



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Friends of God,

The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8

*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

In a church history course in my last year at Yale Divinity School, the professor invited an orthodox priest to lecture. He gave a rather dry talk on the development of the creeds. At the end of the lecture an earnest student asked, "Father Theodore, what can one do when one finds it impossible to affirm certain tenets of the creed?"

The priest looked confused. "Well, you just say it. It's not that hard to master. With a little effort, most can quickly learn it by heart."

"No, you don't understand," continued the student, "What am I to do when I have difficulty affirming parts of the creed—like the Virgin Birth?"

The priest continued to look confused. "You just say it. Particularly when you have difficulty believing it, you must keep saying it. It will come to you eventually."

Exasperatedly, the student, a product of the same church that produced me, and a representative of the '60s, pleaded, "How can I with integrity affirm a creed in which I do not believe?"

"It's not 'your' creed, young man!" said the priest. "It's 'our' creed. Keep saying it, for heaven's sake! Eventually, it may come to you. For some it takes longer than others. How old are you? Twenty-three? Don't be so hard on yourself. There are lots of things that one doesn't know at 23. Eventually, it may come to you. Even if it doesn't, don't worry. It's not 'your' creed."

At that moment I realized what was wrong with much of the education I had received. A light shown...I thanked God that, in my ministry, I was not being left to my own devices.

William Willimon, Preaching Master Class, p. 101-102[†]

JULY 12, 2026 ✠ 8:30AM & 11AM

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

Aria

Manz

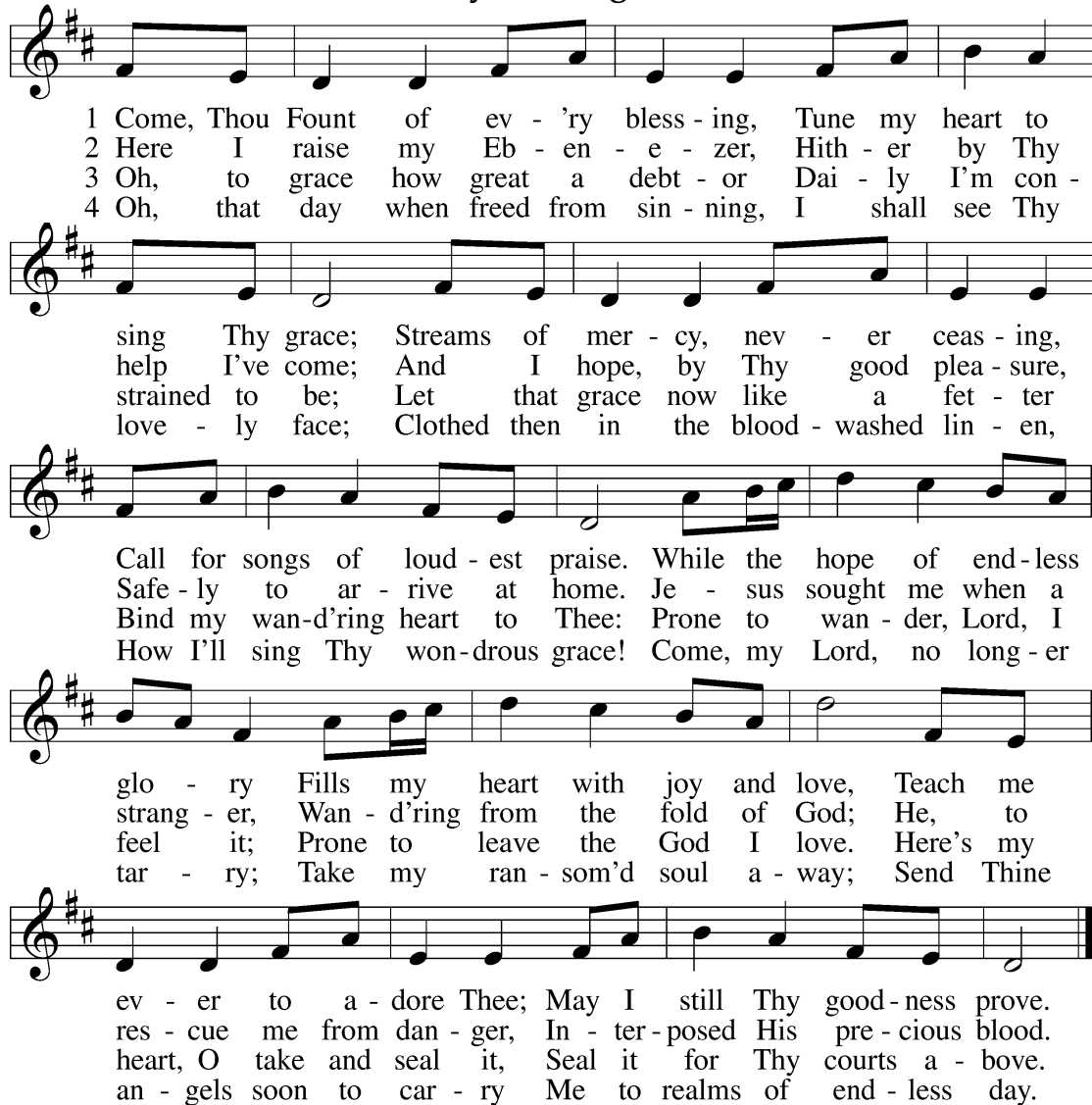
*As the prelude begins, please prepare for worship by composing yourself for prayer.
At the end of the announcements, please stand.*

