



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Friends of God,

Man ate of the bread of the angels;
He sent them food in abundance.

Psalm 78:25

*Oh, the depth of the
riches and wisdom and
knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are
his judgements and how
inscrutable his ways!
For from him and
through him and to him
are all things. To him be
glory forever. Amen.*

Gradual

Romans 11:33, 36

The Lord delights in giving out good things—ordinary everyday things, and things far beyond the ordinary. It has always been that way. When He created the world, God was so pleased with it that He couldn't keep it for Himself and simply had to share it with some who would delight in it with Him. And there is always more—more than we could ever imagine. [...]

But we are bent in on ourselves; we are what first engages our attention. There is no delight in that. That is the opposite of what we are created for, so we rebel against that fact as evidenced by our envious complaints: "Why does he have a quicker brain than I do?" "Why am I so fat? Just look at her lovely, wispy figure." "Why should I have to get on now with one lung?" "Why can't I be like those beautiful people? rich people? aerobic people?" Even if people get what they envy others for, they are even more miserable because it didn't make them happy the way they thought it would. Measuring ourselves against others is the opposite of our delighting in what a unique mixture of things God has made each one of us.

Norman Nagel

AUGUST 2, 2026 ✠ 8:30AM & 11AM

Selected Sermons, pp. 161-162[†]

SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We are so glad that you are here! This is God's House and He put the wiggle in children, so please feel completely at home.

Sit towards the front: That's where children can easily see the procession, note the colors and watch the pastor and leaders.

Help your child look and listen: Tell them key words that will be used often. Point out crosses, banners and other reminders of Jesus and His Good News.

Participate joyfully! Sing, fold your hands for prayer, stand and kneel. Bring them to the Communion rail for a blessing. Your child will model your actions. He or she watches everything that you do.

Involve your child: Encourage them to say and pray their parts: *"Amen. Lord have mercy. I believe... Our Father..."* Ascension at Prayer allows you to learn songs and prayers ahead of time so that children recognize them as their own.

If You and Your Child Must Leave: There is a nursery for emergencies, but please come back. What we do here promises to engage your children little-by-little and shape them powerfully and forever.

Rainbow Activity Bags are available at the Usher Table for children five and under.

If you need help, just ask! We are here to serve Jesus who said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

If you are a visitor, we are delighted to have you join us in worshiping God and hearing His Word! Please take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor. You are cordially invited to join in our congregation's fellowship and study of God's Word between services and all week long.

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION



Our greatest desire is to share in the blessing of the Lord's Supper with you! Since this meal unites us spiritually by faith in the Word of God, we ask that you come having prepared your heart. Please read the following questions. If your answer to each is "Yes" then joyfully receive the Lord's gift in His Sacrament.

- ☐ **Do you come to the Lord's Table for assurance of forgiveness, healing from doubt and shame, and to receive God's gift of a holy life and reconciliation through Jesus?**
- ☐ **Have you been baptized and instructed in the Sacrament so that you come to confess the holy, catholic and apostolic faith along with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod?**
- ☐ **Do you believe Jesus' words, that the bread and the wine are, in fact, His own body and blood, given and shed for you?**

We invite all those who are not prepared to commune to join our study of God's Word and to speak to our pastor for direction. In the meantime, we invite you to receive a blessing at God's altar this morning. Please fold your hands over your heart during the distribution of the Sacrament and join in our prayers for God to restore us through repentance, to unity and holiness in Christ alone.

*The "white" individual cups at the center of each tray are alcohol-free.
For gluten-free communion, please ask the pastor prior to the service.*

Gathered Together...

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance

arr. by Phillip Keveren

*As the prelude begins, please prepare for worship by composing yourself for prayer.
At the end of the announcements, please stand.*

ENTRANCE HYMN

Psalm 57:9; 100:4-5

Turn and face the cross in procession.

