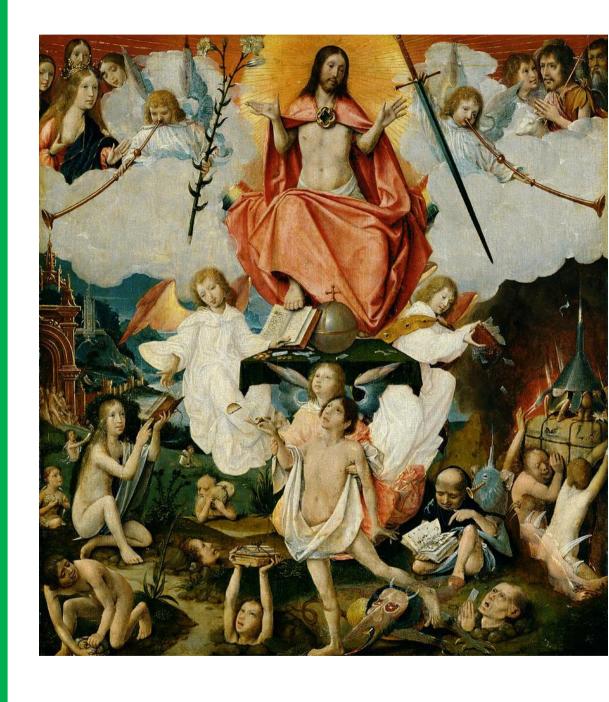


NOVEMBER 17, 2024 • SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY





UR CHURCHES TEACH THAT AT THE END OF THE WORLD CHRIST WILL APPEAR FOR JUDGMENT AND WILL RAISE ALL THE DEAD [1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-5:2]. HE WILL GIVE THE GODLY AND ELECT ETERNAL LIFE AND EVERLASTING JOYS, BUT HE WILL CONDEMN UNGODLY PEOPLE AND THE DEVILS TO BE TORMENTED WITHOUT END [MATTHEW 25:31-46].

OUR CHURCHES CONDEMN THE ANABAPTISTS, WHO THINK THAT THERE WILL BE AN END TO THE PUNISHMENTS OF CONDEMNED MEN AND DEVILS.

OUR CHURCHES ALSO CONDEMN THOSE WHO ARE SPREADING CERTAIN JEWISH OPINIONS, THAT BEFORE THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD THE GODLY SHALL TAKE POSSESSION OF THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD, THE UNGODLY BEING EVERYWHERE SUPPRESSED.

-Augsburg Confession. Article XVII. Chirst's Return for Judgment, 1-5.

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

"Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved". -*Augsburg Confession*. Article XXIV. The Mass, 1-2a.



PRELUDE

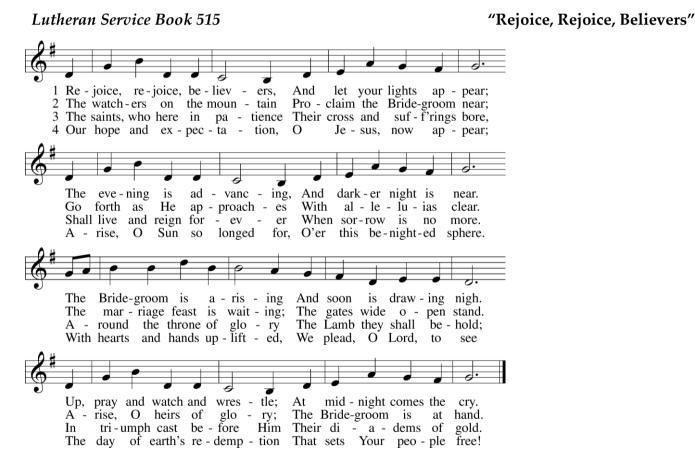
Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Philip Nicolai

WELCOME

Processional Hymn

Please stand and face the processional cross.



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.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

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 O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 [John 20:19-23]
- C Amen.