ENTRANCE HYMN

Psalm 57:9; 100:4-5

Turn and face the cross in procession.

686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy
sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,
Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er
glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine
ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

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 103:15-19; antiphon: v. 8



Pastor sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
 slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
 He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
 nor repay us according to our in - | iquities.

As for man, his days | are like
 grass,*
 he flourishes like a flower | of the
 field;
 for the wind passes over it, and | it is
 gone,*
 and its place knows | it no more.

But the steadfast love of the LORD is
 from everlasting to everlasting on
 those who | fear him,*
 and his righteousness to children's |
 children,
 to those who keep his | covenant*

and remember to do his com- |
 mandments.

The LORD has established his throne
 in the | heavens,*
 and his kingdom rules | over all.

Bless the Lord, all his works, in all
 places of his do - | minion*
 Bless the LORD, | O my soul.

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.

The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
 slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
 He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
 nor repay us according to our in - | iquities.

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



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 - shiped 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.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.



Forgiveness is the name of love practiced among people who love poorly. The hard truth is that all people love poorly.

Henry Nouwen†

...Around the Word...

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 55:10-13

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

“For as the rain and the snow
come down from heaven
and do not return there but
water the earth,
making it bring forth and
sprout,
giving seed to the sower and
bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes
out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that
which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing
for which I sent it.

“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills
before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field
shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come
up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come
up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the
LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not
be cut off.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 8:12-17

A The Epistle is from Romans, the eighth chapter.

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not
to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.
For if you live according to the flesh you
will die, but if by the Spirit you put to
death the deeds of the body, you will live.
For all who are led by the Spirit of God
are sons of God. For you did not receive
the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you have received the Spirit of

adoption as sons, by whom we cry,
“Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears
witness with our spirit that we are
children of God, and if children, then
heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with
Christ, provided we suffer with him in
order that we may also be glorified with
him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

