


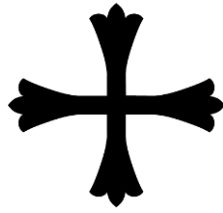
Divine Service

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



 THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

AUGUST 2, 2020 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.



PRELUDE

Air and Gavotte

Samuel Wesley

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 790

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
 lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
 fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

**5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
 All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
 Let the Amen
 Sound from His people again;
 Gladly forever adore Him!**

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

Kneeling or sitting forward

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

The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the First Commandment:

- *What or whom do I fear most?*
- *In what or whom do I trust most for financial security, physical safety, or emotional support?*
- *Do I fear God's wrath and therefore avoid every sin?*
- *Is my love of God evident in my daily life?*
- *Do I expect only good from God in every situation, or do I worry, doubt, complain, or feel unfairly treated when things go wrong?*

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

C **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.

C Amen.


[John 20:19-23]

Standing


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.




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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



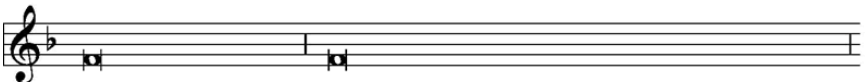
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,




and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



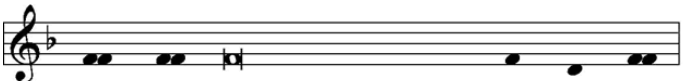
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

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

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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 Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:1-5

A The Old Testament Reading for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost is from Isaiah, chapter 55.

¹“Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

“The Christian ethic is not a list of commandments. It is a Person, Jesus himself, who through the Eucharist unites himself with us and lives in us. He constitutes the norm; he is the rule.”
Wilfrid Stinissen, O.C.D.
Bread That Is Broken

*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 forever. Amen.

- L** Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- C** Give thanks to the | God of gods,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- L** Give thanks to the | Lord of lords,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- C** to him who alone does great | wonders,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- L** to him who by understanding made the | heavens,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- C** to him who spread out the earth above the | waters,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- L** to him who made the | great lights,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.



- C** the sun to rule o- | ver the day,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- L** the moon and stars to rule o- | ver the night,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- 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*

EPISTLE

Romans 9:1-5

- A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter nine.

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They

are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

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

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:13-21

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

P ¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They said to him,

"We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' 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 God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

CATECHETICAL RECITATION

The First Article of the Creed

P What is the First Article of the Creed?

C I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 540

"Christ, the Word of God Incarnate"



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,
3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of
4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,
Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es
lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our
You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful
Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.
God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

**5 Christ, the way that leads un failing
To the Father's home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
Christ, the life that cannot die.
Mediator to the Father,
Sacrifice and great High Priest:
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,
There to share Your wedding feast.**

**6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection,
Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration
And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit
And to You eternally.**

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SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Lord, You have bidden us to come without money to receive grace beyond price. Hear us as we heed Your call and turn to You in prayer, confident of Your promise to hear and answer us.

Brief silence

P Father, we have sought meaning, comfort and sustenance from all the wrong places. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that our hearts may be turned to Your Word, that we may hunger for Your Son's body and blood, and that we may discern truth from error.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we give You thanks that You have blessed us beyond what we deserve and given to us Your Church. Guard her life by Your Spirit, and strengthen her witness before the nations. Bless all pastors and church workers in their service to us in Your name, and bless those now considering and preparing for church-work vocations.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we too quickly focus on what we lack and not upon Your unlimited grace. Bless all relief agencies and services of Your Church on behalf of the hungry, the homeless, the hurting and those who have lost hope. Bless those visited by disaster and tragedy, and open our hearts to help them recover from their loss.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we are daily blessed to know abundance and freedom. Bless those who defend us from our enemies, who serve us in government and who protect us in our communities. Be with our president, the Congress, our governor, and our judges and magistrates, that they may discern the right path and lead us with honor and integrity.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we suffer with all manner of ills and afflictions. Hear us and grant to us healing according to Your will, strength in time of trial and peace at the last. We pray especially for _____ and those named in our hearts. Good Lord, deliver us and teach us to depend upon Your grace in all things.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we know that Your steadfast love and mercy are forever, but our faith is daily tested and tempted. Give us strength and endurance, that we may not despair but have confidence in Your sufficient grace. Guide us to seek our consolation in Your Word and Sacraments, and prepare us to receive the Lord's body and blood in this Holy Communion.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we are daily and richly surrounded with Your love and care. Grant us eyes to see Your mercies new every morning and grateful hearts, that what we have received we may share with those in need and generously support the work of Your Church.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we remember the saints who lived by Your mercy and died in Christ. We long for that day when all divisions will end and the Church in heaven and earth shall be one in Your presence, singing Your praise in Your kingdom without end.

