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, 23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. 24 And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his

finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' 27 And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— 28 for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'

P 29 But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' 30 And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them

from the dead, they will repent.'³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 741 (stanzas 1-5)

"Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"

SERMON

Standing

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God**, *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4*
the Father Almighty, *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *Romans 10:9*

the only-begotten Son of God, *John 3:16; Matthew 16:16*

begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:2*

God of God, Light of Light, *John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1*

very God of very God, *Colossians 2:9*

begotten, not made, *John 1:2*

being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30*

by Whom all things were made; *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3*

Who for us men and for our salvation *1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23*

came down from heaven *John 6:41; Luke 15:20*

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Luke 1:34-35*

and was made man; *John 1:14*

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18*

He suffered and was buried. *John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53*

And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*

and ascended into heaven *Acts 1:9*

and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Acts 7:55*

And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64*

to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12*

Whose kingdom will have no end. *2 Peter 1:11*

C **And I believe in the Holy Spirit**, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 15:26*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Ezekiel 11:5*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
and the life of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*
Amen. *Psalm 106:48*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Morning Has Broken

Zac Lavender, tenor

Gaelic Melody

MEDITATION

Luke 16:19 – *“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.” This is often called the story of “The Rich Man and Lazarus.” But it should really be called the story of “The Two Rich Men and Lazarus.” The other rich man in this story is Abraham. Obviously, these two men used the gift of riches that God gave them in very different ways. The life and decisions of Abraham flowed from faith; the rich man’s life and choices flowed from disbelief and self-centeredness. So Abraham was kind and generous, reflecting his trust in a kind and generous God. And the rich man? Well, you saw what happened to him and what god he served.*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

2 Timothy 4:22

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Kneeling or sitting forward

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The ☩ peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sitting

About participation in the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

*(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from *Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper*, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)*

MUSIC FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 639

"Wide Open Stand the Gates"

Standing

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

[Psalm 103:1]

Numbers 6:24-26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Please remain standing and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 803

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

POSTLUDE

Ode to Joy

Beethoven/Hal Hopson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Lay Assistant(s)

Matthias Rappe, *Elder*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Musicians

Zac Lavender, *Cantor/cello*

Altar Guild

Anne Bigelow/Jeni Miller

Usher(s)

Justin Ledford/J.P. Morr

Greeter(s)

Jason & Christina Schoellen

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Lay Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*

Edie Duren, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Musicians

Zac Lavender, *Cantor/cello*

Altar Guild

Sarah Cadagin/Linda Rathje

Usher(s)

Greg Ison/Matthias Rappe

Greeter(s)

Anne Bigelow

Fellowship Host(s)

Anne Bigelow

Life Together

CALENDAR		
Sunday 6/23	First Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Adult Bible Study: The Book of Job Divine Service with Holy Communion Congregational Luncheon	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship
Monday 6/24	Open Arms LCDC Church Office VBS	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM Closed 9:00 AM – Noon
Tuesday 6/25	Open Arms LCDC Church Office VBS	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 9:00 AM – Noon
Wednesday 6/26	Open Arms LCDC Church Office VBS	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 9:00 AM – Noon
Thursday 6/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office VBS	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 9:00 AM – Noon
Friday 6/28	Open Arms LCDC Church Office VBS	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 9:00 AM – Noon
Saturday 6/29	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 6/30	Second Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Adult Bible Study: The Book of Job Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship

GROWING IN HIS WORD

✝ The Book of Job

Theme: Job is a complicated book, asking life's most difficult questions. For millennia, it has confounded many as well as been a blessing to countless generations. It is one of the most brutally honest and raw books of the Bible, and at the same time provides some of the brightest rays of hope. Come, and discover what it has to say about you and your existence on earth. Even more, may it reveal to you a God of comfort, who accompanies us at all times, and even dares to enter into the difficulties of our human condition.

Day & Time: Sundays, at 9:00 A.M. through August 4

Location: Sundays in church fellowship hall

✝ Baptism: The Christian Identity

Theme: Who are you and what are you here for? Two of your most important questions can be answered simply by studying the miracle of Baptism. Don't miss this essential four-week study!

Day & Time: Sundays, at 9:00 A.M. from August 11 – September 1

Location: Sundays in church fellowship hall

✝ Minor Prophets Bootcamp

Theme: Throughout this twelve week study, each Sunday will offer an overview of one of the twelve minor prophets of the Bible. General themes and highlights of each text will be drawn out. Not only will the historical context be discussed, but also how the prophet points all generations to Christ and still speaks to us today. Books covered will be according to the following order: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. Buckle your seatbelts, it's going to be a fast ride!

Day & Time: Sundays, at 9:00 A.M. from September 8 – November 24

Location: Sundays in church fellowship hall

✝ Men's Group: Bible Study

Theme: Calling all guys! Mark your calendar for the last Saturday of each month for a regular time of prayer, fellowship, and study of God's Word together. Breakfast will be provided too! At this next meeting, we will be covering the sixth chapter of Jeffrey Hemmer's book, *Man Up!*

Day & Time: Saturday, July 27 at 9:30 A.M.