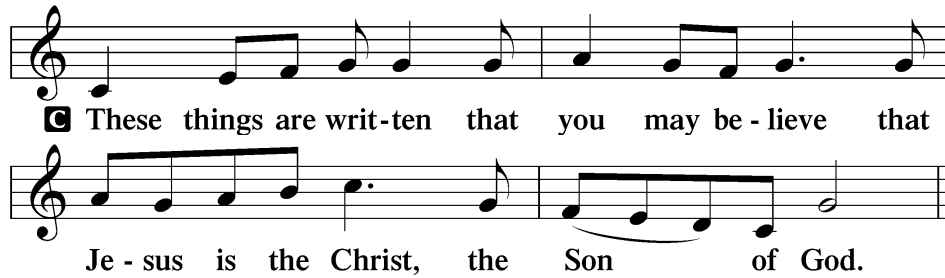
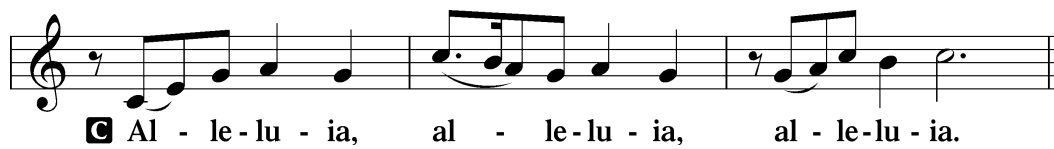


Those who don't stop giving
will always be supplied with
the means to give.

Leo the Great, Sermon 12

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68



HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear. ...

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

"Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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.
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.

*John 3:16; Romans 10:9
Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:35
Galatians 4:4; Matthew 1:23-25
Matthew 27:26; John 19:1-3
Mark 15:25; John 19:30; Luke 23:53
Acts 2:24; 1 Peter 3:19
1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6
Acts 1:9
Acts 7:55*

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.

*Acts 10:42; Matt. 26:64
John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38
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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

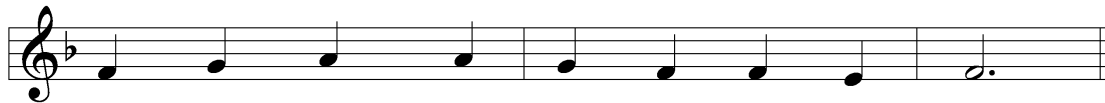
577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

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.



He has now reconciled you in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him...

Colossians 1:22

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

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us
A foretaste of the feast to come.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

- L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For grace to receive God's Word, that the Holy Spirit would make our hearts good soil and bring forth in our lives saving faith and the good works to which He has called us, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For an abundant harvest of believers who know and live the peace and life of Christ, that God would bless pastors and missionaries as they sow His Word among the nations and prepare hearts to hear, believe and bear great fruit, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our leaders, that they be faithful and wise, that peace and safety may abound, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those suffering from illnesses of body or mind, that the Lord would give them healing, comfort them with His loving presence, grant them patience to endure suffering, and assure them always of the glory of Christ that awaits them. We pray especially for...

our members

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:

Barbara Robenolt
Jim Goode
Schmidt Family
Lauren McDaniel
Joan Lee
Kuechler Family
Warnke Family
Mike Chaney
Moul Family
Bruce & Judy Eckert
Bobby Waters
Peggy Korzeniowski
Toby Gowin
Al Nicholas
Cassandra Shropshire

and rejoice with...

our family birthdays:

McKenna Laughey
Kylie Kreun
Wade Knutson

praise & thanksgiving:

the marriage of:
Lauri MacDonald
& **Mark** Scarpelli

let us pray to the Lord:

- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all who commune this day, that we may trust that just as God provides His Word for our being, with bread and wine for our sustenance and joy, so He provides us forgiveness, life and salvation in His Son's body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- L** For our faith, that it might not be choked out by the cares of the world or the deceitfulness of riches; and that God would richly grant us His Word and gifts to serve Him and our neighbors, 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!"