614 "As Surely as I Live," God Said

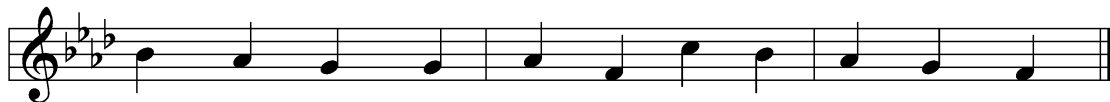
sts. 1-6



1 "As sure - ly as I live," God said, "I would not
2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: "Go forth and
3 "All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly
4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will



see the sin - ner dead. I want him turned from
preach in ev - 'ry land; Be - stow on all My
par - don and ac - quit, And those whose sins you
loose, that shall be free; To My dear Church the



er - ror's ways, Re - pen - tant, liv - ing end - less days."
par - d'ning grace Who will re - pent and mend their ways.
will re - tain Con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.
keys are giv'n To o - pen, close the gates of heav'n."

5 The words which absolution give
Are His who died that we might
live;
The minister whom Christ has sent
Is but His humble instrument.

6 When ministers lay on their hands,
Absolved by Christ the sinner
stands;
He who by grace the Word believes
The purchase of His blood receives.

INVOCATION

1 Kings 8:27-30; Matthew 18:20; 28:18-20

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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel or sit forward. Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand.

INTROIT

Psalm 105:39-43; antiphon: v. 1



Pastor sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*
make known his deeds among the | peoples!

He spread a cloud for a | covering,*
and fire to give | light by night.

They asked, and he | brought
quail,*

and gave them bread from heaven
in a- | bundance.

He opened the rock, and water |
gushed out;*

it flowed through the desert like a river.

**For he remembered his holy | promise,*
and Abraham, his | servant.**

So he brought his people | out with
joy,*

his chosen ones with | singing.

Glory be to the Father and | to the
Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

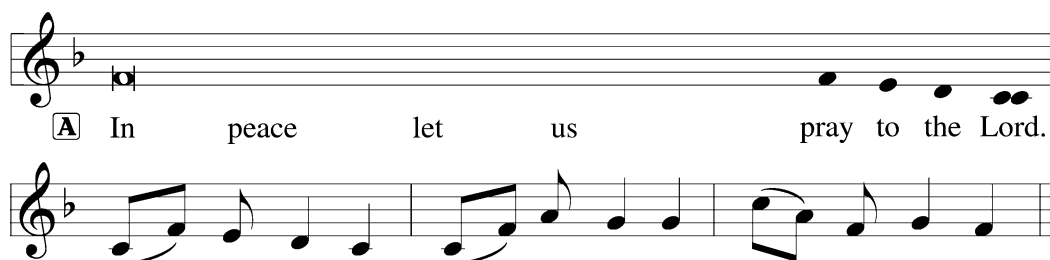
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*
make known his deeds among the | peoples!

