



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service
**Eighteenth Sunday
after Pentecost**

Friends of God,

All authority in heaven and on
earth has been given to me.

Matthew 28:18b

*He will command his angels
concerning you to guard you in
all your ways.*

*Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.*

Gradual

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

But this ["world to come"] is not an "other" world, different from the one God has created and given to us. It is our same world, *already* perfected in Christ, but *not yet* in us. It is our same world, redeemed and restored, in which Christ "fills all things with Himself." And since God has created the world as food for us and has given us food as means of communion with Him, of life in Him, the new food of the new life which we receive from God in His Kingdom is Christ Himself. He is our bread—because from the very beginning all our hunger was a hunger for Him and all our bread was but a symbol of Him, a symbol that had to become reality.

Alexander Schmemmann,
For the Life of the World, 2.13

SEPTEMBER 27, 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

Morning Has Broken

Boud

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

ENTRANCE HYMN

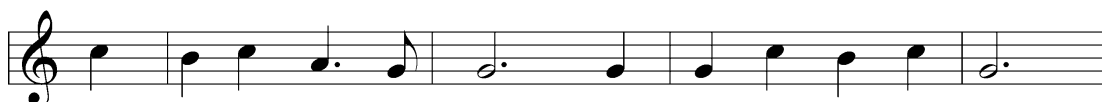
Psalm 57:9; 100:4-5

Turn and face the cross in procession.

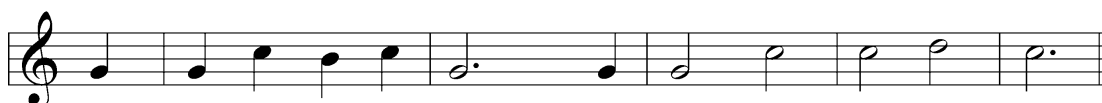
807 When Morning Gilds the Skies



1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, My heart, a - wak - ing, cries,
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, This is my song of songs:
3 No love-lier an - ti - phon In all high heav'n is known
4 Ye na - tions of man - kind, In this your con - cord find:
5 Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face,



"May Je - sus Christ be praised!" When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
"May Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's ho - ly house of prayer
Than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
"May Je - sus Christ be praised!" Let all the earth a - round
Sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



This rings my cur-few call: "May Je - sus Christ be praised!"
Hath none that can com-pare With "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
The e - ter - nal psalm is heard: "May Je - sus Christ be praised!"
Ring joy - ous with the sound: "May Je - sus Christ be praised!"
Both now and ev - er - more Shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

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.

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. *Romans 5:8; John 3:16; John 20:21-23*
C Amen.

Stand.

INTROIT

Psalm 147:1-5; antiphon: v. 6-7



Leader sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power; *
his understanding is beyond | measure.
The LORD lifts up the | humble; *
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

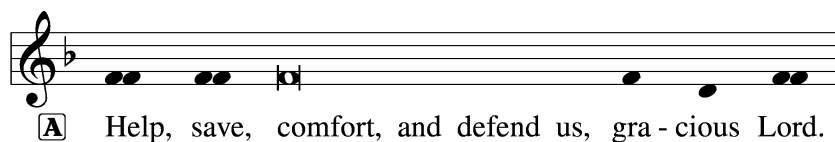
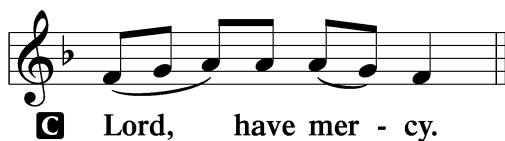
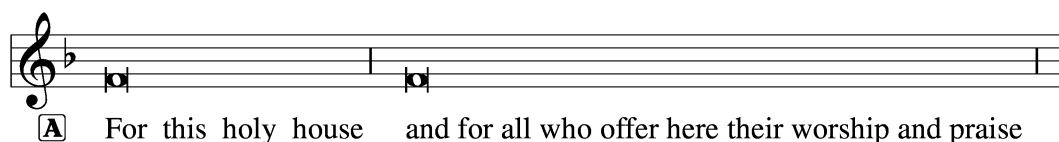
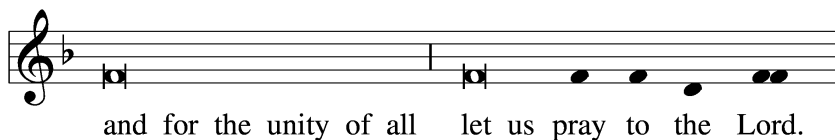
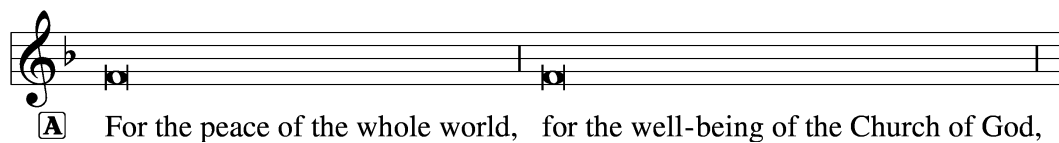
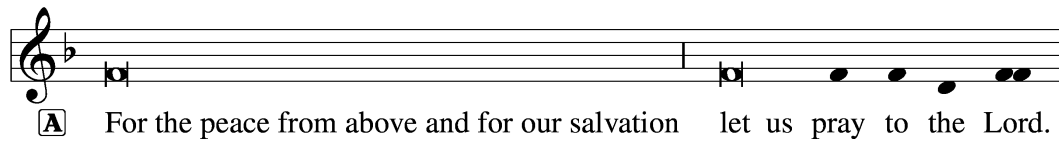
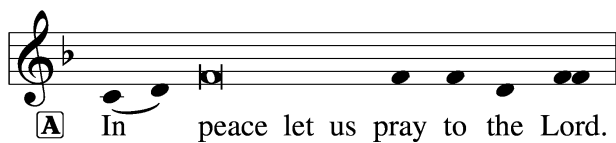
Praise the LORD! For it is good to
sing praises | to our God; *
for it is pleasant, and a song of
praise is | fitting.
The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem; *
he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.
He heals the broken- | hearted *
and binds | up their wounds.
He determines the number | of the
stars; *

he gives to all of | them their
names.
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.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power; *
his understanding is beyond | measure.
The LORD lifts up the | humble; *
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