Standing

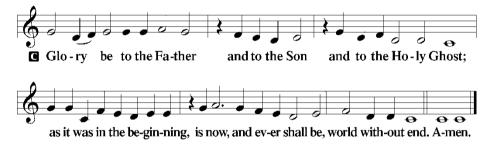
SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 54:3-5, 7; antiphon: Psalm 54:1-2



- O God, save me, | by your name,* and vindicate me | by your might.
 - O God, | hear my prayer;* give ear to the words | of my mouth.
- For strangers have risen a- | gainst me;* they do not set God be- | fore themselves.
- Behold, God is my | helper;*
 the Lord is the upholder | of my life.
- He will return the evil to my | enemies;* in your faithfulness put an | end to them.
- For he has delivered me from every | trouble,* and my eye has looked in triumph on my | enemies.

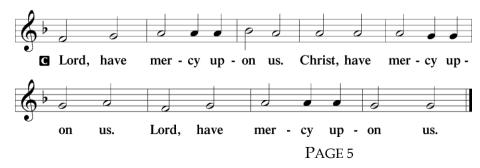


- O God, save me, | by your name,*

 and vindicate me | by your might.
 - O God, | hear my prayer;* give ear to the words | of my mouth.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47





- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And with thy spirit.
- **P** Let us pray.

O Lord, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your just judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; 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

PROPHECY Daniel 7:9–14

- A The Prophecy for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity is from Daniel, chapter seven.
- \mathbf{A} In those days the prophet Daniel spoke, saying: "I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; a fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given

to the burning flame. As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."

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

GRADUAL Psalm 50:4, 6



He calls to the heav- | ens above* and to the earth, that he may judge his | people.

The heavens declare his | righteousness,* for God him- | self is judge!

EPISTLE 2 Peter 3:3–14

- **A** The Epistle is from 2 Peter, chapter three.
- A Dearly Beloved: Know this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward
- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE Isaiah 35:10a



The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy.



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31–46

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



 \mathbf{P} At that time Jesus said to His disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry

- and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

APOSTLES' CREED [Matthew 10:32]

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

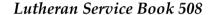
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the 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.

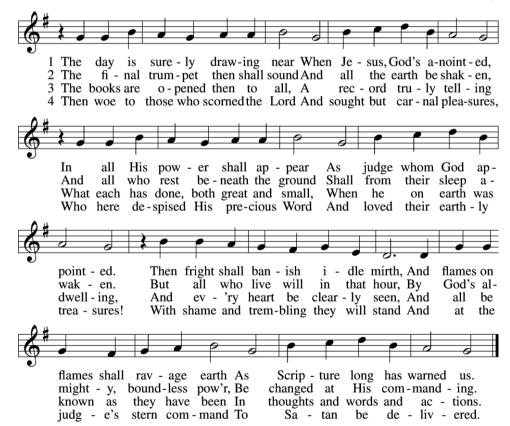
- **P** What is the First Petition?
- **C** Hallowed be Thy name.
- **P** What does this mean?
- God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.
- **P** How is God's name kept holy?
- God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY



"The Day Is Surely Drawing Near"



Continued next page . . .

- 5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
 And for my sin was smitten;
 Within the Book of Life I know
 My name has now been written.
 I will not doubt, for I am free,
 And Satan cannot threaten me;
 There is no condemnation!
- 6 May Christ our intercessor be
 And through His blood and merit
 Read from His book that we are free
 With all who life inherit.
 Then we shall see Him face to face,
 With all His saints in that blest place
 Which He has purchased for us.
- 7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
 But hasten our salvation;
 We often tremble on our way
 In fear and tribulation.
 O hear and grant our fervent plea:
 Come, mighty judge, and set us free
 From death and ev'ry evil.