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

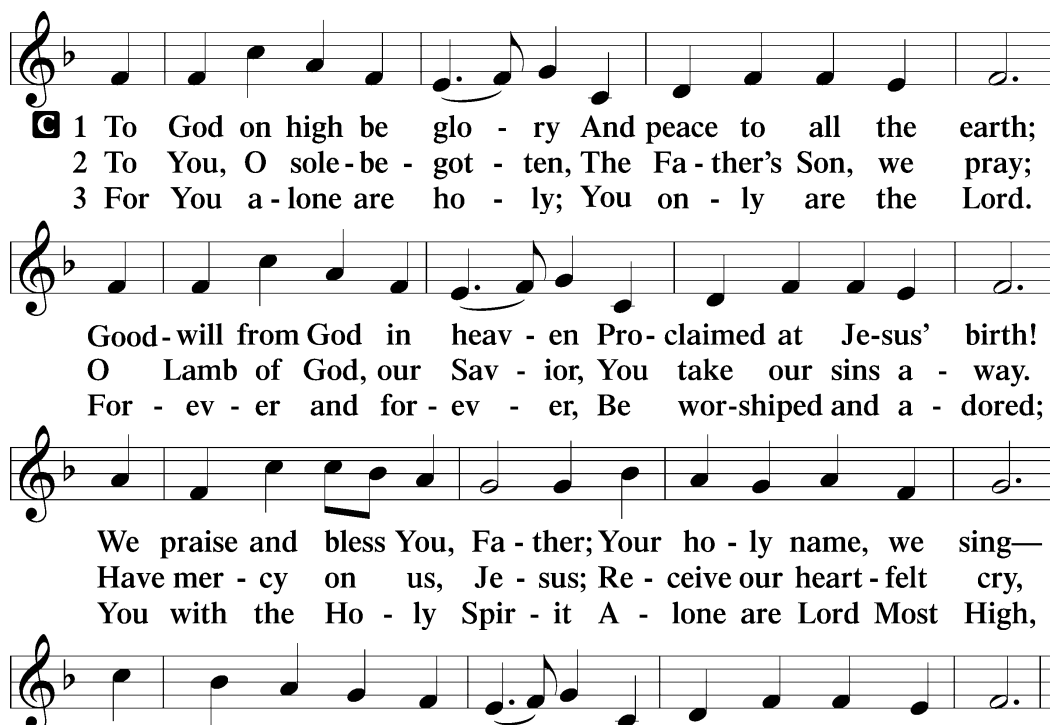


A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with your spirit.
P Let us pray.
 Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit.

...Around the Word...

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 55:1-5

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

“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.
Why 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.
Incline 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.
Behold, I made him a witness to the
peoples,
a leader and commander for the
peoples.
Behold, 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.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 9:1-13

A The Epistle is from Romans, the ninth chapter.

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I
am not lying; my conscience bears me
witness in the Holy Spirit— that I have
great sorrow and unceasing anguish in
my heart. For 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. They are Israelites,
and to them belong the adoption, the
glory, the covenants, the giving of the
law, the worship, and the promises. To
them belong the patriarchs, and from
their race, according to the flesh, is the
Christ who is God over all, blessed
forever. Amen.

But it is not as though the word of
God has failed. For not all who are
descended from Israel belong to Israel,
and not all are children of Abraham

because they are his offspring, but
“Through Isaac shall your offspring be
named.” This means that it is not the
children of the flesh who are the children
of God, but the children of the promise
are counted as offspring. For this is what
the promise said: “About this time next
year I will return and Sarah shall have a
son.” And not only so, but also when
Rebecca had conceived children by one
man, our forefather Isaac, though they
were not yet born and had done nothing
either good or bad—in order that God’s
purpose of election might continue, not
because of works but because of his
call— she was told, “The older will serve
the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I
loved, but Esau I hated.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 14:13-21

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now when Jesus heard [about the death of John], 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. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. 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." But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five

loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." 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. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. 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

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth. *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*
Genesis 1:1; John 1:1

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. *John 3:16; Romans 10:9*
Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:35
He descended into hell. *Galatians 4:4; Matthew 1:23-25*
Matthew 27:26; John 19:1-3
The third day He rose again from the dead. *Mark 15:25; John 19:30; Luke 23:53*
He ascended into heaven *Acts 2:24; 1 Peter 3:19*
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. *Acts 1:9*
Acts 7:55

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, *Acts 10:42; Matt. 26:64*
the resurrection of the body, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
and the life everlasting. Amen. *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*
Ephesians 4:1-6; 15-16; Revelation 7:9-17
Luke 24:46-48; Acts 13:38; Col. 1:14; 1 John 1:7
John 11:25; 1 Cor. 15:35-49; 1 Thess. 4:13-18
Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42

*Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole
Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.*

Sit. The children may be invited forward for a children's message.



The task is to relate oneself absolutely to
the absolute end, which is an eternal
happiness, and relatively to relative ends.

Soren Kierkegaard
Concluding Unscientific Postscript

HYMN OF THE DAY

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 - ing, 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.

