

Divine Service

QUINQUAGESIMA



The Sunday on the Way to Jerusalem

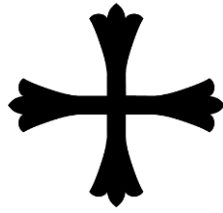
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

FEBRUARY 14, 2021 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME – QUINQUAGESIMA

Faith Alone

The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see (Luke 18:31–43). Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again, but they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, for he calls Him “Son of David.” Indeed, Jesus is the Lord’s anointed, the keeper of sheep (1 Sam. 16:1–13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us (1 Cor. 13:1–13). Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Is. 35:3–7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.



PRELUDE

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 545

“Word of God, Come Down to Earth”



1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our
4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing, Word al - might - y,
Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the
Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.
world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.
pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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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 Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Fifth Commandment:

- *Have I unjustly taken the life of anyone, born or unborn?*
- *Do I hate anyone, or am I angry with anyone?*
- *Do I hold grudges or harbor resentment?*
- *Am I abusive (in word or deed) toward my spouse, children, or anyone else?*
- *Have I ignored the plight of the helpless or been callous toward genuine need?*

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

**"Whoever does evil, does injury to Christ."
St. Caesarius of Arles (470 – 552 A.D.)**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

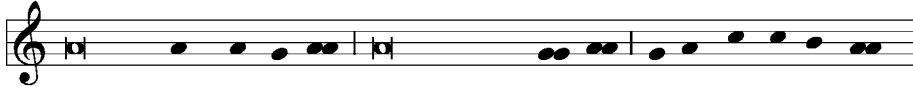
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



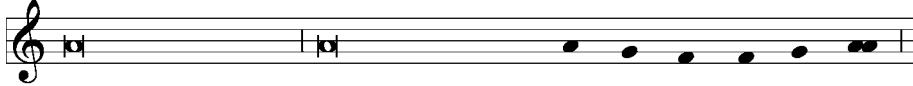
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



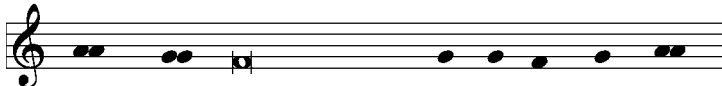
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

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

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, 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.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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

1 Samuel 16:1-13

A The Old Testament Reading for Quinquagesima is from 1 Samuel, chapter sixteen.

A ¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before him." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his

stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these." ¹¹Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here." ¹²And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

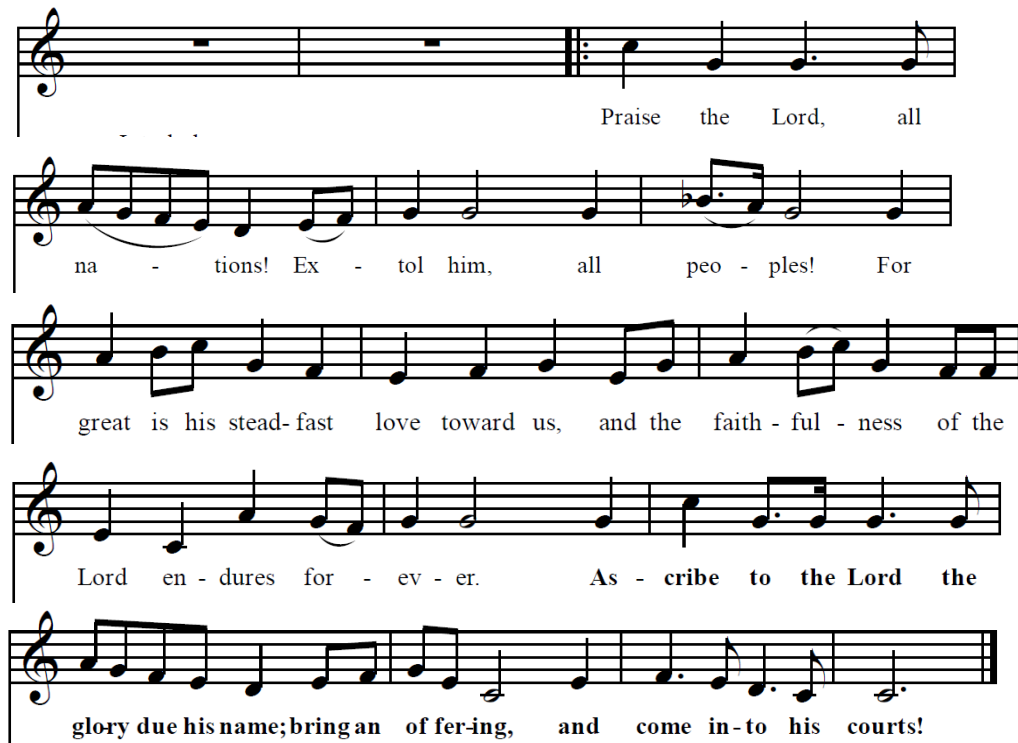
GRADUAL

Psalm 89:18-29; antiphon: Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

Antiphon

Composer: Jonathan Mueller

Cantor introduces first time, then congregation sings second time:



Praise the Lord, all
na - tions! Ex - tol him, all peo - ples! For
great is his stead-fast love toward us, and the faith - ful - ness of the
Lord en - dures for - ev - er. As - cribe to the Lord the
glory due his name; bring an of fer-ing, and come in-to his courts!