SERMON



PAGE 12

OFFERTORY Psalm 51:10–12



Sitting

OFFERING

Let Thoughtless Thousands Choose the Road

Joseph Hoskins

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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

Brief silence

- Father in heaven, give Your Church steadfast resolve and a joyful spirit as we engage in works of mercy and love. Lead us to remember we are Your workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which You prepared beforehand for us to do. Grant us humility, that we would not boast in works, but only in the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- P O Lord, remember Your Church throughout the world. Bless our Synod and her pastors, including Matthew, our Synod president; Jeffrey, our bishop; David, our circuit visitor; and David, our pastor, that repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Christ's name would be proclaimed everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Gracious God, heal the divisions among Your people. Curb all sinful ambition, silence the desires of our sinful flesh, and grant us hearts eager to be reconciled with each other in Christian love, that all people will know we are Your disciples. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Almighty God, bless all in authority with wisdom and temperance. Protect our police, firefighters and those who serve in the armed forces from harm and danger, that peace may be established in our lifetime, according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Gracious Lord, have compassion on all who are afflicted in body and soul [especially ______]. Grant them comfort and healing according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Merciful God, bless all who partake in the Holy Eucharist this day, that in Jesus' body and blood they would receive forgiveness of sins unto life eternal. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together 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, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

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

Please remain standing.

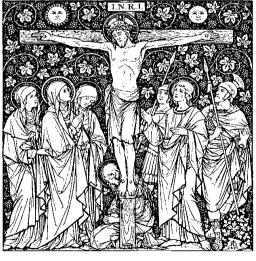
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

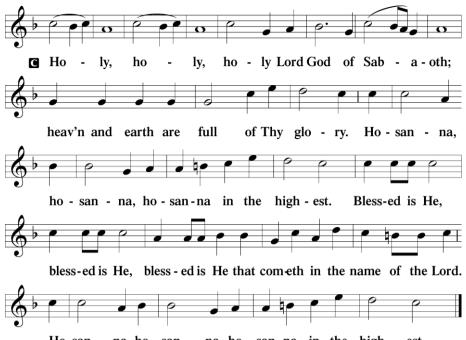
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



It is truly meet, 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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



PAGE 15



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Kneeling or sitting forward.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- **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,

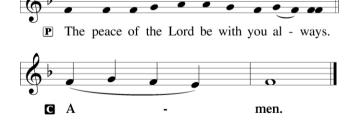
but deliver us from evil.

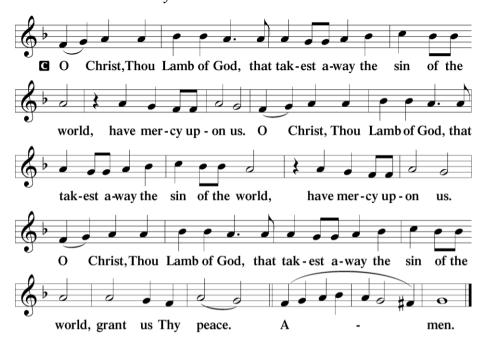
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.



PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord

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.]

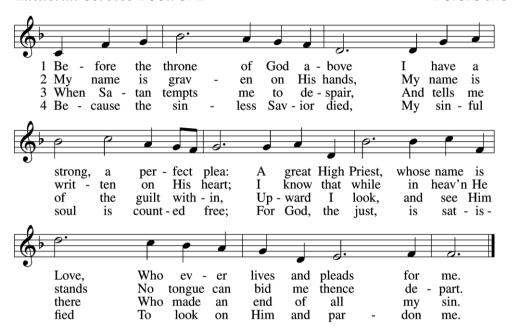
For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

(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 574

"Before the Throne of God Above"



- 5 Behold Him there! The risen Lamb!
 My perfect, spotless righteousness,
 The great unchangeable I AM,
 The King of glory and of grace!
- 6 At one with Him, I cannot die,
 My soul is purchased by His blood;
 My life is hid with Christ on high,
 With Christ, my Savior and my God.



