



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service
Third Sunday of Easter

Friends of God,

Alleluia. Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?
Alleluia

Luke 24:32

*Christ has risen from the
dead. God the Father
has crowned him with
glory and honor,
He has given him
dominion over the
works of his hands; he
has put all things under
his feet.*

Gradual

adapt. from Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8:6

So Muggeridge said, and this is *before* his conversion: “I believe that Jesus Christ is alive now...I know absolutely, without any question, that you can derive strength and illumination from a relationship with the man in the Gospels which you cannot achieve, we’ll say for instance with Socrates, who was a very wise and good man who also died.”

That is a remarkable fact. Muslims do not have a relationship with Mohammed. Such a thing they might consider blasphemy. Buddhists do not have a relationship with the Buddha. They learn from him, they follow his example, they honor his enlightenment, but they do not devote themselves to him. Even Jews do not claim a personal relationship with Moses. People who study ancient philosophy do not claim to bring Socrates into their hearts. [These were] mere men and all men die. When we consider the great movers and shakers of the world, a Pericles or a Bismark or a Michelangelo, whether they were good or bad, they seem no more than cardboard figures in a historical diorama for a museum, compared with Jesus. And that is exactly what Jesus Himself said: “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

Anthony Esolen, *Reflections on the Christian Life*, 141-2

APRIL 19, 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 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

Sonata XXIII in F. Minor, K. 208

Scarlatti

As the prelude begins, please prepare for worship by composing yourself for prayer.

EASTER GREETING

Luke 24:6-7; Romans 6:9

Stand.

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
G He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Greet one another with the Easter Blessing. Say "Christ is Risen!" and reply, "He is risen indeed!"

ENTRANCE HYMN

Psalm 57:9; 100:4-5

Please stand. Turn and face the cross in procession.

605 Father Welcomes

Refrain

Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly
through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,
Life for - ev - er has been won.

1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly

is of these. Life and love I have to give,
be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve
rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,

Refrain

Mer - cy for your sin.
Shall be born a - gain.
Live in the peace of God.

*At the 8:30am service, the baptismal party is gathered to the font.
The 11am service, after the invocation, continues on page 8.*

Holy Baptism

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.

+ Jackson Lucatero +

Born February 9, 2026

Mr. & Mrs. Bryan & Gina Lucatero, parents

Mr. & Mrs. Branden & Hope Korzeniowski, sponsors

- P** Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

- P** What name have you given your child?
R *Jackson Lucatero*
P What do you ask for your child?
R *Baptism into Christ.*

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

- P** Jackson, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

- P** Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Jackson according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Branden & Hope, is it your intention to serve Jackson as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C Amen.

Stand.

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to Jesus that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them. *Mark 10:13-16*

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

All place their hands on the head of the candidate, and the congregation joins in praying the Lord's Prayer:

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.

P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even
✠ forevermore.

C Amen.

Sit.



"Here is the source of life, which gushed from the wound of Christ and washes the whole universe."

Inscription over Baptismal Font, 5th C.
Lateran Basilica, Rome

The pastor addresses the following questions to the candidate's family, sponsors and congregation:

- P** Do you renounce the devil?
R *Yes, I renounce him.*
- P** Do you renounce all his works?
R *Yes, I renounce them.*
- P** Do you renounce all his ways?
R *Yes, I renounce them.*
- P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
C **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?
C **Yes, I believe 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.**
- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
C **Yes, 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.**

The pastor pours water three times on the head of the candidate while saying:

- P** Jackson Lucatero, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

- P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.
C **Amen.**

A baptismal candle is kindled from the paschal candle and given to the newly baptized.

- P** Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.
- L** Jackson, in Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ and filled you with His Holy Spirit, to receive and share the gifts of His Kingdom so that together we might hear and declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- C** **Amen. We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you in Jesus' name, into His new life as our brother in Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the Kingdom of God.**

Stand.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Jackson Lucatero the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom.

Look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift You have given them. Enable them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism that they may share eternally with their children the salvation You have given them;

Hear the prayers of this congregation for Jackson, that You would keep him in his baptismal grace, so that, according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P May the Almighty God, the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit bless you. Peace be with you.

C Amen.

All return to their seats.



Baptism is a bath that washed me not only once when I received it—washed me pure with Christ's blood—but it continuously washes me clean, even daily, for as long as I hold it in faith.

C.F.W. Walther

Baptism is present tense. It is not simply that "I was baptized" but that "I am baptized."

John T. Pless

The Congregation as a Baptizing Community

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Stand.

INTROIT

Psalm 133; antiphon: v. 1



Pastor sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

Behold, how good and pleas- | ant it is*
when brothers dwell in | unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard
of | Aaron,*
running down on the collar | of his robes!