SERMON

SUPPLICATION OF THE FAITHFUL

Ephesians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 11:26

- P** Heavenly Father, strengthen us, your unworthy servants, for Your service with the power of Your Holy Spirit.
- C** Now let us, the faithful, proclaim the death of the Lord, confess His resurrection, and await His coming with joy. Amen.

...And Blessed

All those wishing to commune should examine themselves, as in the following prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, You call to Yourself all those who labor and are heavy burdened, to refresh them and to give rest to their souls. Dear Lord, I pray, let me also experience Your love at the heavenly feast, which You have prepared for Your children on earth. Rescue me here from impenitence and unbelief, so that I do not receive the Sacrament to my damnation. Remove the spotted garment of my flesh and my own righteousness and adorn me with the garment earned by Your blood. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and hereafter make me to sit at Your heavenly table, where You give me to eat of the eternal manna and to drink of the river of Your pleasures. Hear me for Your own sake. Amen.



Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

John 6:38

OFFERING & VOLUNTARY

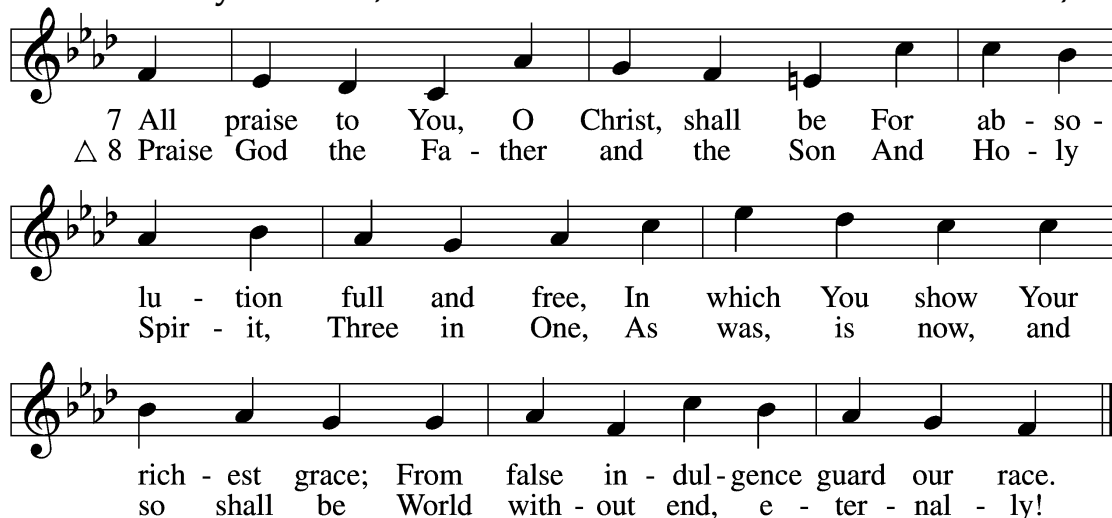
Please place your tithes and offerings in the plates as the ushers pass by.
Take a moment to sign and pass along the red books found at the end of each pew.

Stand.

OFFERTORY

614 "As Surely as I Live," God Said

sts. 7-8



7 All praise to You, O Christ, shall be For ab - so -
△ 8 Praise God to the Fa - ther and the Son And Ho - ly

lu - tion full and free, In which You show Your
Spir - it, Three in One, As was, is now, and

rich - est grace; From false in - dul - gence guard our race.
so shall be World with - out end, e - ter - nal - ly!

Be seated.



Almighty God, grant us the forgiveness of all our sins that we, being full of grace, virtue and good works, may become thy kingdom. May we with heart, soul, mind and strength, inwardly and outwardly, submit to thy commands and do thy will. Amen.

Prayer attributed to Martin Luther[†]

INSTALLATION OF VICAR

The vicar is presented before the altar.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, according to the usual custom of the Church, Andrew Cole has been assigned to serve you and our Lord as a vicar in preparation for his calling into the holy office of ministry. So that everything we undertake together might be to the glory of God and be a blessing to this parish, let us hear what the Word of God says about those who serve in the Church:

- P** Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way... *2 Corinthians 6:1-3a*

- P** Hear also, Andrew, what God’s Word says about your service:

- P** 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*

The pastor addresses the vicar:

- P** Andrew, are you prepared to serve as vicar in this congregation under the supervision of the pastor, undertaking your assignments as one who seeks training for the Office of the Holy Ministry? If so, then answer: I am, with the help of God.

