



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Friends of God,

You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

Ephesians 2:19b-20

*Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack
nothing!*

*Many are the afflictions of the
righteous,
but the LORD delivers him
out of them all.*

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

You, most faithful God, perform the duties of a faithful and skillful doctor in healing the wounds of my soul. You heal them by the wounds of Your Son. There is danger that the healed wounds will be reopened, but Your Spirit prevents this with grace like a poultice ... Whatever is good in me comes from You, the font of all good things, because in me, by nature, there is nothing but sin. I have to acknowledge that all the works I do—which are nevertheless impure because of the corruption and imperfection of my flesh—are gifts of Your grace. I will give You thanks forever because of Your immeasurable gift to me. Amen.

Johann Gerhard*

AUGUST 23, 2026 ✠ 8:30AM & 11:00AM

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

Evan Miller

Purpose

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

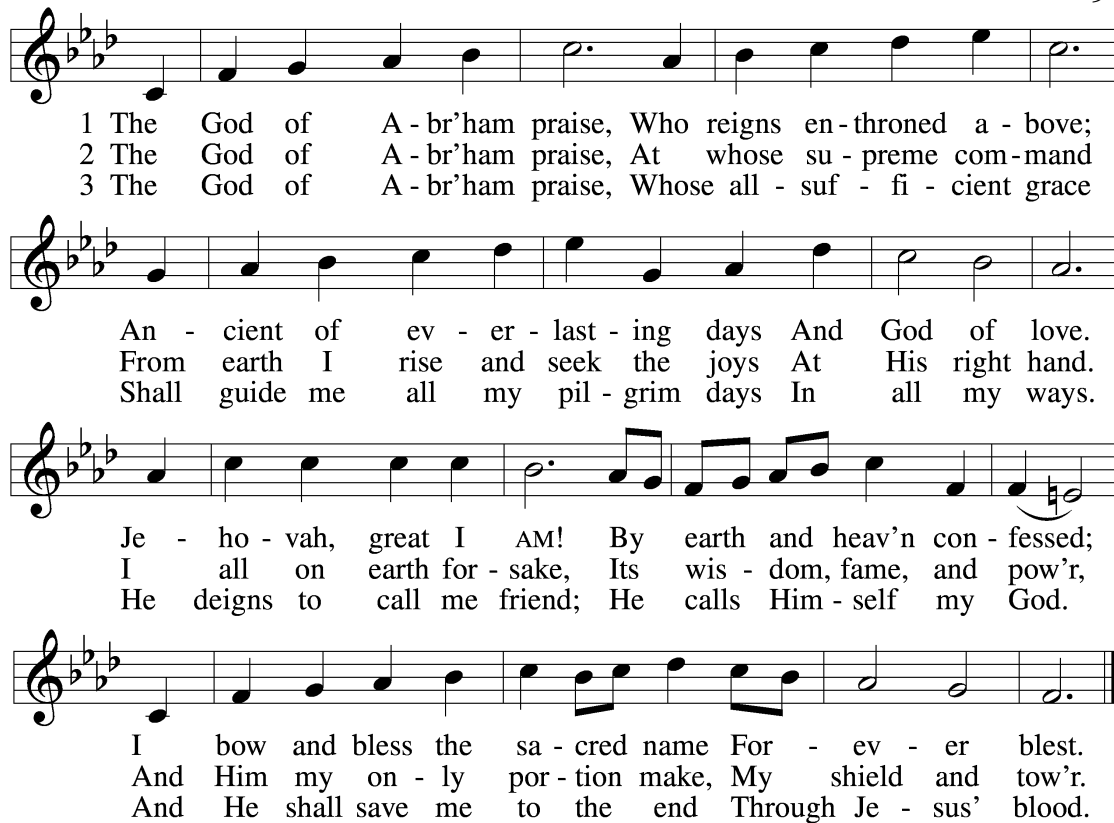
ENTRANCE HYMN

Psalm 57:9; 100:4-5

Turn and face the cross in procession.

798 The God of Abraham Praise

sts. 1-3



1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace

An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.
Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.

Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.

I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.
And Him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.
And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.

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 2:6-7; 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18



Leader sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

But we will | bless the LORD*
from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!

As for me, I have | set my King*
on Zion, my | holy hill.

I will tell of | the decree:*
The LORD said to me, “You are
my Son; today I have be- | gotten
you.”

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*
Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love
toward us,*
and the faithfulness of the LORD
endures forever. | Praise the LORD!
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.

But we will | bless the LORD*
from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!