Location: Church overflow room

✦ **Women's Group: Bible Study**

Theme: The ladies group is taking a look at *He Restores My Soul: Writings on Cross and Comfort*, edited by Katie Schuermann. The book is available for purchase on Amazon for \$18, and we'll cover chapters two and three at the next gathering. Join your sisters in Christ to discuss important topics like Christian faith in the public square, issues of infertility, mental illness and chronic disease, caring for aging parents, sexual temptation and a host of others. Childcare also provided!

Day & Time: Saturday, July 27 at 9:30 A.M.

Location: Church narthex

✦ **Popcorn & 'Pologetics: *The Case for Christ***

Theme: Need a boost by mid-week? This six-week DVD-led/discussion-based investigative look into the Christian faith will do just the trick. Adapted from Lee Strobel's now classic apologetics text, *The Case for Christ*, you will explore how God has grounded His plan of salvation in the people, places, and events of history. Our Lord has left evidence behind for us to find, and it has His fingerprints all over it. Discover not just the *what* of faith, but also the *why* with this unique study!

Day & Time: Wednesdays, at 7:30 P.M. from August 7 – September 11

Location: The Millers (address in directory)

✦ **Vacation Bible School**

Theme: It's that time again! Children ages three through ten are invited to register for VBS. There will be arts and crafts, storytelling, and music, all centered around a biblical, Christ-centered curriculum. Every day, Pastor Miller will lead chapel. Enrollment is free and easy, and kids of the congregation may stay the entire day (7:00 A.M. – 6:30 P.M.) at no additional cost. To register, please contact Open Arms at 404-256-1330 or info@openarmsbuckhead.org. Deadline for registration is June 14.

Days & Time: Monday through Friday, June 24 – 28 (from 9:00 A.M. – noon)

Location: Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center of Buckhead

SERVING IN HIS NAME

✝ All Nations Society of Atlanta

Theme: Would you like to reach out as a member of Christ's body to embrace those in your community? A group of LCMS Christians from several local congregations in Atlanta would like to give you such an opportunity for outreach. Meeting each week, they invite you to join them in welcoming new immigrant and refugee families to the area with fresh produce and a word of prayer. Please contact the Rev. Adam Ellsworth of Grace Lutheran Church, Midtown for more information and to sign up: pastoradamellsworth@gmail.com.

Day & Time: Saturdays at 10:00 A.M.

Location: St. Mark Lutheran Church
2110 Brockett Road
Tucker, GA 30084

✝ 1-1-1 Mission Campaign

Theme: For less than the price of one visit to Starbuck's, you could contribute a month's worth of financial support toward our Lord's mission work in the English District. 1-1-1 is a new campaign to raise \$1/per person/per week. That means that by giving \$4 each month, just \$52 a year, everyone in the district can give toward the work of getting the Gospel out to those in our community. Just think what could happen if every person in the English District did this! Right now, the English District is supporting Concordia Lutheran Mission in Myerstown, PA. But this money goes toward eight other startup congregations, including two Spanish-speaking churches and several college ministries. Please consider playing a part in the mission of our English District! Dollars may be contributed in the designated 1-1-1 Mission box located in the narthex.

✝ Letter of Thanks from the Naumanns, Missionaries to the Dominican Republic

May 25, 2019

Dear members of Lutheran Church of the Ascension,

Thank you for your loving pledge of \$1,200 to our LCMS mission fund! We are so grateful for your gift and also for your prayers on behalf of the people here in Latin America who need to know their Savior Jesus Christ.

Yesterday was a special day for both of us. In the day Cheryl hosted a Mercy Center conference for pastors and students from 19 different Latin American countries; then in the evening was the first graduation of students from our new seminary here in the Dominican Republic, where Pastor Jonathan teaches.

This is an exciting time to be in missions! God is blessing the field with a plentiful harvest!

A blessed Easter season to all of you.

Love in Christ,
Cheryl and Pastor Jonathan

✚ LCMS National Convention Offering

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

St. Paul reminds us, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 THESS. 5:16-18).

When the Thessalonians heard Paul’s urging to rejoice, pray and give thanks, they did so. This July, so will we, when elected delegates and visitors from around the world gather in Tampa for the 67th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. And through that rejoicing, praying and giving thanks, we will bear witness to God’s love in Christ.

WILL YOU ALSO PREPARE JOYFULLY TO TAKE ON THIS WORK WITH US? HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN DO.

FIRST, PLEASE PRAY! Pray for me as your Synod President, for my brothers on the Council of Presidents, for my fellow pastors, deaconesses, DCE’s, church musicians, teachers, and all church workers, our congregations and schools, our seminaries and universities, and all our partners in ministry throughout the world. Pray that we may all be strengthened in our joyful confession of Christ and renewed winsome witnesses to His love. Pray especially for the delegates and guests who will gather in Tampa, asking God for the gift of His Spirit that we may listen to each other in humility, speak in love, and plan together for ways to meet the challenges before us in faithfulness to God’s Word.