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of | Zion!*
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life for- | evermore.

Glorify 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.

Behold, how good and pleas- | ant it is*
when brothers dwell in | unity!



The greatest gift you can
give is to genuinely forgive
sin committed against you.

St. Augustine
Enchiridion, 73

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

Refrain

"Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison" means "Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy."

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son,
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Lord Jesus, You came to gather the nations into the peace of God's Kingdom. **Refrain**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. **Refrain**

You will come in glory with salvation for Your people. **Refrain**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry. *Refrain*

You take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us;

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fath - er: re - ceive our prayer. *Refrain*

3. For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord.
 You a - lone are the Most High Je - sus Christ,
 with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry of God the Fath-er. A- men. *Refrain*

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.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through 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* ...

FIRST READING

ACTS 2:14A, 36-41

A The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 2.

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness

of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 PETER 1:17-25

A The Epistle is from First Peter, the first chapter.

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for

“All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

GOSPEL VERSE

John 6:68

The assembly sings the refrain twice.

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



Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:23-25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the

women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**



It is a blessed thing to know that no power on earth, no temptation, no human frailty can dissolve what God holds together.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Letters and Papers from Prison, p.43

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.	<i>Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy. 6:4 Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3 Genesis 1:1; John 1:1 Colossians 1:16</i>
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.	<i>Romans 10:9 John 3:16; Matthew 16:16 John 1:2 John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1 Colossians 2:9 John 1:2 John 10:30 Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3 1 Timothy 2:4p Romans 3:23 John 4:41; Luke 15:20 Luke 1:34-35 John 1:14 Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18 John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53 1 Cor. 15:4 Acts 1:9 Acts 7:55 Matthew 26:64 Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12 2 Peter 1:11</i>
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.	<i>John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38 Genesis 1:2; 1 John 3:6 John 15:26 Lk 2:14 Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21 1 Pt 2:5; Eph. 2:19ff Eph. 4:5; Acts 2:38 1 Cor. 15:35-49; 1 Thess. 4:13-18 Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42 Psalm 106:48</i>

Us men means all people.
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

481 Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom



1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an
2 Bear - ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of
3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through-



emp - ty tomb Shin - ing with joy for all our sor - rows,
God to die; He who for us, so cruel - ly treat - ed,
out the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way to sing - ing:



Hope and peace for all to - mor - rows, Life un - e -
Lives a - gain— our foes de - feat - ed! Where is your
Life from death, our Lord is bring - ing! Let there be-



clipsed by doubt and dread: Christ has ris - en from the dead!
sting, O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to save!
gin the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the vic - to - ry!

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.



I once sat with a young man, Tom, who'd lost his job and felt his life unraveling. He told me, "Pastor, if Jesus rose from the dead, He's Lord and God, and I've got to trust Him." That trust led him to volunteer at a shelter, where his quiet service ... confessed Christ's risen power to broken hearts. The resurrection isn't a doctrine to debate—it's a banquet where we feast on His victory and live it out in love.

Eugene Peterson, *This Hallelujah Banquet*, p. 128

...And Blessed

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.*

OFFERTORY

All stand as the congregation's offerings are brought forward to the altar.

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.



When he has entered into us and we have received him into mind and heart, then he will quench the fever of unbefitting pleasures. He will raise us up and make us strong, even in spiritual things...How great is the usefulness of the touch of his holy flesh...Let it then take hold of us, or rather, let us take hold of it by the mystical "giving of thanks." We do this so that it might free us from sicknesses of the soul, and from the assault and violence of evil spirits.

St. Cyril of Alexandria
Homily 12.18

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L That the God of all compassion, whose Spirit opens the Holy Scriptures, would enlighten us with the resurrection light that never fades, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For faithful pastors, that they would proclaim repentance and forgiveness through Word and Sacrament to those near and those far off—everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For all Christian homes, that they may be grounded in God’s Word; and that husbands, wives and children may be united and taught by Christ, nurtured in the same life of God’s love, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our nation and the world, that the powers of darkness would be stifled and the reign of war, violence and terror come to an end; for our leaders, that they would work for the common good and pursue righteousness; for Donald, the president and for the Congress of the United States; for Josh, the governor; all state and local officials; for all judges, all medical, safety and emergency workers; and all members of the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick, the suffering and the dying, that the Lord would deliver and comfort them, guard them against despair, and grant them patience in days of trouble as we await His perfect healing. We pray especially for...