L For our shield belongs | to the LORD,*
our king to the Holy One of | Israel.

C Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said:
"I have granted help to one who is | mighty;*
I have exalted one chosen from the | people.

L I have found David, my | servant;*
With my holy oil I have a- | nointed him,



- C** so that my hand shall be estab- | lished with him;*
my arm also shall | strengthen him.
- L** The enemy shall not out- | wit him;*
the wicked shall not | humble him.
- C** I will crush his foes be- | fore him*
and strike down those who | hate him.
- L** My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall | be with him,*
and in my name shall his horn be ex- | alted.
- C** I will set his hand | on the sea*
and his right hand on the | rivers.
- L** He shall cry to me, 'You are my | Father,*
my God, and the Rock of my sal- | vation.'
- C** And I will make him the | firstborn,*
the highest of the kings | of the earth.
- L** My steadfast love I will keep for him for- | ever,*
and my covenant will stand | firm for him.
- C** I will establish his offspring for- | ever*
and his throne as the days of the | heavens.
- 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

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

A The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter thirteen.

A ¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Standing

TRACT

Psalm 100:1-3



L Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!*

Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with | singing!

C Know that the LORD, | he is God!*

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

P ³¹ And taking the twelve, [Jesus] said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³² For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³ And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise." ³⁴ But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

³⁵ As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷ They

told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸ And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹ And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰ And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹ "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight." ⁴² And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well." ⁴³ And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

"God's will is to save us, and nothing pleases Him more than our coming back to Him with true repentance. . . . Indeed, God's desire for our salvation is the primary and preeminent sign of His infinite goodness."
St. Maximus the Confessor (c. 580 – 662 A.D.)

APOSTLES' CREED

[Matthew 10:32]

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 Fourth Commandment

P What is the Fourth Commandment?

C **Honor your father and your mother.**

P What does this mean?

C **We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.**

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 849

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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SERMON



INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

- P** Beloved in the Lord, Holy Scripture admonishes us that “all things should be done decently and in good order.”

1 Corinthians 14:40

To that end, the constitution and bylaws of this congregation establish various offices to which men and women are elected and appointed to serve. In so doing, the Church follows the example of the Early Christian Church as described in Acts, chapter six:

The twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

Acts 6:2-4

The apostle Peter writes in his first epistle:

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11

- P** You have been chosen to fill specific offices and positions of responsibility at Lutheran Church of the Ascension. You are to work with the pastor, that our life together in Christ may be orderly and pleasing in His sight.

You are to see that the services of God’s house are held at the proper times, that the Word of God is purely preached and taught according to the Lutheran Confessions, that the Sacraments of Christ are administered according to His institution, that provision is made for the Christian instruction of young and old, that the erring are admonished, and that discipline is maintained.

You are to see that the temporal affairs of the congregation are properly administered and that proper support is provided for the workers of this congregation. You are to assist in caring for the poor and the sick, in cultivating harmony among the members, in promoting the general welfare of the congregation, and in furthering the kingdom of Christ here and throughout the world.

While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you, as office-bearers in His Church, show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion.

In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the offices entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do.

- R** *I do.*

The pastor then addresses the congregation:

P Beloved in the Lord, you have heard the promises of faithfulness spoken by these men and women whom you have selected to serve as officers of Lutheran Church of the Ascension. Do you promise to support them in their work, to remember them in your prayers, and to work with them to the best of the abilities that God has given you, so that He may be glorified and His work be done in our midst? If so, then answer: We do.

C **We do.**

Standing

P Let us pray.
Gracious Father, You direct Your people to use their gifts in service to others. Receive our thanks and praise for the faithful service of these men and women. Bless Your Word, that they may continue to serve with gladness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. *1 Corinthians 15:58*

C **Amen.**

*Brian Beckman, Congregational President
Darlene Beckman, Chair of Properties
Greg Ison, Congregational Treasurer
J.P. Morr, Chair of Elders
Lauren Morr, Chair of Education
Jason Schoellen, Chair of Evangelism
Clara Smith, Chair of Stewardship
Vacant, Congregational Secretary*

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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