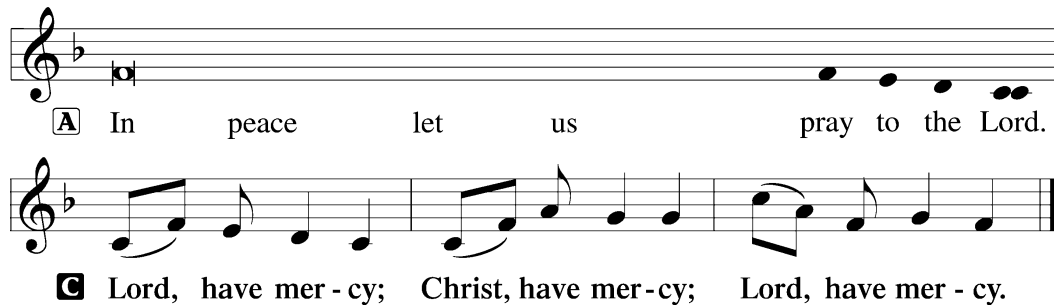


Let us confess our sins to those to whom the administration of God’s mysteries is entrusted. Those Christians who made confessions in ancient times are found to have done so before the presence of all the saints.

St. Basil the Great, Shorter Rule, 288 (374 A.D.)

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

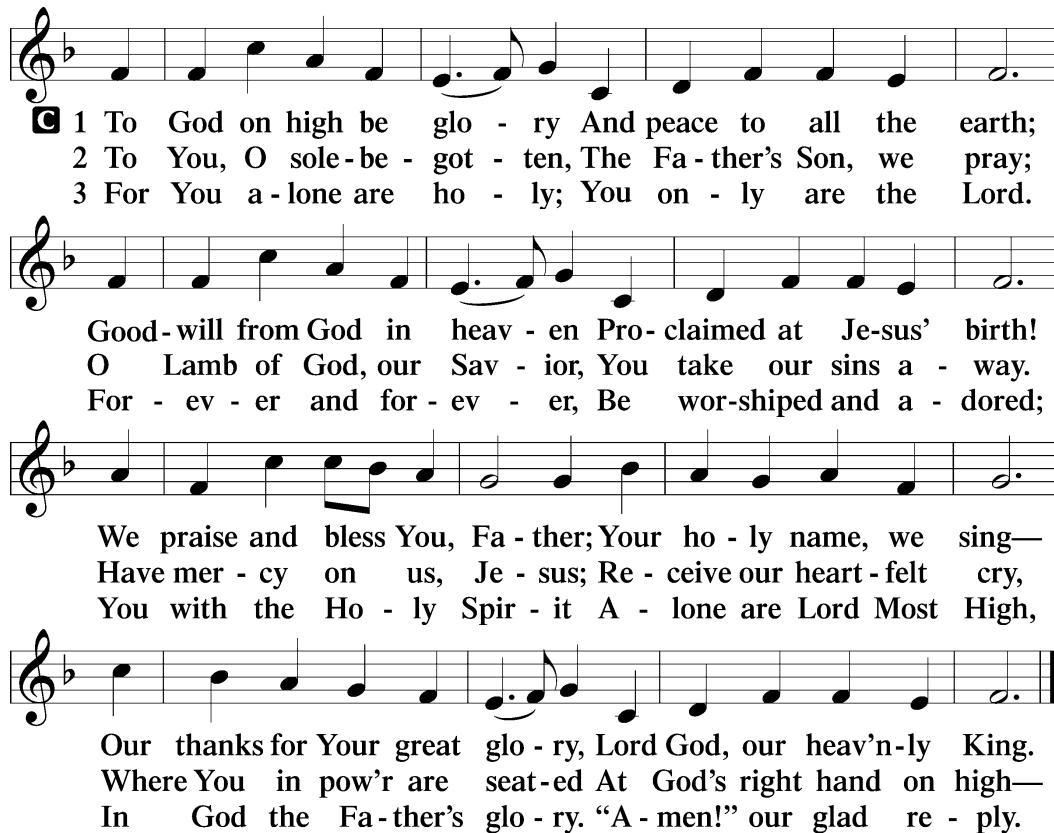


A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

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-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.
Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 51:1-6

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

“Listen to me, you who pursue
righteousness,
 you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you
were hewn,
 and to the quarry from which
you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father
 and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called
him,
 that I might bless him and
multiply him.
For the LORD comforts Zion;
 he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
 her desert like the garden of the
LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
 thanksgiving and the voice of
song.

“Give attention to me, my people,
 and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
 and I will set my justice for a
light to the peoples.
My righteousness draws near,
 my salvation has gone out,
 and my arms will judge the
peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
 and for my arm they wait.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
 and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
 the earth will wear out like a
garment,
 and they who dwell in it will die
in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
 and my righteousness will never
be dismayed.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



I wanted to carry out an act of theft and did so, driven
by no kind of need other than my inner lack of any
sense of, or feeling of, justice. Wickedness filled me ...
Such was my heart, O God, such was my heart. But You
had pity on it when it was at the bottom of the abyss.