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father, we ask You to grant us all things needful and to keep from us all things harmful to us and to our salvation for we trust Your wisdom and Your love. Teach us to pray without fear "Your will be done"; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Trumpet in Dialogue

Louis Clerambault

MEDITATION

Matt. 14:17-18 – "They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' " When the disciples held on to the five loaves and two fish, that's exactly what they had. But when they handed them over to the Lord, the multitudes were fed. Apart from Jesus all we do and all we have is nothing. But, in Jesus, all we do and have is blessed to be used by the Lord for His gracious work.

"I'm deeply convinced that the greatest spiritual danger for our times is the separation of Jesus from the church. The church is the body of the Lord. Without Jesus there can be no church; and without the church we cannot stay united with Jesus. I've yet to meet anyone who has come closer to Jesus by forsaking the church."

Henri J. M. Nouwen

Letters to Marc about Jesus

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19




C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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



P The Lord be with you.
C And with your spir it.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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 pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P 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.

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 al - ways.



C A - men.



AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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.)*

"You blessed the bread and broke it
to the satisfaction of people in need,
and the multitudes ate it and rejoiced.
Perhaps they would have fainted from hunger
if the bread had not been broken.

"Bless me also and break me,
if in that way you can use me
for the gladness and joy of others.
You gave yourself to be broken
for our salvation, Man of sorrows."

Brigit Klockars
Broken Bread

MUSIC FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 642

"O Living Bread from Heaven"



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well You
2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most
3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can
4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly



feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en
ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me
death de - stroy. And You have free - ly grant - ed
food, while here My course on earth is length - ened,



Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, won - drous food of
The trea - sures of Your grace; For You have free - ly
The cup of end - less joy. My Lord, I do not
To serve with ho - ly fear. And when You call my



bles - sing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this
giv - en What earth could nev - er buy, The bread of
mer - it The fa - vor You have shown, And all my
spir - it To leave this world be - low, I en - ter,



gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows.
life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.
soul and spir - it Bow down be - fore Your throne.
through Your mer - it, Where joys un - min - gled flow.

Standing

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ *Thank the Lord*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



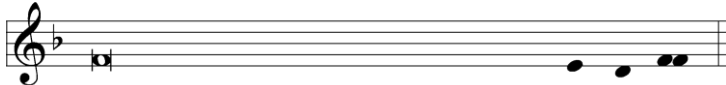
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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



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 A - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 725

"Children of the Heavenly Father"



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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POSTLUDE

Jig Fugue

Dietrich Buxtehude

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

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)

Grayson Beckman/Isaac Beckman

SERVING NEXT WEEK

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/Greg Ison

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
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
Monday 8/3	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Tuesday 8/4	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Wednesday 8/5	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 8/6	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 8/7	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 8/8	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 8/9	Tenth 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 Open Arms Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship

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

Beauty ~ WORSHIPING OUR GOD

✠ **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 Luncheon immediately following worship

Location: Divine Service in church sanctuary

Celebration Luncheon in church fellowship hall

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.

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

In Celebration

Birthdays

- ✝ Nancy Grossberg, 8/3
- ✝ Jeni Miller, 8/3

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

- ✝ Linda Rathje, 8/2
- ✝ Rev. David V. Miller, 8/7
- ✝ Emilie Schoellen, 8/8

Wedding Anniversaries

- ✝ None this week

Membership Anniversaries

- ✝ Emilie Schoellen, 8/8

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

- ✝ Turkey

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)
- ✝ Paul Von Wedel (father of Jill Drachenberg)
- ✝ 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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