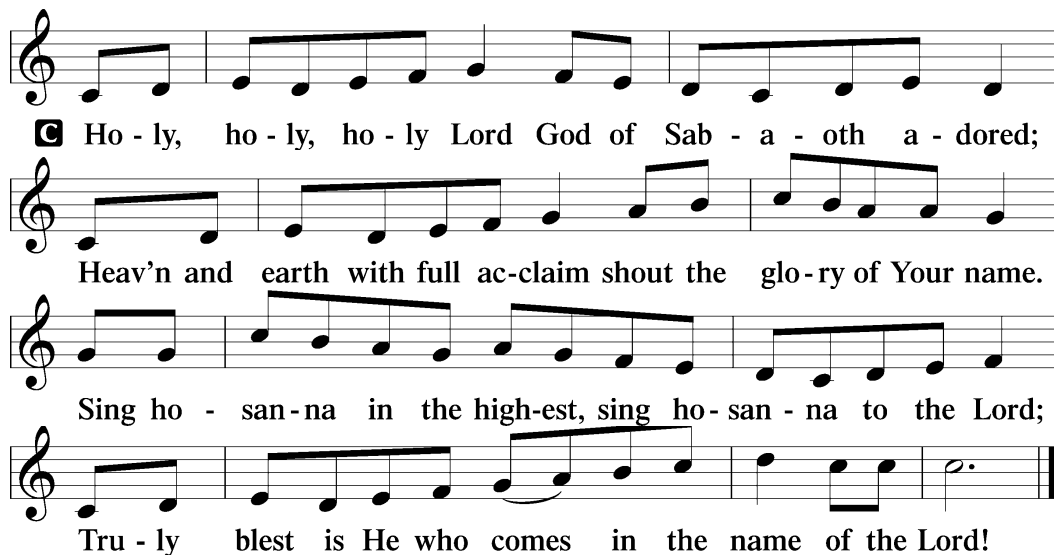
PREFACE

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!

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

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

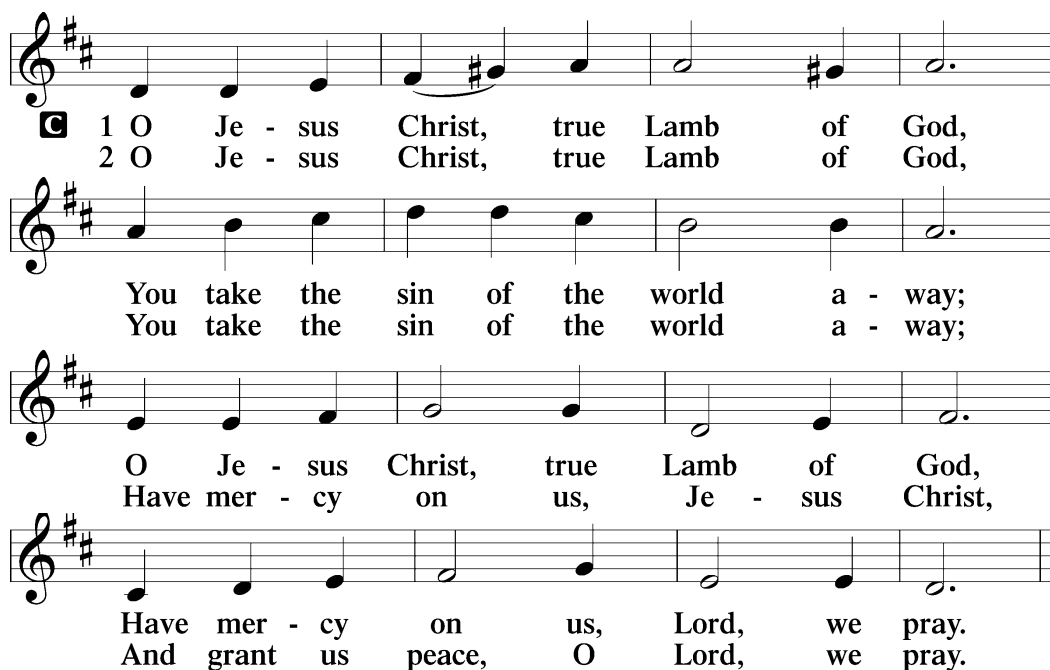
John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29; Revelation 5:6, 12



C 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.

