



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service **Reformation Sunday**

Friends of God,

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's
good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Luke 12:32

*Great is the Lord and greatly
to be praised
in the city of our God!
Walk about Zion, go around
her, number her towers,
Consider well her ramparts,
go through her citadels,
That you may tell the next
generation
that this is God, our God
forever and ever.*

Gradual for Reformation Day

Psalm 48:1a, 12-14a

There is no greater bondage than that of sin; and there is no greater service than that displayed by the Son of God, who becomes the servant of all, no matter how poor, wretched, or despised they may be, and bears their sins. It would be spectacular and amazing, prompting all the world to open ears and eyes, mouth and nose in uncomprehending wonderment, if some king's son were to appear in a beggar's home to nurse him in his illness, wash off his filth, and do everything else the beggar would have to do. ...But what is a king or an emperor compared with the Son of God? Furthermore, what is a beggar's filth or stench compared with the filth of sin which is ours by nature, stinking a hundred thousand times worse and looking infinitely more repulsive to God than any foul matter found in a hospital? And yet the love of the Son of God for us is of such magnitude that the greater the filth and stench of our sins, the more He befriends us, the more He cleanses us, relieving us of all our misery and of the burden of all our sins and placing them upon His own back...the beloved Lamb, the great Man, yes, the Son of the Exalted Majesty, descends from heaven to serve me.

Martin Luther

OCTOBER 25, 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)



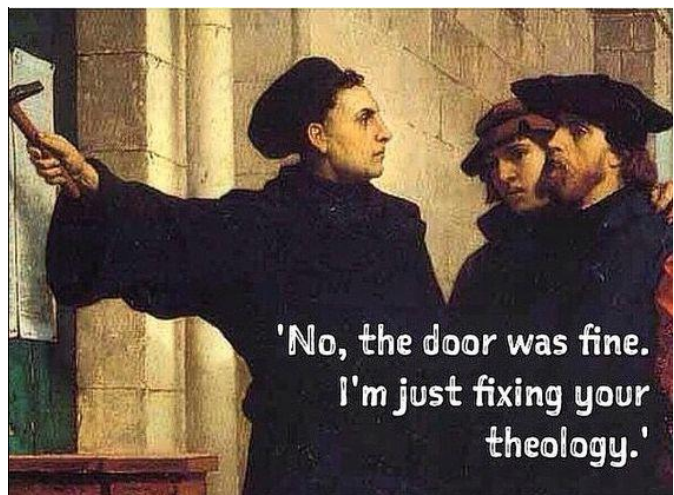
WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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.

Today we rejoice to celebrate the festival of Reformation Day!

On October 31st in 1517, an Augustinian monk posted ninety-five statements for discussion on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Dr. Martin Luther hoped that posting these would bring about an academic debate regarding repentance, the sale of indulgences, and other matters of concern within the Roman Catholic Church. Unfortunately, the Roman curia at the time was hopelessly corrupt. Church officials had no interest in a debate which might interfere with the money indulgences were intended to raise in Germany to construct a basilica in Rome. Pope Leo X eventually excommunicated Luther as a heretic, but Luther's study of the scriptures had convinced him that he was not wrong to teach what had been the ancient doctrine of the church: that a believer is justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. He refused to recant his writings in the famous words: "my conscience is captive to the Word of God...here I stand, I cannot do otherwise, may God help me. Amen."

Luther's example sparked a movement of religious reform, as well as great upheaval, all across Europe. A distinctly Lutheran church took shape within the catholic tradition, which prioritized the Word of God and the saving Gospel.



Gathered Together...

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress

HANDBELL CHOIR

arr. Sondra Tucker

After the announcements, please stand. Turn and face the cross as it processes.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Psalm 57:7-9

657 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat -'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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.

The 8:30am service continues with the Confession & Absolution on Page 6.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS BY CONFIRMATION & PROFESSION OF FAITH

P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 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, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *I do.*

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.**

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord’s Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?

R *I do.*

- P** Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?
- R** *I will, with the help of God.*
- P** We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and God has forgiven your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
- C** Amen.