SECOND, JOIN WITH ALL OF THE LCMS AS WE PARTICIPATE TOGETHER IN THE 2019-21 LCMS NATIONAL OFFERING. This special collection of monetary gifts sets the tone for our next triennium under the theme, “Joy to the World,” preparing hearts for prayerful rejoicing, gratitude and bold action. Any gifts received go directly to the mission of the LCMS to make known the Good News of Jesus Christ, joy incarnate, to the world.

We know that the Gospel of Jesus Christ brings great joy to God’s people through the forgiveness of sins and the certain hope of eternal life. Your church’s gifts will help support work that reflects the Christ-centered joy of Lutheran Christians everywhere, and share that joy across boundaries among those who have not yet heard the powerful message of His salvation.

Having joyfully received the Gospel through Word and Sacrament, let’s come together for the 2019-21 National Offering and watch how it emboldens the work that God has given His people to do and brings true and lasting joy to the world, that all might rejoice and give thanks to God for every good gift.

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

FELLOWSHIPING WITH THE SAINTS

✝ Congregational Luncheon

Theme: Join your brothers and sisters in Christ after church every fourth Sunday of the month for a family meal! You're welcome to bring either a hot or a cold dish to share. If you'd like to bring a particular beverage, you may also do so. Plates, napkins, cups, and cutlery will be provided. Bring your appetite!

Day & Time: Sunday, July 28 following Divine Service

Location: Church fellowship hall

✝ Men's Group: Atlanta Braves vs. Los Angeles Dodgers

Theme: Join the guys this summer on their annual pilgrimage to SunTrust Park! Signup sheet available in the narthex. Ticket prices coming soon.

Day & Time: Saturday, August 17 at 7:20 P.M.

Location: SunTrust Park
755 Battery Avenue SE
Atlanta, GA 30339

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

In Celebration

Birthdays

- ✝ Anzio Bentley, 6/27
- ✝ Matthias Rappe, 6/29

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

- ✝ Isaac Beckman, 6/23
- ✝ Eden Miller, 6/24

Wedding Anniversaries

- ✝ None this week

Membership Anniversaries

- ✝ None this week

In Need

Recent Requests

- ✝ Bonnie Boyle (neighbor of Eileen Buehl), for health and healing.
- ✝ Darrell Henry (son of Ruth Henry), for health and healing.
- ✝ Linda Jones (daughter of Arlene Kateen), for health and healing.
- ✝ Shirley Lee (friend of the congregation), for health and healing.
- ✝ Willard Meyer (grandfather of J.P. Morr), for health and healing.
- ✝ Luke Voss (neighbor of the Schoellens), for safety during military deployment.
- ✝ Bob Wollman, for health and healing.
- ✝ Persecuted Christians in Niger, where protesters set a church ablaze.

Ongoing Requests

- ✝ David Beckman (father of Brian Beckman), for health and healing.
- ✝ Jack and Carolyn DeLong, for health and healing.
- ✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden, for growth and development.
- ✝ Adi Murphy (neighbor of the Beckmans), for strength and courage.
- ✝ Tom Murphy (neighbor of the Beckmans), for relief and comfort.
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith), for health and healing.
- ✝ Ingrid Worthington (mother of Keith Worthington), for health and healing.
- ✝ Rhonda Zacharias (friend of the Millers), for health and comfort.
- ✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to the Dominican Republic, & all synodically deployed missionaries.
- ✝ Lutheran Church of the Ascension & Pastor David Miller
- ✝ Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center & Director, Barbara Collins
- ✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- ✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & all district officials
- ✝ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION

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Clara Smith, Chair of Open Arms Board
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Clara Smith, Chair of Property
clara.smith@mindspring.com

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located to the right of the church entrance, down the hallway. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

NURSERY

Children are always welcome and encouraged to be in worship! For those who need it, however, we have a staffed nursery located down the hallway in the preschool. It is intended for children from birth to age 5. Hours of operation are 8:30 – 11:30 A.M.

BABY CHANGING STATION

For your convenience, a baby changing station is located in both the men’s and women’s restrooms on this level, just down the hall. For further privacy, a mother-infant station, which includes a rocking chair and changing table, is available in the enclosed lounge of the women’s restroom downstairs.

BUSY BAGS

Each Sunday your child may pick up a “busy bag” from the stand in the Narthex. Each busy bag has different books and activities for your child to keep them busy during the Divine Service when they are unable to focus. Please return the pouch and its contents to the stand in the Narthex at the end of the service. This way the pouches will be clean and ready for the next Sunday’s service.

PRINT RESOURCES

Resources for personal devotions as well as understanding Lutheran faith and worship, are available to anyone gratis in the narthex by the bulletins:

- *Portals of Prayer*: Quarterly devotional resource for private prayer.
- *A Simple Explanation of the Christian Faith*: Luther’s Small Catechism in convenient booklet form.
- *A Simple Explanation of the Church Service*: Easy to understand guide to Sunday’s liturgy in the Divine Service.
- *What About . . . Fellowship in the Lord’s Supper*: An explanation of one of the Lutheran church’s most misunderstood doctrines. Learn more about the biblical, historic, and loving practice of closed Communion.