R *I am, with the help of God.*

- P** Andrew, I install you as vicar at Ascension Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand.

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God our Father, You commanded us to pray for You to send laborers into Your harvest. Grant Your blessing and send Your Holy Spirit upon Andrew that, through his service as a vicar in this congregation, Your Word may be faithfully taught and joyfully proclaimed and Your church built on the one foundation which You Yourself have laid; Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

- P** By means of the Word of God, having confident trust in our Heavenly Father’s gracious promise, begin your duties as vicar in this congregation. 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.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For all unbelievers, that the Lord might open their ears to His gracious and true Word and incline their ears to faith and love for Him and so make them children, beloved and holy, together with us on account of His Son, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For pastors, church workers and all the baptized, that they may ever hallow God's name and faithfully serve the Lord Who has made, redeemed and called them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For eyes open to the generosity of God and hearts that never cease giving thanks for all God provides our bodies and lives, especially with regard to our homes and families, that we might not covet or turn aside from His hand which faithfully gives what is best, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who serve us in government and protect us in our communities, that they discern the right path and lead us with honor and integrity, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick, troubled, grieving and dying, that they may receive grace according to God's merciful will. We pray especially for...

our members

Scott Hertzog

John Strohschein

Sharon Gugel

Ted Cash

John Henry

Jasmine Timm

James Dake

Peri Hertzog

Tony Byrum

Cissi Burtner

Elaine Elston

those at home:

Janet Miller

Lila Thompson

Doris Falconieri

Jackie Elam

Tom Hagen

Karen Priebe

Roy & Sharon Gugel

Mary Keefauver

Helen Gounis

Louise Nordman

those dear to us:

Judi Domeier

Steve Barringer

Brian Marshall

Kaleigh & Chris Greene

Hermione Moul

Nelson List

Bryson Family

Russell & Wyatt Families

Runge Family

Barbara Robenolt

Joan Lee

Mike Chaney

Peggy Korzeniowski

Toby Gowin

Cassandra Shropshire

and rejoice with...

our family birthdays:

Brooks Laughey

Kenda Laughey

Caden Miller

Jim Aydelott

Caroline Finlay

Wendy Fulton

Tessa Newberg

let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For worthy reception of Christ's body and blood, that this feast sets us free to live by God's gracious forgiveness and be strengthened to truly live in the faith and love of our living Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- L** 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 THE LORD'S PEACE

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

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us share His peace with one another.

Greet one another in the Lord's name saying, "Peace be with you!"

PREFACE

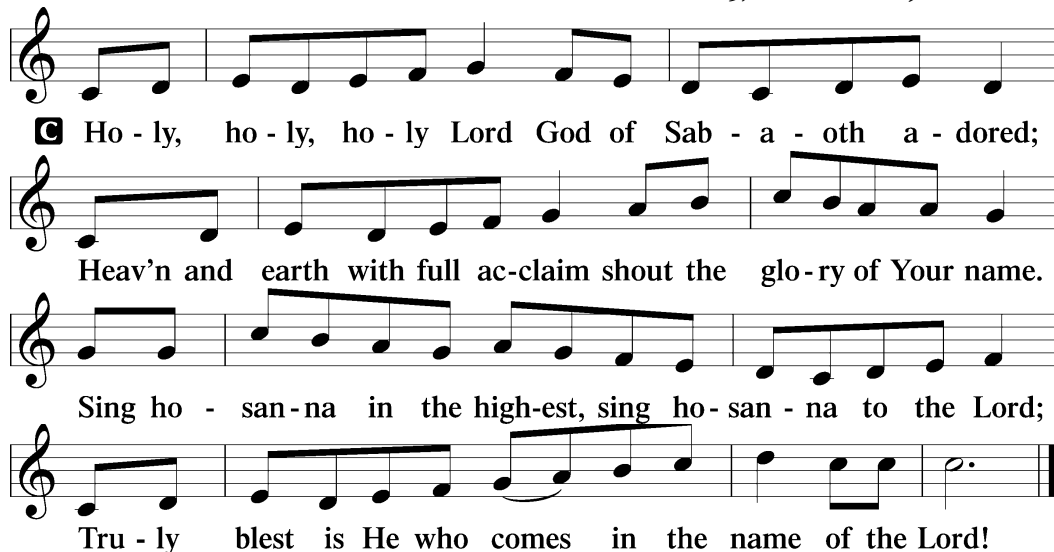
2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with your spirit.
- 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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt 26:26f; Mk 14:22f; Lk 22:19f; 1 Cor 11:23f

