Divine Service

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION AUGUST 9, 2020 + SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

Prelude

Passacaglia

Welcome

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 817 (stanzas 1-3, 7) Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing Loud blow - ing snow - storm! Sing Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing all Earth and stars! to the 1 2 Hail, wind, and rain! to the 3 Trum - pet and pipes! to the ð 0. Lord Loud shout-ing a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Lord song! Flow - ers and trees! a new Loud rus-tling Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum-ming ar my! Sing to the Lord a new song! leaves! Sing Lord to the song! dry a new ceĺ los! Sing to the Lord a song! new _ Refrain 0. things. He has done mar vel - ous 0. will praise Him with a I too new song!

7 Children of God, Dying and rising,
Sing to the Lord a new song! Heaven and earth, Hosts everlasting,
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain* Andre Raison

"Earth and All Stars"

PAGE 2

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.
- С Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- С But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The Second Commandment

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Second Commandment:

- Does the Gospel adorn my daily speech and conduct, or do I curse, speak carelessly, or misuse God's name?
- Have I kept all the vows I have made in the Lord's name?
- Am I diligent and sincere in my prayers, or have I been lazy, bored, or distracted? Do I trust that the Lord God will answer them according to His good and gracious will?

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.
- С Amen.

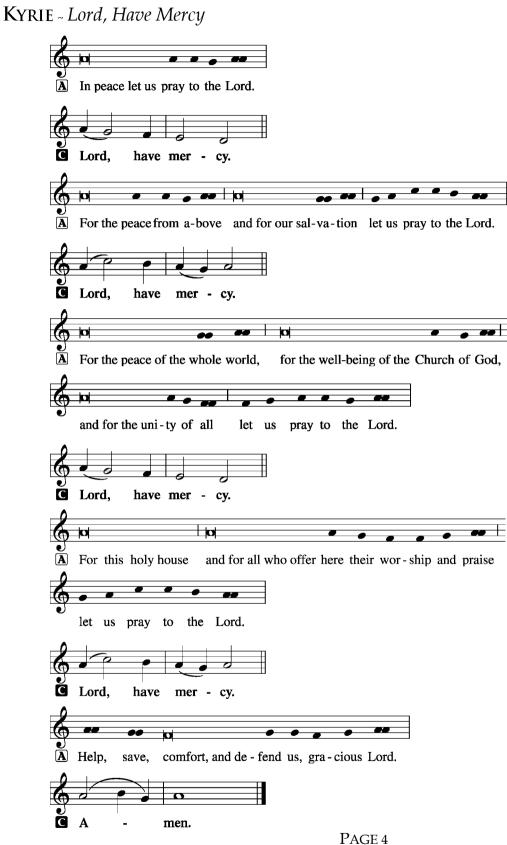
С

1 John 1:8-9

[John 20:19-23]

Matthew 28:19b: [18:20]

SERVICE OF THE WORD



Mark 10:47

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest



PAGE 5

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 38:4-18

A The Old Testament Reading for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost is from Job, chapter 38.

[The LORD said:] 4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

- ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
- Or who stretched the line upon it?
- ⁶On what were its bases sunk,
- or who laid its cornerstone,
- ⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

⁸ "Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb,
⁹ when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band,
¹⁰ and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors,
¹¹ and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?
¹² "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place,
¹³ that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it?
¹⁴ It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment.

¹⁵ From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶ "Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep?
 ¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
 ¹⁸ Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this."

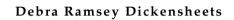
A This is the Word of the Lord.C Thanks be to God.

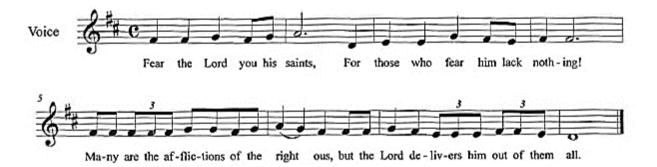
GRADUAL

Antiphon

Psalm 18:1-6; antiphon: Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Cantor introduces first time, then congregation repeats:







L I | love you,* O | LORD, my strength.

- C The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my de- | liverer,* my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my | stronghold.
- L I call upon the LORD, who is worthy | to be praised,* and I am saved from my | enemies.
- C The cords of death en- | compassed me;* the torrents of destruction as- | sailed me;

PAGE 7



- L the cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;* the snares of death con- | fronted me.
- С In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I | cried for help.* From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him | reached his ears.

С 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.