Candidates for confirmation are introduced and asked to kneel and be blessed. The pastor places his hands on the head of the catechumen, declares God's Word, and anoints their forehead with the sign of the cross. The sponsors of each candidate are invited to stand.

*So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you,
being rooted and grounded in love...*

+ Hayden Dixon
*may have strength to comprehend with all
the saints what is the breadth and length
and height and depth...*

Alex Dixon +
*and to know the love of Christ that
surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled
with all the fullness of God.*
Ephesians 3:19

- P** Hayden/Alex, 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.
- P** Peace ✠ be with you.
- C** Amen.

The following members are acknowledged and received by transfer or profession of faith today at Ascension:

**John & Jenna Kehr
Jackson, John Luke &
Joanna**

**Cole Townsend
Ed & Charlene Jenkins
Lisa Messina**

These are greeted by name and all are welcomed and blessed by the congregation:

- A** Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

All Stand.

P Let us pray,
Lord God, Heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these sons and daughters of Yours into the fellowship of this congregation where, together, we may continue steadfast in the one true faith. Grant that, by Your Word and Sacrament, we may be one in Jesus, a living sacrifice of service and praise, ever bearing witness to His love, through the same 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 grace of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C Amen.

All return to their seats.

CONFESSION AND 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. *1 John 1:8-9*

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.

Luke 18:13-14

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. *Matthew 16:19; John 20:19-23*

C Amen.

Stand.



But if faith receives the forgiveness of sins on account of love, the forgiveness of sins will always be uncertain because we never love as much as we should. Indeed, we do not love at all until our hearts truly realize that the forgiveness of sins has been *given* to us. As long as our opponents require a trust in our own love for the forgiveness of sins, they completely abolish the gospel concerning the free forgiveness of sins. And without believing that the forgiveness of sins is free, we can neither render love nor understand it.

The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, IV
Justification, 110

INTROIT

Psalm 34:1-2, 11, 22, antiphon: Psalm 119:46; Tone C



Leader sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.

I will bless the LORD at | all times;*
his praise shall continually be | in
my mouth.
My soul makes its boast | in the
LORD;*
let the humble hear | and be glad.
Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;*
I will teach you the fear | of the
LORD.

The LORD redeems the life of his |
servants;*
none of those who take refuge in
him will | be condemned.
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

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.



Our freedom comes when we subject ourselves to the truth. And this truth is our God who frees us from death, that is, from the condition of sin. For he himself spoke of this truth as a man among people when he spoke to those who believed: "If you remain in my word, then you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." For the soul enjoys nothing in freedom unless it enjoys it in peace.

St. Augustine of Hippo
On Free Will, 2.13.37

KYRIE

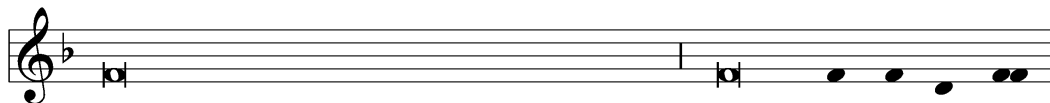
Mark 10:47; Luke 18:13; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



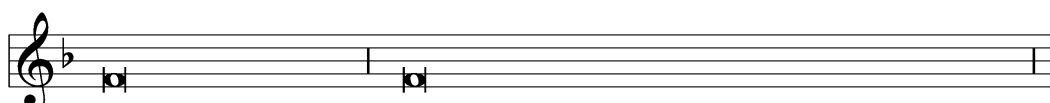
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



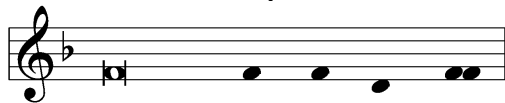
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



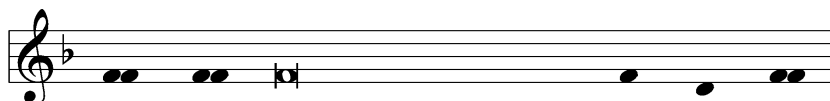
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