C Lord, have mercy.

our members

Janice Edwards

Ardith Hertzog

Jasmine Timm

James Dake

Cindy Nelson

Peri Hertzog

Tony Byrum

Cissi Burtner

Elaine Elston

those at home:

Janet Miller

Lauri MacDonald

Lila Thompson

Doris Falconieri

Jackie Elam

Tom Hagen

Karen Priebe

Roy & Sharon Gugel

Mary Keefauver

Helen Gounis

Louise Nordman

those dear to us:

Jim Melton

LeAnn Heitkamp

Kathy Bauer

Hanson Family

Pat Kane

Al Nicholas

Hermione Moul

Cassandra Shropshire

and rejoice with...

our family birthdays:

Drew Swenson

Sarah Buser

Gracie Rae Green

Sarah Moffett

praise & thanksgiving:

Jackson Lucatero

let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L That we would know Christ and His compassion through the breaking of the bread; and that our hearts and mouths would be opened to receive forgiveness through the body and blood of Christ who suffered for us and has entered His glory, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For all who mourn, that Christ—who has delivered our souls from death; our eyes from tears; and our feet from stumbling by His life, death and resurrection—would comfort them by that truth, so that they would not grieve as others do who have no such hope, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L These things and whatever else You know that we need, kind Father, grant us for the sake of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**



Pray, and let God worry.

Martin Luther, WA 24:116

PREFACE

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



P The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.



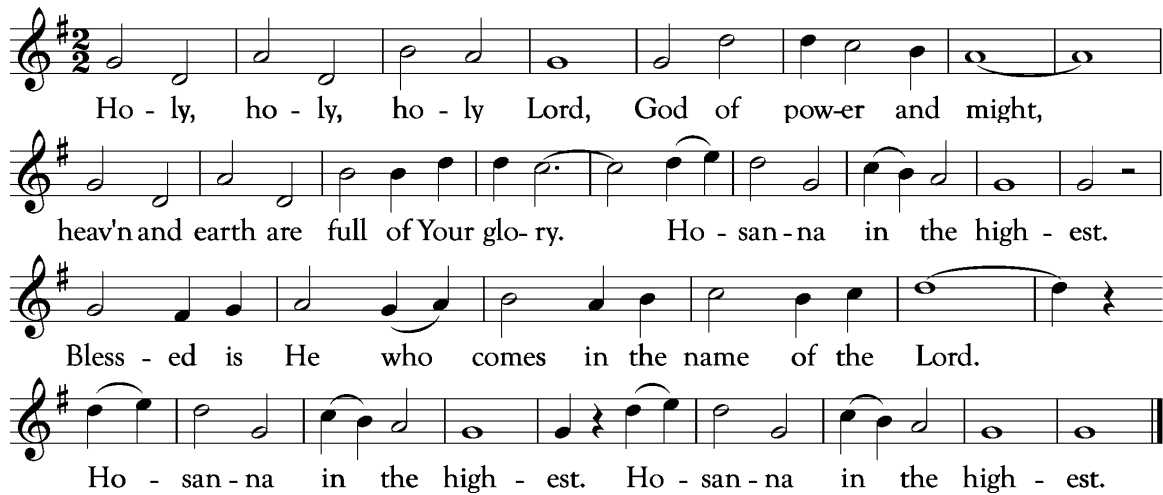
Let us give thanks
to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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."

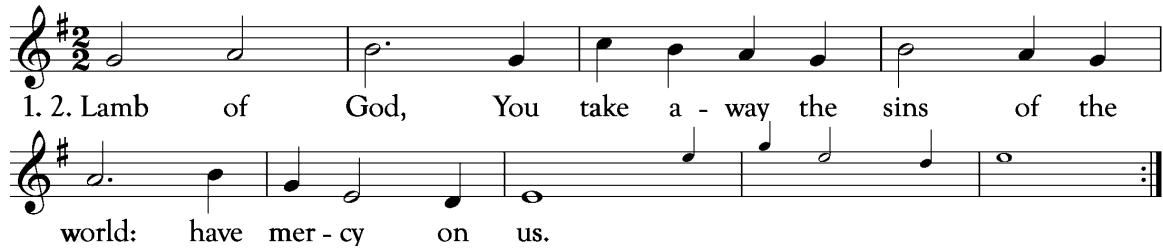
PAX DOMINI

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. 2. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.



3. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

474 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Alleluia!
Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in
glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb,
Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has
in sight! <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>3 Jesus the vine,
We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of
the tree;
Heaven to earth,
Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing
to me. <i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>ref Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!</p> | <p>4 Weeping, be gone;
Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and
Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing:
"O grave, be open!"
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us
in light. <i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>2 Walking the way,
Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our
eyes;
Breaking our bread,
Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our
constant surprise. <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>5 City of God,
Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the
Lamb,
River of life,
Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the
I AM! <i>Refrain</i></p> |

524 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
And drives away our fear. | 4 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,
Accept the praise I bring. |
| 2 It makes the wounded spirit whole
And calms the heart's unrest;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul
And to the weary, rest. | 5 How weak the effort of my heart,
How cold my warmest thought!
But when I see Thee as Thou art,
I'll praise Thee as I ought. |
| 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding place;
My never-failing treasury filled
With boundless stores of grace. | 6 Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death! |

725 Children of the Heavenly Father

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given. | 3 Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth. |
| 2 God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them. | 4 Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy. |

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.