St. Augustine, Confessions II, 9

A The Epistle is from Romans, the eleventh and twelfth chapters.

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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.

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not

revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

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.
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

645 Built on the Rock



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing

ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -

ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.

But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.

Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."



Tradition is the living faith of the dead;
 traditionalism is the dead faith of the living.

Jaroslav Pelikan

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.



I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

Isaiah 61:10

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

798 The God of Abraham Praise

st. 4

4 He by Him - self has sworn; I on His oath de - pend.

I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend.

I shall be - hold His face; I shall His pow'r a - dore

And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

- L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the riches and wisdom of the Lord; for knowledge of the Lord through His Word; and for trust in His grace and favor, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the Church, that all servants of the Church may fulfill the ministries committed to them; and that we may each boldly confess Christ before the world, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all families, that even as God blessed and multiplied Abraham, all mothers with child might be protected and all fathers equipped to lead and raise their households in the fear and love of God, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our president, Congress, governor and all civil leaders in their pursuit of peace and unity; and for all judges and magistrates in their pursuit of justice with mercy, and for leaders of every kind to faithfully pursue God's provision, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the suffering, that the Lord, our life, would sustain and strengthen them; and for those who mourn, that the Lord would console them with the promise of everlasting life in Christ. We pray especially for...

our members

Jackie Elam
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
Tom Hagen
Karen Priebe
Roy & Sharon Gugel
Mary Keefauver
Helen Gounis
Louise Nordman

those dear to us:

Jim Melton
Angela Carby
Kevin King II

King Family
Carby Family
Wiedenmann Family
Paul Zellmer
Kane Family
List Family
Greene Family
Judi Domeier
Steve Barringer
Hermione Moul
Joan Lee
Mike Chaney
Toby Gowin
Cassandra Shropshire

and rejoice with...

our family birthdays:

Quinn Schultz
Christian Broome
Landen Meier

Ardith Hertzog
Lachlan Iwanski
Jonah Meier

- let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For repentance and faith as we approach the Lord's table, that we may not think more highly of ourselves than is right, but set our hearts and minds on the things of God, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For all believers, that we may offer the Lord our very selves as living sacrifices, redeemed in Christ and declared righteous and holy, so that we may glorify God in all we think, say and do, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Be merciful to us, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Grant to us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that we may be led into all truth and be steadfast in the confession of Christ; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the 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.**

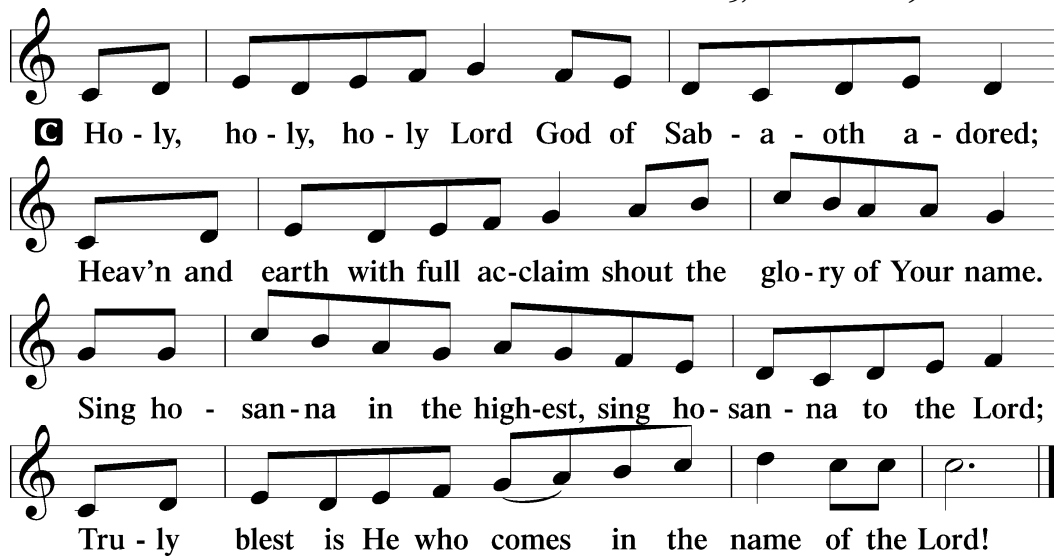
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.



Christ, the Word, is speaking the divine Idea of [you] into the world right now. Try not to be an impediment in the speech of Christ.