С Antiphon

EPISTLE

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter ten. ⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?"" (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes

A This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Romans 10:5-17

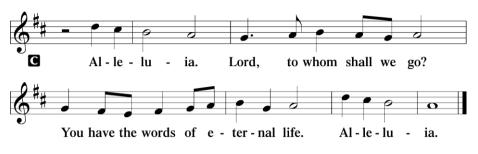
in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

PAGE 8

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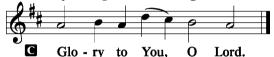
Alleluia and Verse



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

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



P ²² Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



John 6:68

NICENE CREED

- **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. *Psalm* 106:48

CATECHETICAL RECITATION

- **P** What is the Second Article of the Creed?
- **C** And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- **P** What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Sitting

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HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 717

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

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 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100011488. Public domain

Sermon

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

- O Lord, our God, we do not presume to know Your ways or inform Your judgment. We ask You to grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may apprehend Your ways and know Your Son, Jesus Christ, by faith. Give us wisdom, that we may trust in Your Word amid the stormy seas of this mortal life and be safely delivered from all danger onto the eternal shores of heaven.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- O Lord, our God, we have no righteousness of our own but only the righteousness of Christ into which we were clothed in Baptism. Grant us grace, that we may be faithful in every circumstance and bold in the confession of His saving name. Guard those who preach Your Word to us so that, hearing, we may believe and, believing, we may have everlasting life.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- O Lord, our God, we see the great need and ask You to raise up those who will serve us as pastors, teachers, missionaries and in all church-work vocations. Bless church planters and the younger congregations, that they may endure. Bring hope and renewal to all struggling congregations and to the pastors who serve them, and do not let fear keep us from Your Word and Sacraments.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- O Lord, our God, we ask You to bless us, our nation and those who lead us. Guide all elected and appointed civil servants in their judgments, that we may know justice in our land and peace among the nations. Make us especially mindful of those who need our special protection, the unborn, the aged and the oppressed.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- O Lord, our God, we pray for Your blessing upon the schools where children learn, especially for the schools, universities and seminaries of our church. Give Your blessing to all places where Your people gather to teach and learn Your Word. Help us to remember that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- O Lord, our God, we remember the sick, those who suffer, those troubled in mind, the grieving and the dying. Deliver them according to Your will and grant them the comfort of Your Word in their afflictions, that they may depend upon Your mercy in every circumstance. Hear us especially for _____.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- O Lord, our God, we do not presume to come to this Your table trusting in our own merits. Give to us faith to discern Christ in His body and blood and repentance that we may receive for our good His gift of Himself in this blessed communion. What we have received with our lips, help us keep in holy, upright and godly lives.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- O Lord, our God, we give thanks for the saints of old who trusted in You in life and now rest in Christ from all their labors. Deliver us from all evil, and lead us through all temptation so that at last we may join them in the marriage supper of the Lamb in Your kingdom without end.
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- O Lord, our God, we pray You to be our light in darkness, our strength in weakness, our courage in fear and our peace in distress. Speak to us by the voice of Your Word, that we may call upon You in the day of trouble and confess Your saving name before all people. Hear us on behalf of ourselves and those for whom we have prayed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Air

Meditation

Matt. **14:30** – "But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, 'Lord, save me.'" The world really is a scary place – natural disasters, disease, terrorism, and a hundred other things. But where do we place our hope, our trust, and our vision? Where do we look for aid and comfort? When Peter's eyes were on the Lord, he had confidence. When he turned to look at his problems and took his eyes off the Lord, he fell apart. Sometimes God's call to support the work of His Church with our offerings makes us nervous. But put your eyes back on your Lord, trust Him, follow His Word, and all will be well.

"The Bible offers itself to us as a great story, a sprawling and complex narrative, inviting us to come in and make it our own. The Gospels, the very heart of scripture, likewise tell a story not merely to give us information about Jesus but in order to provide a narrative we can inhabit, a story we must make our own."

> N.T. Wright For All the Saints?

Jean Joseph Mouret

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Standing
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OFFERTORY



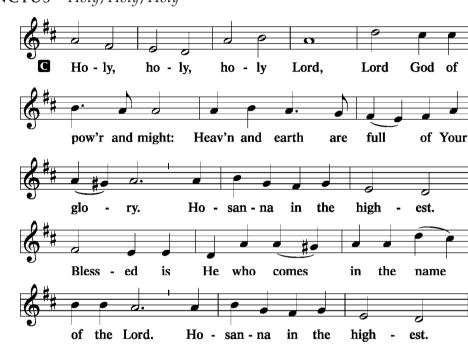
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



■ 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. 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.

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

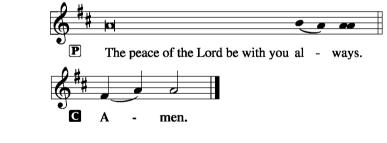
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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."

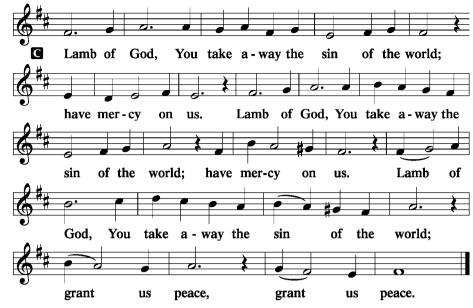
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord



"The Law is to warn us against future sins, the Gospel is to comfort us for past sins." Martin Luther

John 20:19



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.

