

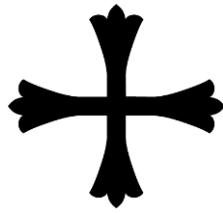
Divine Service

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

JULY 26, 2020 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00A.M.



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

PRELUDE

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 533

"Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure Eternal"



1 Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal,
 2 Je - sus has come! Now see bonds rent a - sun - der!
 3 Je - sus has come as the might - y Re - deem - er.
 4 Je - sus has come as the King of all glo - ry!



Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be - gin - ning and End;
 Fet - ters of death now dis - solve, dis - ap - pear.
 See now the threat - en - ing strong one dis - armed!
 Heav - en and earth, O de - clare His great pow'r,



God - head, hu - man - i - ty, u - nion su - per - nal,
 See Him burst through with a voice as of thun - der!
 Je - sus breaks down all the walls of death's for - tress,
 Cap - tur - ing hearts with the heav - en - ly sto - ry;



O great Re - deem - er, You come as our friend!
 He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
 Brings forth the pris - 'ners tri - um - phant, un - harmed.
 Wel - come Him now in this fast - fleet - ing hour!



Heav - en and earth, now pro - claim this great won - der:
 Lifts us from shame to the place of His hon - or.
 Sa - tan, you wick - ed one, own now your mas - ter!
 Pon - der His love! Take the crown He has for you!



Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal!
 Je - sus has come! Hear the roll of God's thun - der!
 Je - sus has come! He, the might - y Re - deem - er!
 Je - sus has come! He, the King of all glo - ry!

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.

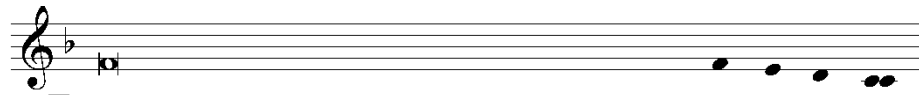
[John 20:19-23]



SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.




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

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



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

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



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

A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



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.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sitting

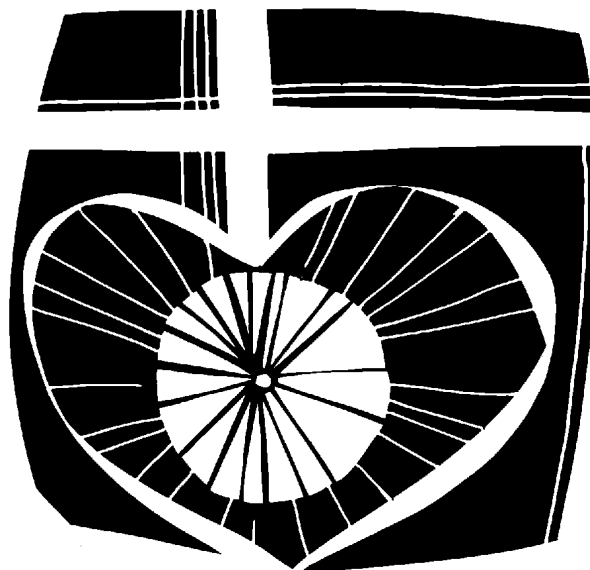
A The Old Testament Reading for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost is from Deuteronomy, chapter seven.

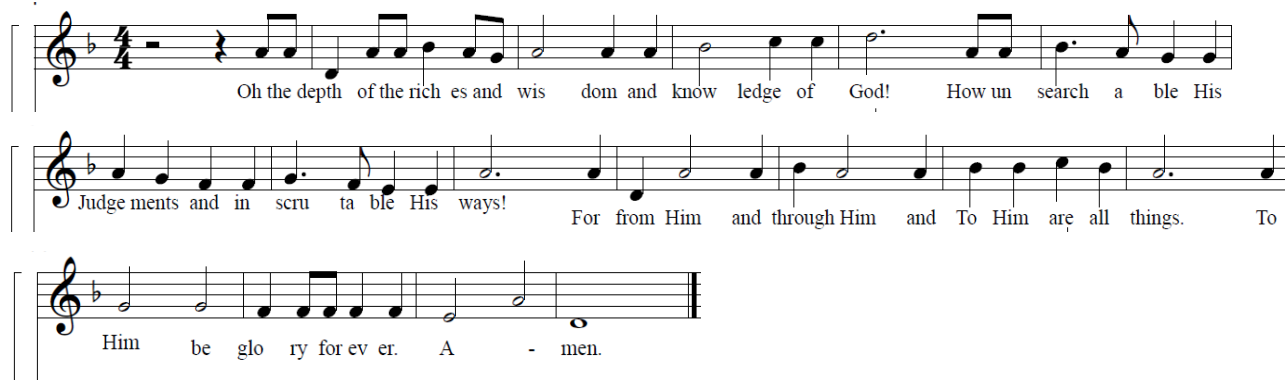
⁶“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD

has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Antiphon*Cantor introduces the first time then congregation repeats:***Debra Ramsey Dickensheets**


Oh the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His
 judgments and inscrutable His ways! For from Him and through Him and To Him are all things. To
 Him be glory for ever. Amen.



- L** Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,*
 which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.
- C** As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,*
 from this time forth and for- | evermore.
- L** For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the | righteous,*
 lest the righteous stretch out their hands to | do wrong.
- C** Do good, O LORD, to those | who are good,*
 and to those who are upright | in their hearts!
- L** But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evil- | doers!*
- Peace be upon | Israel!
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- C** *Antiphon*

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter eight.

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one

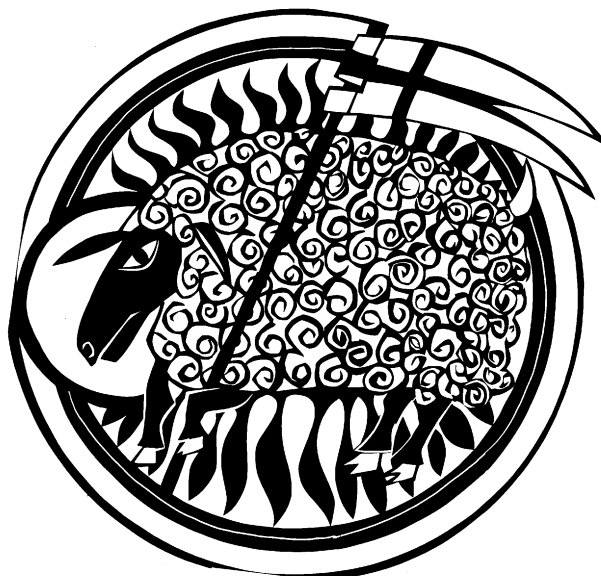
who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



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

Matthew 13:44-52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P [Jesus said:] ⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat

down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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*

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. *Psalms 106:48*

P What is the Tenth Commandment?

C You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor’s wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 743

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me,
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish
 Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
 Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?
 Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
 Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.
 Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
 Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and
 God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its
 Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.
 hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.
 Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

5 Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me,
Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
Come not forth again.
Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

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SERMON

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P O Lord, we are Your people, chosen by Your grace to be Your own possession and granted mercy upon mercy. Hear Your people who cry to You in need, and remember us according to the favor You have shown to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Brief silence

P That the Lord may open our hearts to prayer and guide us in this holy conversation so that we may know those things for which we ought to pray and seek them according to His grace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Church may prosper, the good news of Jesus Christ go forth unhindered, and the Spirit bring many into the fellowship of the redeemed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord may grant to us good and faithful pastors to preach and teach the whole counsel of His Word, and that we may receive their words with joy and thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we may remember our Baptism into Christ and live boldly in our vocation as His children no matter the difficulties of this fallen world, within our families, in our neighborhoods and throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord may bless our nation and those who govern us, and that we may use the gift of freedom to live holy, upright and godly lives, to the praise of His glory, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** That the Lord may bless all lawful occupations and professions, and that we may pursue honesty and virtue in all things, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That God's people may recognize the true treasure of the cross and rejoice in the resurrection, pursuing with all their hearts, minds, bodies and souls the things of His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That the sick may be healed, the troubled granted peace, the grieving comforted and the dying kept in peace, *[and especially do we pray for _____,]* let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That the Lord may grant us generous hearts so that we may honor Him with the worship of our hearts and bring to Him the tithes and offerings that support His work, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That we may be steadfast and immovable, abiding in Christ and in His Word of truth, and that we would be kept from error and delivered from temptation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That the Lord may watch over our comings and goings and deliver us safely into the arms of His mercy, in the blessed rest of the faithful, to receive with all the dead in Christ the gift of life everlasting, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That we may receive with faith the Lord's body and blood today and by this Holy Communion be forgiven of our sins, strengthened in faith and equipped for His service, glorifying God with our words and works, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, endless is Your mercy and eternal Your reign. Hear the prayers of Your people who cry to You in their need and who plead to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Komm, heiliger Geist