Brief silence

P O Lord, our God, You have opened the eyes of the blind to see and the ears of the deaf to hear. As we prepare to enter the season of Lent, open our eyes and ears anew, through the preaching of Your Law and Gospel, to see and hear Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Preserve Your Church and her ministers. Give to all pastors courage to embrace gladly the crosses of their office, that following their example all Christians may also bear the reproach of the world, the attacks of Satan and the temptations of the flesh in the confidence of Christ's redemption. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Preserve the family and all godly Christian homes. Give parents diligence and persistence in their duties to teach the faith in word and example. Keep all children in the promise You made to them in their Baptism. Let the patience, kindness and endurance of Christian love have no end among us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Preserve the state and its servants. To all whom You have given authority, bestow also the wisdom needed to use it dutifully for the benefit of those under authority. Turn us from every evil in judgment, law or action, and renew in us and our fellow citizens discernment and selflessness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Preserve us and all who call to You in any need [*especially* _____]. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Preserve Your Holy Communion and Your Son's blessed Supper among us. Give contrition and faith to those who gather at this altar, unite them in their confession of Your truth, and so bring them worthily to eat and to drink Christ's body and blood for their forgiveness and life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord God, heavenly Father, what You foretold through the holy prophets has been fulfilled and accomplished in the suffering, death and resurrection of Your Son. You have set forth His Passion and resurrection as the firm foundation and content for our faith. Have mercy on us, and open our eyes to be fixed on the Son of David at all times. Give us courage to follow Him through all adversity and every assault of the devil to view His Passion with repentant hearts and with delight, for by it You have redeemed us from all sin and evil. Comfort us with the certainty of Christ's resurrection, by which we, too, have the confidence of eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Sitting

OFFERING

MEDITATION

Luke 18:34 – "This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said." Even our understanding of the Word of God is a gift – the disciples can't understand Jesus because it is not given to them to understand him. By nature they are deaf to the Word. So everything we have is a gift of God. To realize this is the beginning of thankfulness, generosity, and kindness.

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 al-so with you.
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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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, Lord God of
 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
 glo - ry. 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

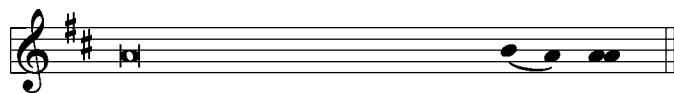
Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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

☐ 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, 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.)

"A better term for "Lutheran" spirituality is "evangelical" spirituality. The term *evangelical* is simply a term derived from the Greek word for "Gospel," which in turn literally means "good news." *Evangelical* means someone who focuses on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Good News that Christ, through His death and resurrection, has won forgiveness for sinful human beings and offers salvation as a free gift."

Gene Edward Veith, Jr.
The Spirituality of the Cross

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 620

“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
me this hour In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: “Come and taste the bless - ed feast.”
pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

5 Let me praise God’s boundless favor,

Whose own feast of love I savor,

Bidden by His gracious call.

Wedding garments He provides me,

With a robe of white He hides me,

Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,

Comfort in my tribulation,

Balm to heal the troubled soul.

God, my shield from ev’ry terror,

Cleanses me from sin and error,

Makes my wounded spirit whole.

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NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32



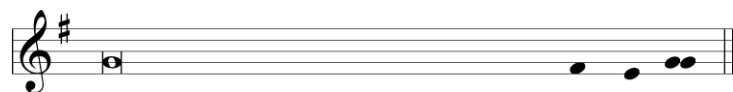
Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
 O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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.

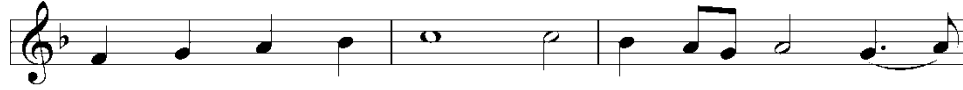
RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 841

"O Son of God, in Galilee"



1 O Son of God, in Gal - i - lee You
2 O lis - ten to the si - lent prayer Of
3 The speech - less tongue, the life - less ear You
4 Mean - while to them the lis - t'ning ear Of
5 Then in Your prom - ised hap - py land Each



made the deaf to hear, The mute to speak, the
Your af - flict - ed ones. O bid them cast on
can re - store, O Lord; Your "Eph - pha - tha," O
stead - fast faith im - part, And let Your Word bring
loss will prove a gain; All mys - t'ries we shall



blind to see; O bless - ed Lord, be near.
You their care; Your grace to them make known.
Sav - ior dear, Can in - stant help af - ford.
light and cheer To ev - 'ry trou - bled heart.
un - der - stand, For You will make them plain.