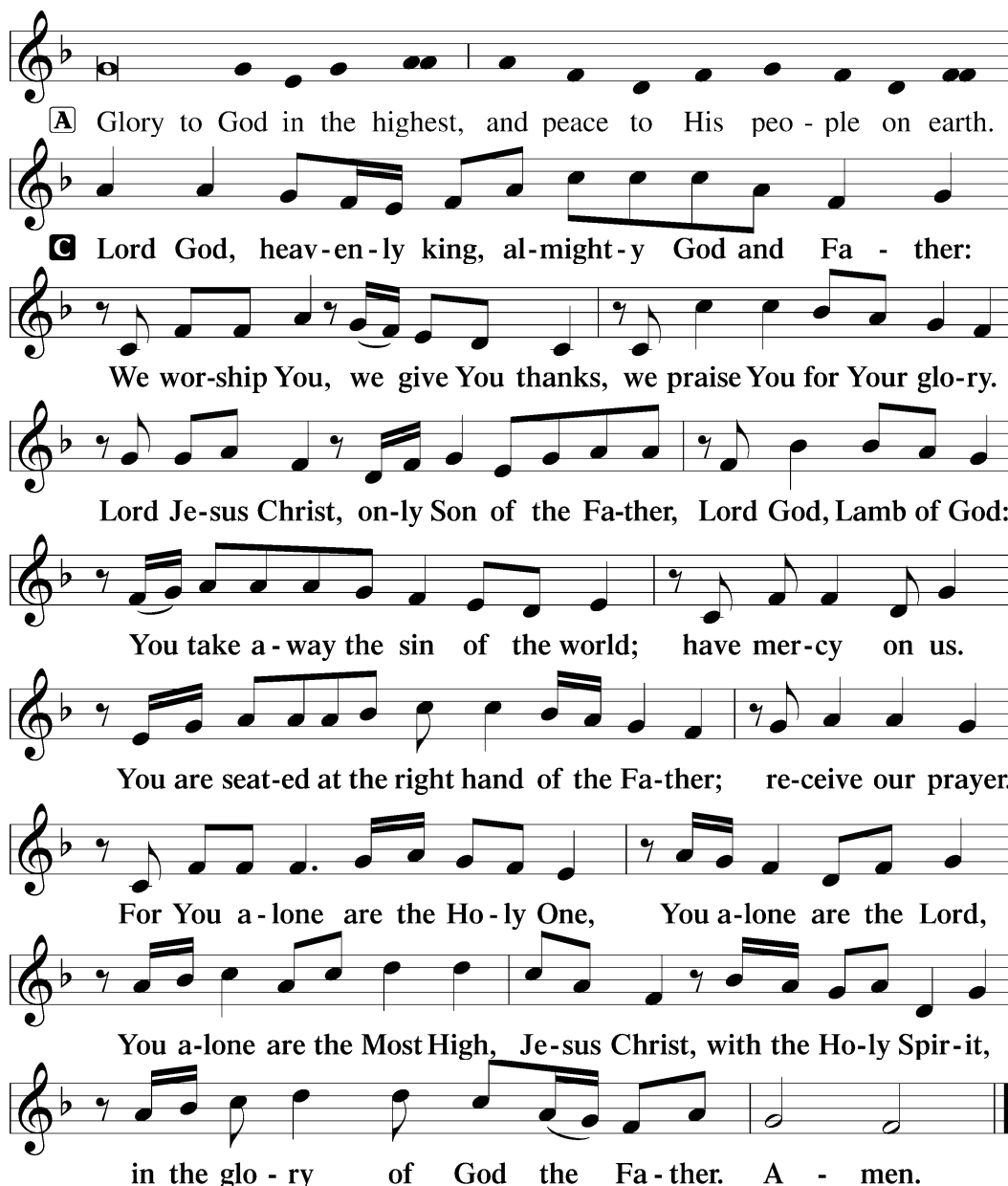
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LUKE 2:14; JOHN 1:29



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.