Georg Telemann

MEDITATION

Matthew 13:45-46 – "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it." Indeed, Jesus redeemed us and purchased us back from sin and death with all that He had. We belong to Him now. And this is the foundation for our own generosity: imitating the out-sized generosity of Jesus.

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.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

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.]

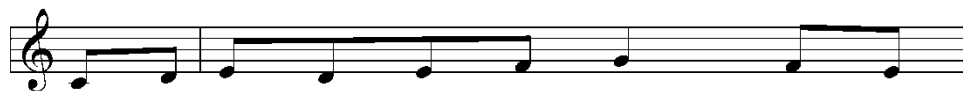
For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

*(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 680

"Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head
 prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree
 ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee
 won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise
 dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree



Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the
 All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the
 Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the
 Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the
 Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly



sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the
 rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the
 sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the
 sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the
 ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the



vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.
 splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

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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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

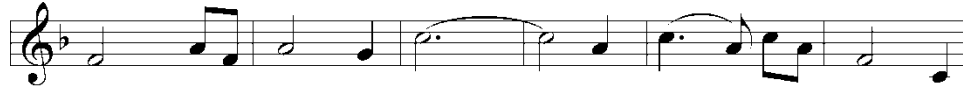
Please remain standing and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 744

“Amazing Grace”



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

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POSTLUDE

The Heavens Declare They Glory

Benedicto Marcello

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*

Eddie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Altar Guild

Anne Bigelow/Lucie Woolery

Usher(s)

Richard Drachenberg/Greg Ison

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Altar Guild

Caitlin East/Sarah Cadagin

Usher(s)

Brian Beckman/Grayson Beckman

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
Sunday 7/26	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The Case for a Creator</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship
Monday 7/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM Closed
Tuesday 7/28	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 7/29	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:00 AM
Thursday 7/30	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 7/31	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 8/1	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 8/2	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The Case for a Creator</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship

Truth ~ GROWING IN HIS WORD

✦ **Adult Bible Study: *The Case for a Creator***

Theme: Former atheist Lee Strobel has discovered that science, far from being the enemy of faith, now provides a solid foundation for belief in God. Scientific discoveries point to the incredible complexity of our universe, a complexity best explained by the existence of a Creator.

This six-session video-based study invites you to join *New York Times* bestselling author Lee Strobel in reexamining the theories that once led him away from God. It answers tough questions about creation, evolution, biology, astronomy, and more. Your faith will grow in light of these astonishing new facts in the case for a Creator.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., from July 12 – August 23

Location: Church fellowship hall

✦ **Adult Bible Study: *The Epistles of Peter***

Theme: It was to St. Peter that the Lord Jesus Christ called, "Follow Me." And it is through the two Petrine epistles that the Lord Jesus Christ still calls us today to be His disciples. Hear that calling like never before, and discover what it really means to follow Him with this nine-week Bible study.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., from August 30 – October 25

Location: Church fellowship hall

✦ **Adult Bible Study: *Lutheranism 101***

Theme: Has it been decades since you last opened Luther's *Small Catechism*? Have you been wondering lately why Lutherans do the funny things that we do? Are you brand spanking new to Lutheranism? Whatever the case, this class is for you! The basis of our study is the book *Lutheranism 101*. You may purchase a copy for \$25. Please contact Pastor Miller for details.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., beginning November 1

Location: Church fellowship hall

✦ **POSTPONED: Men's Group Bible Study: *The Calling: Live a Life of Significance***

Theme: How do I pay the bills? How do I find a job that motivates and inspires. What should I major in at college? Why is my family life in such shambles? How do I live a life of meaning and significance? Am I really living the life God has created uniquely for me?