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

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.



It is a blessed thing when the faithful soul in prayer fixes his uplifted eyes of faith on Jesus only; when he does not look about him to lay hold on his own scattered thoughts, nor behind him at Satan who threatens him with the thought that his prayer is in vain, nor within him at his sloth and lack of devotion; but looks up to Jesus, who sits at the right hand of God and makes intercession for us.

Bo Giertz, *Hammer of God*, p. 203[†]

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29; Revelation 5:6, 12

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Matthew 26:30

907 God Himself Is Present

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 God Himself is present:
Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple;
All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest
rev'rence.
He alone
On His throne
Is our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever!</p> | <p>2 God Himself is present:
Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne
surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear
To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Your Church now raises.</p> |
|--|---|
- 3 Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in Your merit.
Like the holy angels,
Worshiping before You,
May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will
Ever still
Rule Your Church terrestrial
As the hosts celestial.

626 Come, Let Us Eat

1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together,
Our Lord's body let us take together.

2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

3 In His presence now we meet and rest,
In His presence now we meet and rest.
In the presence of our Lord we gather,
In the presence of our Lord we gather.

4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty Word,
Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty Word.
Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom.

895 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

△ 3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

After communing it is right to quietly give thanks, as in the following prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You that You have again refreshed us with the gift of Your holy body and blood in this comforting Sacrament. Bless our participation in Your body that we may depart from here with peace and joy, strengthened in our remembrance of Your forgiveness and in our witness to the knowledge that we are reconciled to God, in Your holy name. Amen.

Stand.

DISMISSAL

Isaiah 41:10; Romans 5:9-10; Hebrews 9:14; 10:19

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Psalm 107:1

- L** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with your spirit.
L Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

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** Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN

648 Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a

of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing
mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will

for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,
fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner
glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,

What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -
All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and

walls sur - round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.
Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.
last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

POSTLUDE

Gigue from Partita VI

J.S. Bach

*The altar flowers are given today by Kevin & Patia Bowman in
celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary today.*

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg

Organist: Eric Hauck

Worship Assistants: Tim Robinette/Tammy Blessing

Communion Assistants: Jennifer Karnwie-Cook, Vincent Cook/Rainer Blessing, Ruth Pilsbury

Crucifers: August Newberg/Michael Spokas

Acolytes: Dietrich Newberg, Frederick Newberg/Bristol Carico

Altar Guild: Janie Swenson, Lindsay Tinkelenberg /Natalie Broome, Sarah Buser

Readers: Emily Tweel/Tammy Blessing

Greeters: John Henry, Paula Henry/Sandra Talbert

Ushers: Sam D'Avila, Scott Eicher, Paul Fretz/Valerie Clark, Soren Knutson, Wade Knutson, Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

Sound & Video: Wayne Balling/Simon Buser

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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*Quoted in Treasury of Daily Prayer, CPH. †Quoted in St. John Wheaton, IL, worship folder.

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ASCENSION SOUP KITCHEN

Served lunch to 112 guests this Tuesday.