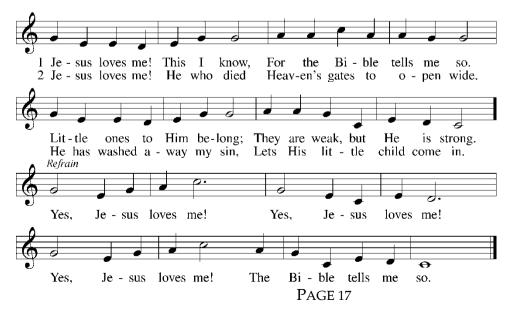
Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The 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 Cor. 11:17-34.

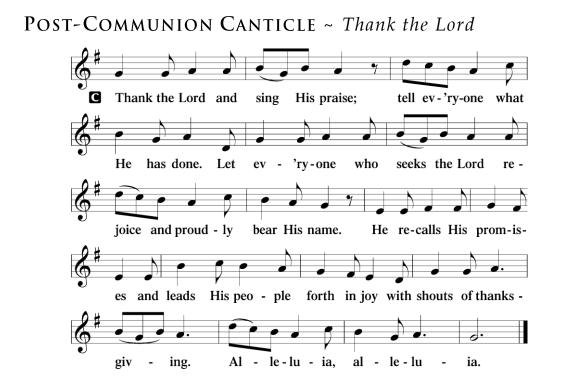
(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 588



"Jesus Loves Me"



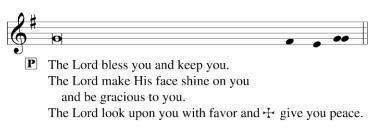
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.

BENEDICTION





Numbers 6:24-26

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Please remain standing and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 722

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"



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Postlude

Dialogue sur les grand jeux

Francois Couperin

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s) J.P. Morr, *Head Elder* Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Altar Guild Jeni Miller/Linda Rathje

Usher(s) Richard Drachenberg/Grayson Beckman

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 Jill Drachenberg/Anne Bigelow

Usher(s) Greg Ison/Brian Beckman

Making nown, hrist

Calendar						
Sunday 8/9	Tenth Sunday after PentecostNursery availableChildren's Sunday SchoolAdult Bible Study: The Case for a CreatorDivine Service with Holy CommunionFellowship HourOpen Arms Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship				
Monday	Open Arms LCDC	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM				
8/10	Church Office	Closed				
Tuesday	Open Arms LCDC	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM				
8/11	Church Office	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM				
Wednesday 8/12	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	Open Arms LCDC	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM				
8/13	Church Office	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM				
Friday	Open Arms LCDC	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM				
8/14	Church Office	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM				
Saturday	Open Arms LCDC	Closed				
8/15	Church Office	Closed				
Sunday 8/16	Eleventh 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 Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship				



+ 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

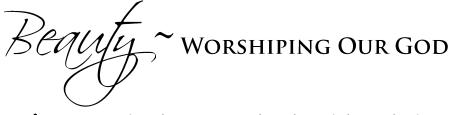
+ POSTPONED: Women's Group Bible Study: Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions

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



+ Congregational Survey: Wednesday Night Eucharist

Theme: The Lord's gifts of Word and Sacrament delivers the peace of His presence in our lives. There are many who desire to draw near and receive His grace more frequently than once a week. For them, we'd like to offer another opportunity. Are you one of them? Please stop by the narthex and fill out the congregational survey as we consider the possibility of regular worship on Wednesday nights.

Day & Time: Congregational survey taken August 2 and 9 before and after Divine Service

Location: Church narthex

+ Ten-Year Ordination Anniversary of Pastor David Miller

Theme: God will have graciously given Pastor Miller the privilege to serve His Church for ten years in the Office of the Holy Ministry on August 22. Please join Pastor Miller as he celebrates his ordination anniversary and renews his ordination vows in public worship the following day. The Circuit Visitor from the English District will be in attendance to preach and officiate the occasion. A celebration luncheon will be provided after the Divine Service.

Day & Time: Sunday, August 23 Divine Service at 10:00 A.M. Celebration Luncehon immediately following worship

Location: Divine Service in church sanctuary Celebration Luncheon in church fellowship hall

∼ 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.

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

In Celebration

Birthdays

- + Ed Cadagin, 8/9
- + Azari Bentley, 8/11
- + Jill Drachenberg, 8/13

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

+ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries

+ None this week

Membership Anniversaries

+ None this week

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

+ Iran

For comfort, health, and healing:

- + Terrie Dowling (aunt of Caitlin East)
- + 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)
- + Bob Sponsel (friend of Caitlin East)
- + All impacted by 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
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