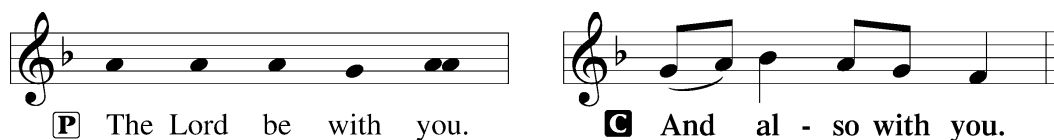
C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:
We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

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 Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY *Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22, et.*



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men. *Sit.*

...Around the Word...

FIRST READING

REVELATION 14:6-7

A The First Reading is from Revelation, the fourteenth chapter.

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice,

“Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Growing in God's Grace

CHANCEL CHOIR

Hannibal and Harris

EPISTLE

ROMANS 3:19-28

A The Epistle Reading is from Romans, the third chapter.

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a

gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.



So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free?'"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit. At this time the children may come forward for a children's message.

HYMN OF THE DAY

578 Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!

- △ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

SERMON

Stand.

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



Since the Mass is for the purpose of giving the sacrament, among us one common Mass is held on every holy day, and it is also administered on other days if there are those who desire it.

The Augsburg Confession, XXIV, 34
Latin Text



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.*

...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.



...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

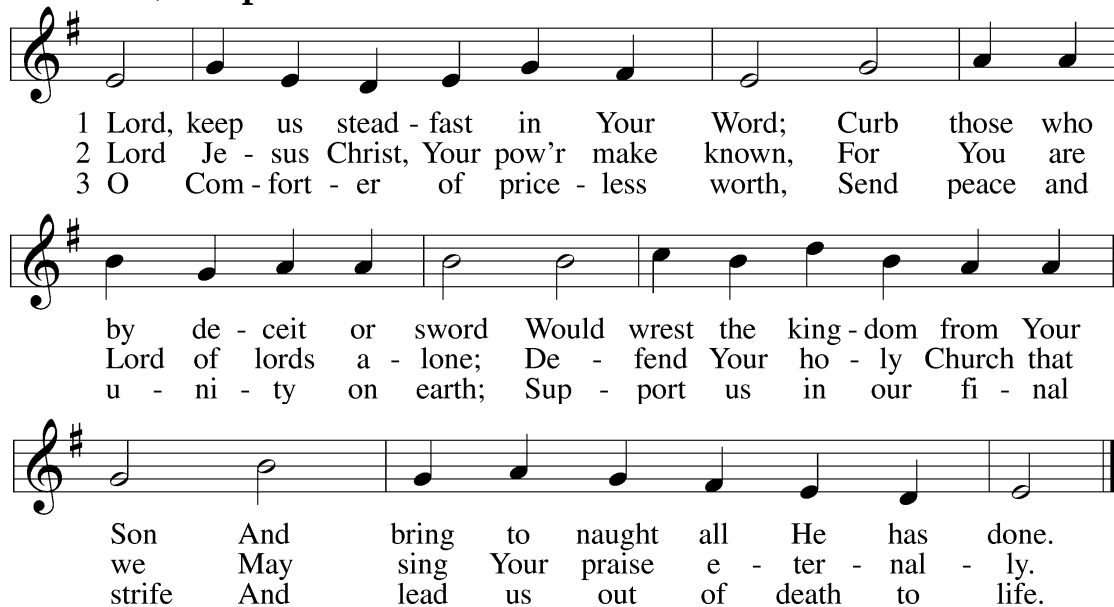
OFFERING & VOLUNTARY

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

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

- L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the renewal of the Church in this and every age, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For us sinners, though we deserve only God's righteous wrath and punishment, that hearing the pleas of His faithful Son, Jesus Christ, our Father would send His Spirit to renew us in His grace and defend us from all harm and danger of body and soul, that He may be our help in every time and place, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** In thanksgiving for Martin Luther and those who contended for the Gospel against its enemies; and that God would also make us bold to contend for the faith against those who would silence God's Word or distract His children from the life-giving Gospel of the crucified and risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that our persons and homes, communities and land might know peace and security in the Word of God and that we might truly be disciples of Jesus, being set free from errors and renewed in peace; let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all people in need, that they would not fear though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea; and that they would trust in God and be comforted by His promise to be with them. We pray especially for...