Malcolm Guite
Enchiridion, 73

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

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 us, 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

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise. | 4 | Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose. |
| 2 | Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee. | 5 | Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne. |
| 3 | Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee. | 6 | Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee. |

802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise. | 3 To all life Thou givest—
to both great and small—
In all life Thou livest,
the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish—
but naught changes Thee. |
| 2 Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love. | 4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee. |

730 What Is the World to Me

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 What is the world to me
With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone,
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord,
My soul's delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest.
What is the world to me! | 3 The world seeks after wealth
And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content
Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good,
Content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth.
What is the world to me! |
| 2 The world seeks to be praised
And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects
That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize
Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone.
What is the world to me! | 4 What is the world to me!
My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth,
My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all,
My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare:
What is the world to me! |

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

C 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 lead 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

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

912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone



- 1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Thiman

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright

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

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg

Assistant: Vicar Andrew Cole

Organist: Eric Hauck

Worship Assistants: Tim Robinette/Tammy Blessing

Communion Assistants: Mike Homan/Rainer Blessing

Crucifer: /August Newberg

Acolytes: /Dietrich Newberg, Frederick Newberg

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

Readers: Austin Lowrey /Curt Kuechler

Greeters: Lisa Wyatt/Pam Carico

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

Sound & Video: Wayne Balling/Darren Seigler

Musician: Evan Miller

ASCENSION SOUP KITCHEN

Served lunch to 94 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 32 families,
87 family members on 8/14 & 8/17.**

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!



Rally Day Sunday, August 30

Single 10am Worship Service

Please join us immediately after Worship,
as we kick off the 2026-27 Sunday School and Bible Study year
with our **Ministry & Education Fair!**

Join us outside for lunch, and the chance to find out more about
many of our ministries and volunteer opportunities.

**Please sign up in the red attendance book with an "M"
and the number of your family attending
or email/call the Church Office:**

communications@ascensioncharlotte.org 704-372-7317

so that we have enough food for everyone.

Hope to see you there!

Questions? Please contact Sandra Moravec at fs.moravec@yahoo.com.



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

1225 E. Morehead Street

Charlotte, NC 28204

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Rev. Steven Newberg, Pastor

newberg@ascensioncharlotte.org

Vicar Andrew Cole

vicar@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

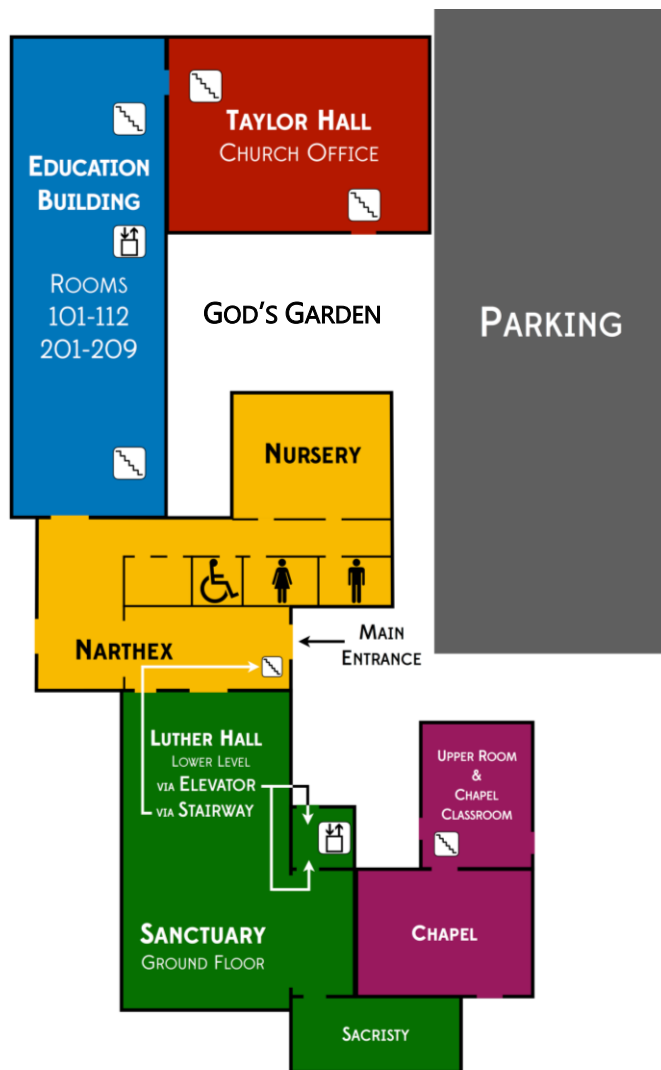
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.