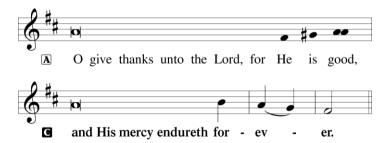
NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32



THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

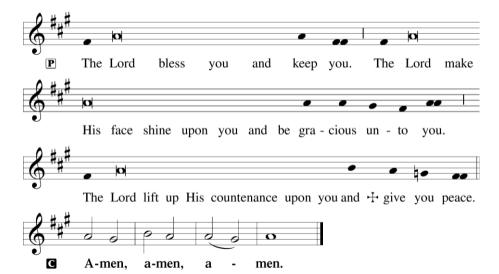
SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1

Numbers 6:24-26



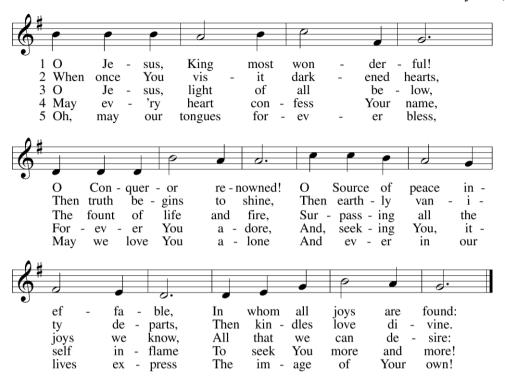
Benediction



RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 554

"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"



POSTLUDE

O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking

John S.B. Mindel



SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, Pastor

Altar Assistant(s)

Grayson Beckman, *Chair of Elders* Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte* Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Laura Darden, Director of Music

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Linda Rathje

Usher(s)

Isaac Beckman/Tracy Woolery

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, Pastor

Altar Assistant(s)

Grayson Beckman, *Chair of Elders* Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte* Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Laura Darden, Director of Music

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Jeni Miller/Kati & Hank Durden

Usher(s)

Isaac Beckman/Tracy Woolery

Fellowship Host(s)

The Schoellen family



OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

-JESUS CHRIST (MT. 22:37-39)

This Week's Calendar		
Sunday 11/17	Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: The History of the Kingdom of Israel Holy Mass Chili Cook-Off	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:40 AM 9:00 – 9:40 AM 10:00 AM Following Mass
Monday 11/18	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 11/19	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 11/20	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 11/21	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 11/22	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 11/23	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Ascension Goes to the Movies	Closed Closed 7:00 PM
Sunday 11/24	The Last Sunday of the Church Year Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: The History of the Kingdom of Israel Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Diaper Shower for Baby Boy Licht	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Mass Following Fellowship

LOVING THE LORD

+ Adult Bible Study: The History of the Kingdom of Israel

Sundays at 9:00 A.M. Church fellowship hall

A barren woman's miraculous pregnancy. God passed over for a human king. The wicked sons of a righteous prophet. A king's crimes of murder and adultery. A son's coup against his father's throne. A prophet's persecution. The Word of God lost and found again. These are just a handful of what you will encounter in this provocative Bible study covering the history of the kingdom of Israel. We began with 1 and 2 Samuel, now we will pick up with 1 Kings, as we continue the turbulent history of God's people and their Lord's unwavering faithfulness.

+ Small Group Bible Study: The Books of the Church

Sunday January 26 at 3:30 P.M.: Judith; Wisdom of Solomon; Tobit Sunday February 23 at 3:30 P.M.: Ecclesiasticus (Sirach); Baruch; The Letter of Jeremiah Sunday March 23 at 3:30 P.M.: 1 & 2 Maccabees Pastor Miller's home (see church directory for address)

God has blessed us with His inspired Word in the canon of Holy Scripture. From Genesis to Revelation, God has given us everything we need to establish the doctrine of His Church. Nevertheless, there are ecclesiastical texts that, while not inspired by the Holy Spirit, are still helpful in recording the history of God's people and clarifying biblical contexts. Even Martin Luther retained many of these texts in his German translation of the Bible. Lutherans since have also included them in their daily lectionary. And the Jews in Jesus' day made frequent use of them in their Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament).