our members

Romain Bell
Margie Crane
Curt Schmidt
Jackie Elam
John Strohschein
Ted Cash
John Henry
Jasmine Timm
James Dake
Peri Hertzog
Cissi Burtner
Elaine Elston

Lila Thompson
Doris Falconieri
Tom Hagen
Karen Priebe
Roy & Sharon Gugel
Mary Keefauver
Helen Gounis
Louise Nordman

those dear to us:

Ann Gwinn
Brian Marshall
Grams Family
Susan Depalma-Spivey
Mark Smith
Helen Laws
David Schulz

Matt Perrin
Patti Skinner
Melissa Voelker
Molly
Wyatt Dawson
Ruchelle Smith
Jim Melton
King Family
Carby Family
Judi Domeier
Steve Barringer
Hermione Moul
Mike Chaney
Toby Gowin

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

P For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they may remember the Giver of every gift and find their joy complete in giving Him heartfelt thanks. We pray especially for...

our family birthdays:

Leah Seigler

Dick Runge

Nancy Byrum

David Rogers

Karin Koenig

Pat Zacharczyp

Evelyn Drotleff

let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Preserve Your Church, O Lord, by Your Heavenly Word, in the thankful eating and drinking of the gifts of Christ Jesus. As members of Christ's Body, fill our lives with the fullness of God, and keep us in faith and fear of You alone throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all Your people shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward You have prepared for us and all who have loved His appearing; through the same 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.



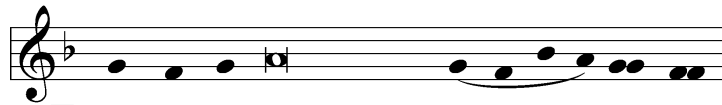
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

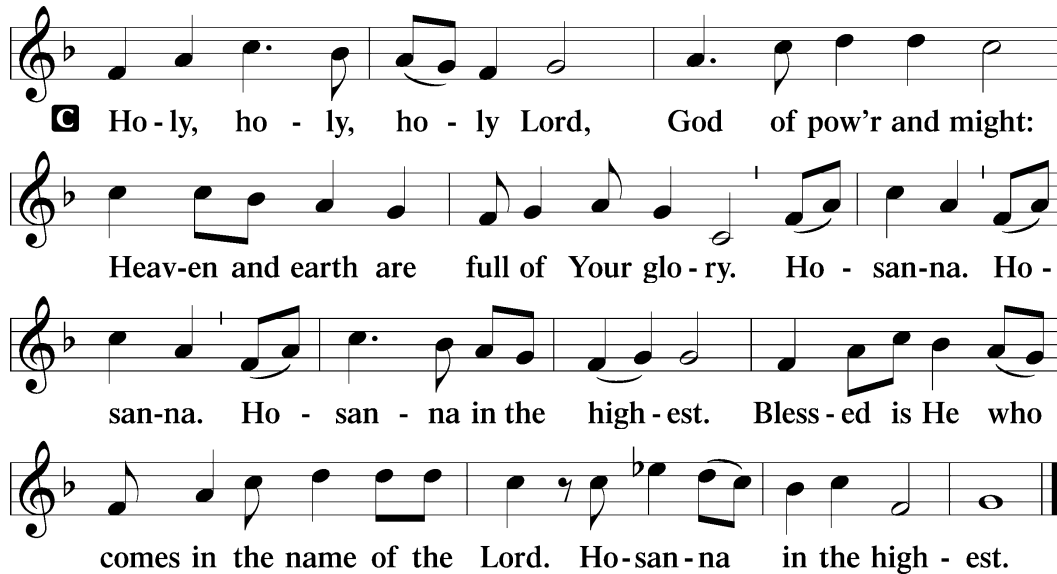


C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servants the reformers, 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 pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 10:16; Ephesians 1:7

- 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.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

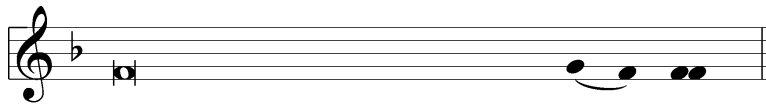
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26; Mk. 14; Lk. 22; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

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 al - ways.