The soup kitchen furnishes a hot, well-balanced and fresh lunch every Tuesday from 11am-12:00pm. Everyone is welcome! No ID or referral needed. Currently service is to-go for pick-up in the parking lot.

Soli Deo Gloria!

ASCENSION FOOD PANTRY

**Distributed one week of groceries to 41 families,
89 family members on 7/24 & 7/27.**

The food pantry distributes a week's worth of healthy groceries to individuals with a Nourish Up referral, Mondays and Fridays, 11am-1:30pm. *In need of a referral?* Call the church office at 704-372-7317. Anyone in need will be eligible for up to 12 weeks of groceries per year.

Soli Deo Gloria!



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1225 E. Morehead Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

704-372-7317 MAIN NUMBER

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Rev. Steven Newberg, Pastor
newberg@ascensioncharlotte.org

www.ascensioncharlotte.org

Welcome!

WORSHIP BROADCAST

Sunday Divine Services are broadcast live on the Internet at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN SOUP KITCHEN

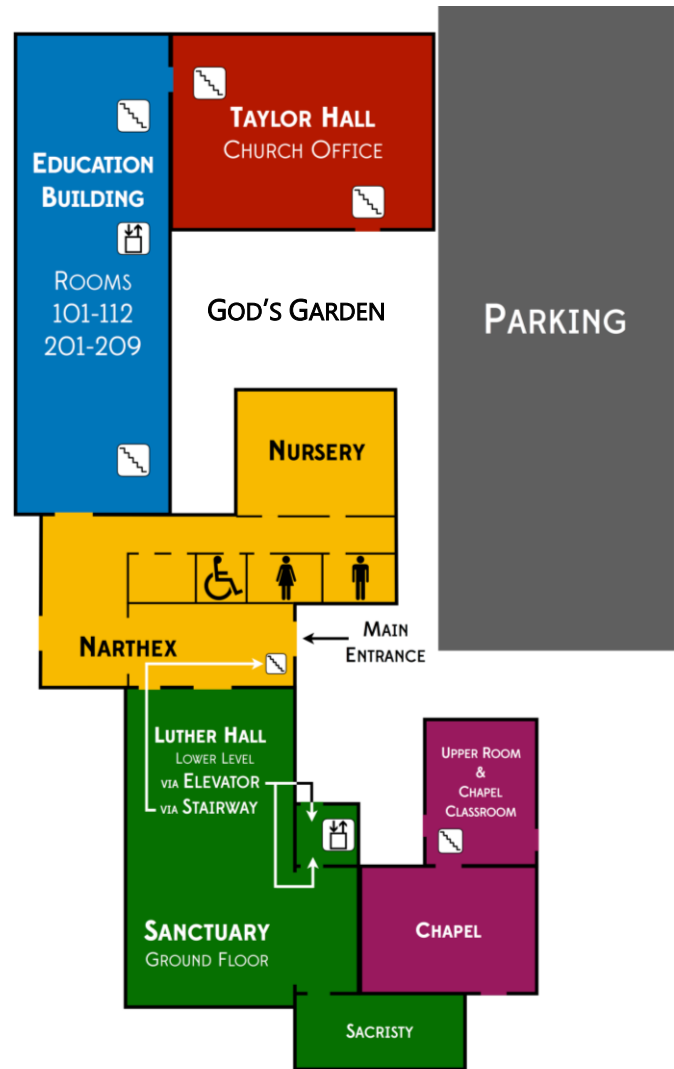
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Find out the way we receive the Christian Faith in the Lutheran tradition each week.



ALCcharlotte



RESTROOMS are located down the hallway at the back of the narthex.



A NURSERY for children age 3 and under is located across the hallway from the restrooms. The worship service can be seen and heard from the Nursery. A baby-changing table is available in the Nursery and the Family Restroom (accessible).



ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available for check-out from the sound booth in the rear of the sanctuary.

THOSE IN CRITICAL NEED

Members needing financial or physical assistance, please contact pastor for application to the crisis fund or access to folks eager to lend a helping hand.