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POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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A NOTE ABOUT GESIMATIDE (THE THREE SUNDAYS BEFORE LENT):

Our liturgical preparation for Easter takes place through three distinct periods or steps. The first is the "Gesima" season. These three Sundays before Lent are mainly focused on the grace of God and examine that grace from three perspectives:

- 1.) Septuagesima (meaning "about 70 days")—Grace is undeserved. The collect for this Sunday implores God to graciously hear us, who are justly punished for our sin, so that we may be delivered by His goodness. The goodness of God is emphasized in the parable of the vineyard workers in the day's Gospel, Matthew 20:1-16. All the laborers receive the reward because of the goodness of the landowner and not because of their own labor or merit. We prepare for Easter by remembering what is good, Christ, who has borne the heat and burden of the day for us so that we might have that goodness for free.
- 2.) Sexagesima (meaning "about 60 days")—Grace is passively received. In the collect for this Sunday we pray that God would see that we put not our trust in anything that we do and that He would mercifully defend us by

His power. The parable of the sower is read from Luke 8:4-15. The seed of God's Word is passively received. It transforms bad soil into good and bestows noble hearts upon sinful men. We pray that this would happen also to and for us.

- 3.) Quinquagesima (meaning "about 50 days") —Grace is not easily understood. On the Sunday before Ash Wednesday we hear in the Gospel, Luke 18:31- 34, Jesus predict His passion, death, and resurrection. We also hear that the disciples "understood none of these things" and "this saying was hid from them, and they did not grasp what was said (34)." We pray that God would be gracious and patient with us and grant faith and understanding to us despite our many sins.

The three Gesima Sundays take on the character of Lent, but mildly. The "Alleluias" are dropped and the Tract is introduced, but the color stays green and crucifixes remain unveiled. This grace-focused season provides a gradual progression and gentle easing into the more intense ceremonies and denials of Lent and Passiontide.

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*
Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

David Kroll, *Guest Organist*

Altar Guild

Lucie Woolery/Jeni Miller

Usher(s)

Brian Beckman/Grayson Beckman

Fellowship Host(s)

Brian & Darlene 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/Caitlin East

Usher(s)

Richard Drachenberg/Greg Ison

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
Sunday 2/14	Quinquagesima Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Paul's Epistle to the Romans</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
Monday 2/15	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Tuesday 2/16	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 2/17	Ash Wednesday Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel Divine Service with Imposition of Ashes Divine Service with Imposition of Ashes	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:00 AM Noon 7:00 PM
Thursday 2/18	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 2/19	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 2/20	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 2/21	First Sunday in Lent Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Paul's Epistle to the Romans</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

Truth ~ GROWING IN HIS WORD

✚ **Adult Bible Study: *Paul's Epistle to the Romans***

Theme: Law and Gospel. Judgment and grace. Freedom and bondage. These are just a few of the powerful themes St. Paul mentions in his letter to the Christians at Rome. Masterfully, he uses such images to paint a vivid portrait of salvation in Christ Jesus. Come, uncover the beautiful picture of what life now looks like on account of your Savior.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M.

Location: Church fellowship hall

✚ **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, February 27 at 10:30AM (Chapter 7)

Location: The Miller Home (address in directory)

Beauty ~ WORSHIPING OUR GOD

✦ **Additional Divine Service**

Theme: For those who would desire a smaller worship setting with a mask requirement, a Divine Service with Holy Communion will be offered once a month.

Day & Time: The first Sunday of every month at noon

Location: Church sanctuary

✦ **Ash Wednesday**

Theme: Ash Wednesday Divine Services with the Imposition of Ashes will be observed.

Day & Times: Wednesday, February 17 at noon and 7:00 P.M.

Location: Church sanctuary

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 are focusing on district ministries on college campuses. 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.

✦ **Installation of Congregational Officers**

Theme: All new congregational officers will be installed and all currently serving officers will be rededicated during the Divine Service.

Day & Time: Sunday, February 14 at 10:00 A.M

Location: Church sanctuary

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

Birthdays

✝ None this week

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

✝ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries

✝ None this week

Membership Anniversaries

✝ Jason Schoellen, 2/15

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

✝ Kenya

For comfort, health, and healing:

- ✝ Edith Bohannon (mother of Caitlin East's friend)
- ✝ Mary Greene (neighbor of Ruth Henry)
- ✝ Fred Grenier (grandfather of Josh Mech)
- ✝ Angel Hartford (nephew of Joan Bentley)
- ✝ Brandon Irwin (friend of Lauren Morr)
- ✝ The unborn child of Lauren and J.P. Morr
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- ✝ The unborn child of Luke Voss (former neighbor of the Schoellens)
- ✝ All impacted by COVID-19

Peace and comfort for the family and friends of:

✝ Donovan Jenks (son of Gretchen Zitterich's pastor)

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- ✝ Terrie Dowling (aunt of Caitlin East)
- ✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden
- ✝ Rev. David Heller (Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Athens, GA)
- ✝ Adi Murphy (former neighbor of the Beckmans)
- ✝ Jimmy Murray (friend of Adrian Popescu)

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 Joseph Biden & all U.S. government officials



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