G A - men.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29; Revelation 5:6, 12



G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



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



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling
stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand. | 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away. |
| 2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food. | 4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!" |

973 Thy Word Is a Lamp

Refrain Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 When I feel afraid, think I've lost
my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as
You are near.
Please be near me to the end.
<i>Refrain</i> | 2 I will not forget Your love for
me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me
to Your side;
And I will love You to the end.
<i>Refrain</i> |
|---|--|

960 Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old

- 1 Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old,
The Lord of all in spirit did behold
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,
With robes that filled the temple courts with light.
Above the throne were flaming seraphim;
Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.
With two they veiled their faces as was right,
With two they humbly hid their feet from sight,
And with the other two aloft they soared;
One to the other called and praised the Lord:
"Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
His glory fills the heavens and the earth!"
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.

930 All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

Refrain Raise your voices high, praise and magnify,
All you works of God, bless the Lord!
Raise your voices high, praise and magnify,
All you works of God, bless the Lord!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 All you works of God, bless the Lord!
All you angels, now bless the Lord;
Come, you heavens and pow'rs that be,
Praise the Lord and His majesty:
<i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>4 Hills and mountains, now sing His worth,
All you green things that grow on earth;
Seas and rivers, you springs and wells,
Beasts and cattle, you birds and whales: <i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>2 Sing, you sun and you moon above,
Stars of heaven, now sing His love;
Dew and showers, you winds that blow,
Heat and fire, you ice and snow:
<i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>5 Come, humanity, sing along,
Sing, you people of God, a song;
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,
Join, you spirits and souls at rest:
<i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>3 Frost of winter with song so cold,
Dews of summer, your song unfold;
Light and darkness, you day and night,
Clouds of thunder, you lightnings bright: <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>△ 6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;
All you humble, His praise impart;
God the Father and Son adore,
Bless the Spirit forevermore! <i>Refrain</i></p> |

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.

Thank the Lord

Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43; 1 Chronicles 16:8-10



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

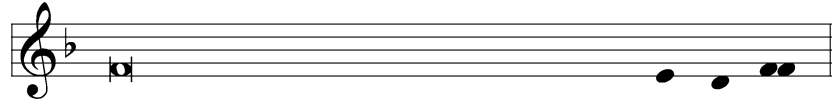
Isaiah 40:31; John 15:7-11; Romans 15:13

[P] 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.



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.



DEPARTING HYMN

506 Glory Be to God the Father

1 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, Glo - ry be to
2 Glo - ry be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each
3 Glo - ry to the King of an - gels, Glo - ry to the
4 Glo - ry, bless - ing, praise e - ter - nal! Thus the choir of

God the Son, Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it:
spot and stain; Glo - ry be to Him who bought us,
Church's King, Glo - ry to the King of na - tions;
an - gels sings; Hon - or, rich - es, pow'r, do - min - ion!

Great Je - ho - vah, Three in One! Glo - ry,
Made us kings with Him to reign! Glo - ry,
Heav'n and earth, your prais - es bring! Glo - ry,
Thus its praise cre - a - tion brings. Glo - ry,

glo - ry While e - ter - nal a - ges run!
glo - ry To the Lamb that once was slain!
glo - ry To the King of glo - ry sing!
glo - ry, Glo - ry to the King of kings!

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Gigout

*The altar flowers are given today by Rev. John Frerking in honor of his father,
the founding pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church.*



"Rev. Leslie Frerking came to Charlotte as a young missionary from St. Louis Seminary (1930). The first services took place at Wesley Heights School. (From the Open Kitchen Restaurant on Morehead, take Summit Avenue to where it ends at the John Belk Expressway. The school stood on your left...) Three or four showed up for several weeks. A short time later he purchased a house across the street from the school for \$6,000...money he earned from playing semi-pro baseball for the St. Louis Browns (today the Baltimore Orioles). The living and dining rooms served as the church and Leslie, and later Katie and three of the 'Frerking Herd' children lived there...and so a dream began. By the way, Leslie was chaplain for the Charlotte Hornets (the historic Minor League Baseball team founded 1901). He loved baseball. People back home (Higginsville, MO) thought that by going into ministry he'd missed his chance to be the greatest shortstop!"