537 Beautiful Savior

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.</p> <p>2 Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.</p> | <p>3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.</p> <p>4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!</p> |
|---|---|

712 Seek Ye First

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added
unto you!
Allelu, alleluia!</p> | <p>2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened
unto you,
Allelu, alleluia!</p> |
|---|---|
- 3 Man does not live by bread alone,
But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,
Allelu, alleluia!

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.</p> <p>2 Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and
shame.</p> <p>3 Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty,
Was also shed in love for me.</p> | <p>4 Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.</p> <p>5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.</p> <p>6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for
me,
For me, and all Thy hands have
made,
An everlasting ransom paid.</p> |
|--|--|

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 servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Psalms 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

Psalms 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

894 For the Fruits of His Creation

1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.

For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the

plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,

Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Buxtehude

*The altar flowers are given today by Ginny Kendall in honor of the July
Kendall Family birthdays, Don, Laura, and Joshua.*

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg

Guest Organist: Connie Strohschein

Worship Assistants: Mike Homan/Curt Kuechler

Communion Assistants: Sam D'Avila, Marshal Sawyer/Valerie Clark, Seth Greeley

Altar Guild: Beth Borseth, Pam Carico, Jennifer Karnwie-Cook, Debbie Ellison, Laura Jordan, Nancy Kuechler

Readers: Brenda Gordon/Natalie Broome

Greeters: Jane Friemark/Luellen Stine

Ushers: John Henry, Stu Nichols, Kevin Pollard/Simon Buser, Jeff Miller

Sound & Video: Wayne Balling/Darren Seigler

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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†Quoted in St. John Wheaton, IL, worship folder.



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Vicar Andrew Borseth

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Welcome!

WORSHIP BROADCAST

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

ASCENSION LUTHERAN SOUP KITCHEN

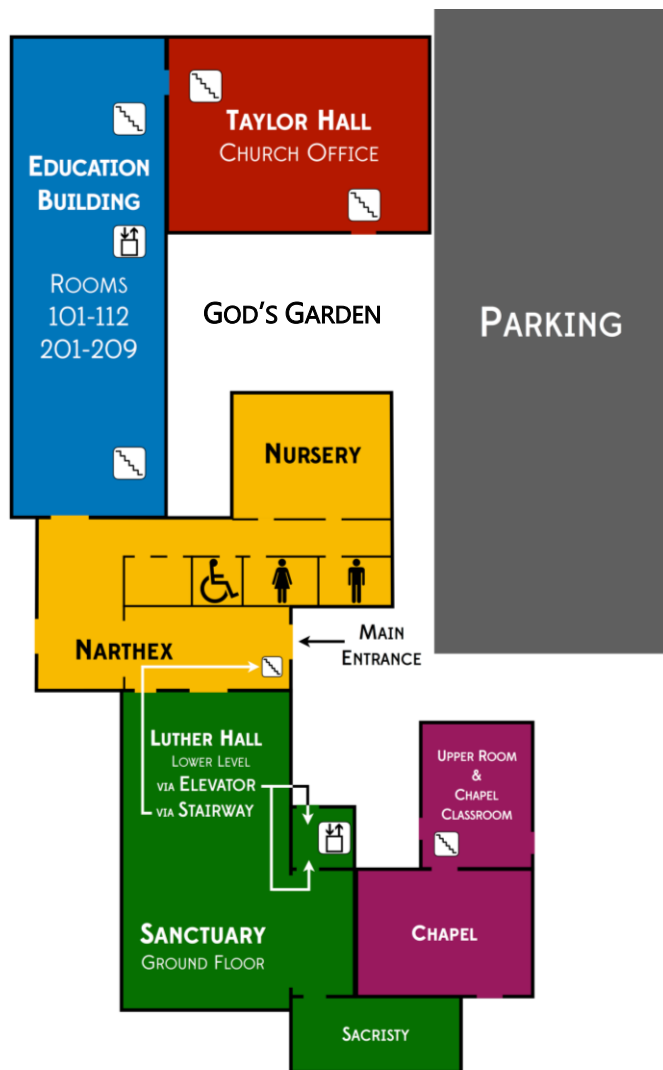
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.