This might explain why the Bible itself makes references to them. For example, when Jesus calls Himself "the Light of the world" (John 8:12), it's in the context of Hanukkah which originated in 1 Maccabees. And the author of Hebrews refers to Tobit when he says, "some have entertained angels unawares" (13:2), and 2 Maccabees when Hebrews says, "women received back their dead, raised to life again" (11:35). Because these texts have been judged as worthwhile reading in the Church, yet not to detract from God's inspired Word in Sunday Adult Bible Class, we would like to begin a supplemental Small Group Bible Study.

Concordia Publishing House (LCMS) has compiled *The Apocrypha: The Lutheran Edition with Notes*. It is available for purchase at \$44.99 through its website (cph.org). This is a nice companion volume to your *Lutheran Study Bible*. However, a bare bones version of the texts is also available at no cost online via apocrypha.org.

+ November Is Stewardship Month!

Pledge Sunday is November 24

During the month of November, please take a moment to prayerfully consider the many special ways the Lord will work through you in the next calendar year. Your time, talent, and treasures will be used to bless His kingdom here at Ascension as well as the greater community. You will receive a packet of stewardship materials to serve as a guide for how you will make a difference for the Lord. At the end of the month, please submit your pledges to the Lord, as we also recognize all our current volunteers and their service. God has a lot to do here at Ascension, and we're excited for you to be a part of it!

→ ON BREAK: Sunday School and Adult Bible Study Cancelled for Thanksgiving Holiday

On Sunday, December 1 there will be no 9:00 A.M. education classes for adults or children.

+ Advent Midweek Mass

Wednesdays, December 4, 11, and 18 at 7:00 P.M. Church sanctuary

A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His path!" We heed John the Baptist by preparing our hearts to receive our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming. Advent Midweek Mass will help us to do so. Join us during the three Wednesdays in Advent as we focus on our Lord's return. This year's theme is, *Rejoice: The Lord is at Hand!*

+ Advent Party

Sunday, December 8, following Mass. Church sanctuary

Join us as we decorate the Lord's house for Christmas. A lunch of bratwurst and hotdogs will be served for all volunteers in attendance for the event. Thank you!

+ Donations for Open Arms Christmas Reception

Donations of baked goods for the hospitality table at the Open Arms Christmas Program reception are being received. Please bring your donation to the church office no later than the day of the program, Friday, December 13. Also, we are looking for volunteers to attend the program at 4:00 P.M. and greet and serve families afterward. Please let Pastor or Darlene know if you are available to serve in this way. Thank you!

+ Christmas Poinsettias

Help beautify the sanctuary with seasonal poinsettias. These beautiful red blooms lend a festive air to the church chancel. If you would like to place an order, please do so using the green card located by the bulletins in the narthex along with a form of payment in the amount of \$18. When placing your order, please be sure to indicate if the poinsettia is being dedicated in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of a loved one who is living. Please remember to take your poinsettia home with you after the Christmas Day Mass. The deadline to receive orders is Sunday, December 15.

+ Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass with Carols by Candlelight: Tuesday, 12/24 at 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Day Mass: Wednesday, 12/25 at 10:00 A.M.

+ Sermons on YouTube

Missed a sermon? Had to walk out halfway through? Want to hear it again? No problem! Most sermons are now being recorded and posted to an official YouTube channel for you to watch at your leisure. Simply type in https://www.youtube.com/@lcaatlanta and you will be directed to the YouTube page where you have access to Pastor Miller's sermons online. Sermons are posted in the order of the date they were preached.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

+ Eleventh Annual Chili Cook-Off

Sunday November 17, following Mass Church fellowship hall

For eleven years, the Chili Cook-Off has been held every November at Ascension. Contestants have had opportunity to win one of three awards: Tastiest; Spiciest; and Most Original. Anyone may enter their chili. If you would like to register, please print your first and last names, as well as print the name of your chili. The number next to your name on the signup sheet is the number by which you should place chili on the day of the Cook-Off. Numbers will be set up. Anyone may also attend the event to taste the chilis and vote as a judge. One suggestion for all contestants: please bring your chili in a crock-pot to keep it warm and ready to serve.