Rev. John Frerking, Letter to Ascension, 10/19/26



Nothing contributes more to cultivating reverence and piety among people than conducting ceremonies properly in the churches.

The Augsburg Confession,
Introduction to...an Account of the Abuses
That Have Been Corrected, 6 - Latin Text

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg

Assistant: Vicar Andrew Cole

Organist: Eric Hauck

Worship Leaders: Jennifer Karnwie-Cook/Jim Aydelott

Communion Assistants: Carmin McDonald/Valerie Clark

Crucifer: /Jonah Meier

Acolytes: Easton Drotleff, Vincent

Fernandez/Jackson Kehr, Pat Zacharczyp

Altar Guild: Maggie Bryson, Verna Cash, Karin Koenig, Sandra Talbert, Olivia Wagner

Readers: Connie Strohschein/Natalie Broome

Greeters: Frank Moravec, Sandra Moravec/Diane Beard

Ushers: Will Adams, Dewey Bryson, Phil Edwards/William Cates, Carey Cousins, Paul Spokas, Dwight Stine

Sound & Video: Wayne Balling/Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

Musicians: Christian Broome, Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, Darren Seigler, Braden Zubrod

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 35 families,
71 family members on 10/16 and 10/19.

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. All are 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 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

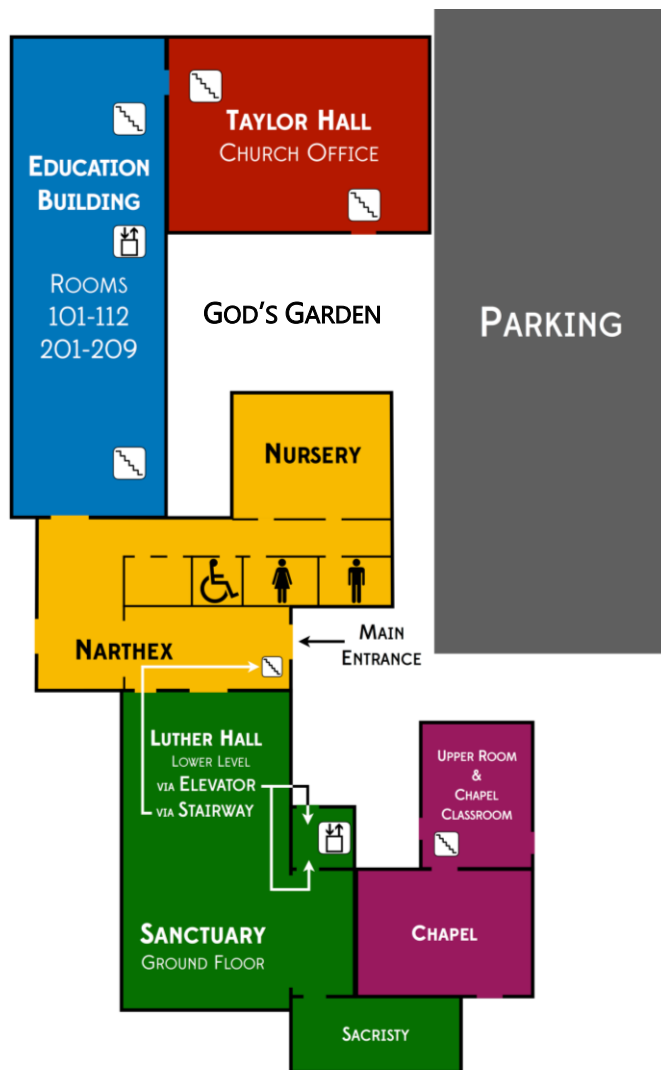
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.