Unlike Noah or Paul, most of us won't receive answers to these questions directly from God. This doesn't mean, however, that God does not guide us to those choices that will give our life significance.

The Holy Spirit enables us to live the life God created uniquely for us. As we use the resources God places at our disposal, rely on His forgiveness when we stumble, and walk hand in hand with God, He will show us what it means to live a life of significance.

The basis of this study is Kurt Senske's *The Calling: Living a Life of Significance*. Copies are available for just \$20. Please contact Pastor Miller to obtain yours.

Day & Time: Saturday, September 26 at 9:30 A.M.

Location: Church overflow room

✦ **POSTPONED: Women's Group Bible Study: *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions***

Theme: Come, delve into the great hymns of our church as they're informed by God's Word! The Ascension Women's Group is taking on a new hymn each month using the book *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions* by Timothy Shoup. It's available for purchase on Amazon for \$13 or through Concordia Publishing House for \$18, and the book "features introductions to 14 hymns with devotions based on each stanza, helping readers learn the biblical basis of the words the authors chose."

If you've never joined this group for a book study before, now is a great time – since the ladies will be studying a different hymn each month, you're free to come when you can and not stress if you can't commit to every meeting. Childcare is provided!

Day & Time: Saturday, September 26 at 9:30 A.M.

Location: Church narthex

Goodness ~ SERVING IN HIS NAME

✦ 1-1-1 Mission Campaign

Theme: 1-1-1 is a campaign of the English District to raise \$1/per person/per week. That means that by giving \$4 each month, just \$52 a year, everyone can give toward the district's mission efforts. Just think what could happen if every person in the English District did this! Right now, those missions include Concordia Lutheran Mission in Myerstown, PA, and eight other startup congregations, including two Spanish-speaking churches and several college ministries. Please consider playing a part in this special mission! Dollars may be contributed in the designated 1-1-1 Mission box located in the narthex.

✦ Take-Home Evangelism: LCA Mugs

Theme: We raise a glass to our guests and visitors by gifting them with their very own mug. Each mug features the congregation's branding, and highlights our mission statement and renewed focus. Whenever they sip from their mug, they'll recall the truth, beauty, and goodness from above which they experienced in the Divine Service. Please consider supporting our Evangelism efforts by purchasing a mug for just \$10 each, or by making a donation specifically to Evangelism. To do so, please see Darlene Beckman or contact her at office@ascension-lcms.com to. Thank you for your gifts!

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

In Celebration

Birthdays

✝ Marion Griffin, 7/31

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

✝ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries

✝ Ed & Sarah Cadagin, 7/31

Membership Anniversaries

✝ None this week

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

✝ Nigeria

For comfort, health, and healing:

✝ Terrie Dowling (aunt of Caitlin East)

✝ Linda Eder (wife of English District pastor, the Rev. Ben Eder)

✝ Rev. David Heller (Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Athens, GA)

✝ Brandon Irwin (friend of Lauren Morr)

✝ Martin Kunkel

✝ Rosalia Kunkel (mother of Martin Kunkel)

✝ Jimmy Murray (friend of Adrian Popescu)

✝ Homero Salgado

✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)

✝ Tracy Smith (son-in-law of Clara Smith)

✝ Bob Sponsel (friend of Caitlin East)

✝ Paul Von Wedel (father of Jill Drachenberg)

✝ All impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19)

For the health and safety of our deployed servicemen and women:

✝ Luke Voss (neighbor of the Schoellens)

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden

✝ The Kroll family (friends of Ascension)

✝ Willard Meyer (grandfather of J.P. Morr)

✝ Adi Murphy (former neighbor of the Beckmans)

For the leaders of Church and state:

✝ Director Barbara Collins & Open Arms Board

✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & all district officials

✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials

✝ Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension

✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic

✝ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
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ASCENSION

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