+ Ascension Goes to the Movies: Bonhoeffer: Pastor. Spy. Assassin.

Saturday November 23 at 7:00 P.M. AMC Parkway Pointe 15 3101 Cobb Pkwy, Atlanta (Marietta)

Did you know that Dietrich Bonhoeffer was not only a Lutheran pastor, but a brave dissident to Adolf Hitler's regime? His story is fascinating! Join the Ascension family on Saturday, November 23 for an evening at the movie theater to check out the new release, *Bonhoeffer: Pastor. Spy. Assassin*. The story is all about how Bonhoeffer joins a deadly plot to assassinate Hitler and save millions of Jews. Tickets will be purchased at a 50% discount as part of a group bundle, so please email Jeni Miller at mrsjenimiller@gmail.com by Sunday, November 10 if you would like to attend.

+ Diaper Shower for Baby Boy Licht

Sunday November 24, following Mass Church fellowship hall

Ryan, Haley, and Oaklen are looking forward to meeting their new baby boy this December, so let's help them prepare with a diaper shower! Please stay after church for cake and a brief reception to celebrate. Members and friends of Ascension are invited to drop off gifts at a designated table in the narthex. The Lichts are also registered online at Amazon.com, but diapers of any size and wipes are especially welcome. No RSVP necessary, but you're welcome to direct your questions to Jeni Miller at (847)401-0479 or mrsjenimiller@gmail.com. Hooray!

+ The Nutcracker Ballet

Friday 11/29 and Saturday 11/30 at 7:30 P.M. Sunday 12/1 at 5:00 P.M. Jennie T. Anderson Theatre at the Cobb Civic Center 548 South Marietta Parkway SE, Marietta, GA 30060

The Ascension family (and friends) are invited to come out and see the classic ballet *The Nutcracker*, presented by Georgia Metropolitan Dance Theatre, from November 29 through December 1 (Thanksgiving weekend). Ascension member Eden Miller will be dancing in all three evening performances. For more details or to purchase tickets, please visit georgiametrodance.org/tickets.

LIFTING HOLY HANDS

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- Lucie Woolery, 11/18
- + Tracy Woolery, 11/19
- ♣ Matthias Miller, 11/22

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries):

- ♣ Luka Beckman, 11/22
- ♣ Nat Taylor, 11/22

Wedding Anniversaries:

♣ None this week

Membership Anniversaries:

- 🕂 Luka Beckman, 11/22
- + Christina Schoellen, 11/23

Recent Requests

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- + Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- H Michelle Levell (mother of Grayson Beckman's fiancée)
- + Hellen Kalugendo
- ♣ Donald Licht
- ♣ Michelle Noel
- + Ed & Jackie Sherwood (grandmother of Bekah Beckman)
- + Evan Woolery (son of Tracy and Lucie Woolery)

For those requesting special prayers:

- + The health and wellbeing of all the unborn, especially the children of Isaac & Bekah Beckman and Ryan & Haley Licht.
- + Faith Lutheran Church and School in Marietta, that God would provide them with a faithful pastor and principal.

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- + David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- → Will Edinger (friend of the Beckmans)
- ♣ Zachary Harmon (grandson of Steve and Patty Harmon, friends of Ascension)
- + Ruth Henry
- + Betty Licht
- + Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- + Charles Schnell (former member), for his formation as a pastor.

For the leaders of Church and state:

- + Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- + English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & 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



The Lutheran Church of the Ascension

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