POST-COMMUNION LITANY

Psalm 107:1

L O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C for His mercy endures forever.

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

C Amen.

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.



For the glory of God is
a living man; and the
life of man consists in
beholding God"

Ireneus, Against the
Heretics, 4, 20, 7

DEPARTING HYMN

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

POSTLUDE

Pedal-Exercitium, BWV 598

J.S. Bach

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg
Organist: Eric Hauck
Worship Assistants: Marshal Sawyer/Jim Aydelott
Communion Assistants: Sam D'Avila, Vincent Cook/Laura K. Zacharczyp
Crucifer: Quinn Schultz/Michael Spokas
Acolytes: Vincent Fernandez/Jonah Meier, Pat Zacharczyp

Altar Guild: Natalie Broome, Sarah Buser, Carmin McDonald, Janie Swenson, Lindsay Tinkelenberg
Readers: Pam Balling/Kenda Laughey
Greeters: Lisa Wyatt/Luellen Stine
Ushers: Will Adams, Dewey Bryson, Phil Edwards, Ben Finlay/William Cates, Carey Cousins, Paul Spokas, Dwight Stine
Sound & Video: Wayne Balling/Simon Buser

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book & Mass of Remembrance, Marty Haugen, GIA, 2011
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Quoted in *Treasury of Daily Prayer*, CPH †Quoted in St. John Wheaton, IL, worship folder ‡ from Weedon, *Celebrating the Saints*
¹quoted in *Food for the Soul* ²quoted in *LSB Companion to the Services*. ³dailyoffice.org

ASCENSION SOUP KITCHEN

Served lunch to 118 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 26 families, 58 family members on 4/10 & 4/13.

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

Melanie Broome, Office Manager
admin@ascensioncharlotte.org

Ardith Hertzog, Communications
communications@ascensioncharlotte.org

Jon Greene, Facilities Manager
facilities@ascensioncharlotte.org

Patia Bowman, Administrative Asst.
bowman@ascensioncharlotte.org



Rev. Steven Newberg, Pastor
newberg@ascensioncharlotte.org

Vicar Andrew Borseth
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

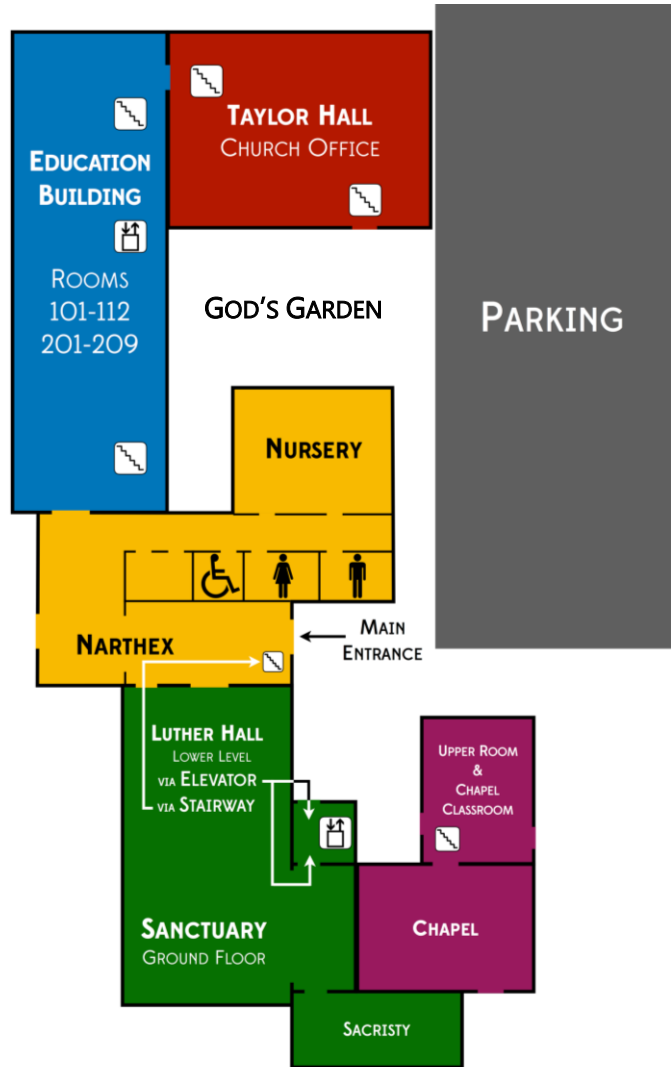
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.