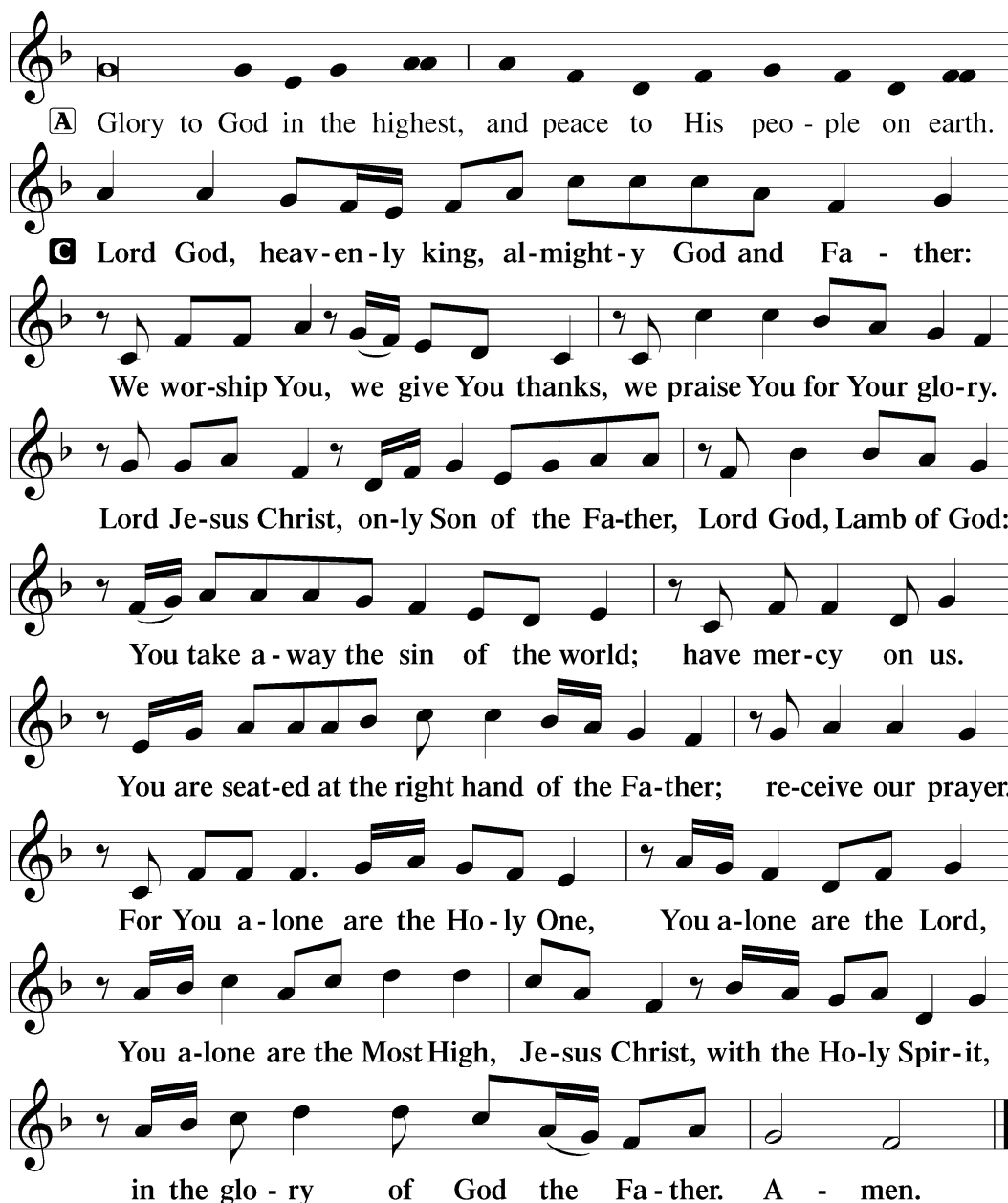
KYRIE

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



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.

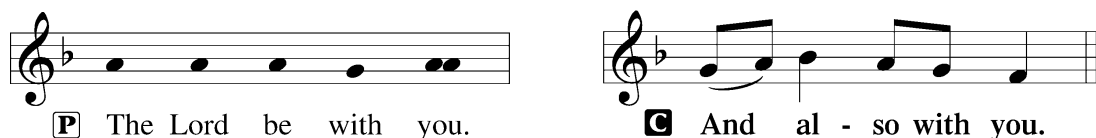
For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,

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

2 Timothy 4:22



P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
 Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority.
 Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be
 led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
 You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit.

...Around the Word...

OLD TESTAMENT READING

EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32

A The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, the eighteenth chapter.

The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed

and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-18

A The Epistle is from Philippians, the second chapter.

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form,

he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of

Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried. *John 3:16; Romans 10:9*
Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:35
He descended into hell. *Galatians 4:4; Matthew 1:23-25*
Matthew 27:26; John 19:1-3
The third day He rose again from the dead. *Mark 15:25; John 19:30; Luke 23:53*
He ascended into heaven *Acts 2:24; 1 Peter 3:19*
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. *Acts 1:9*
Acts 7:55

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

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

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

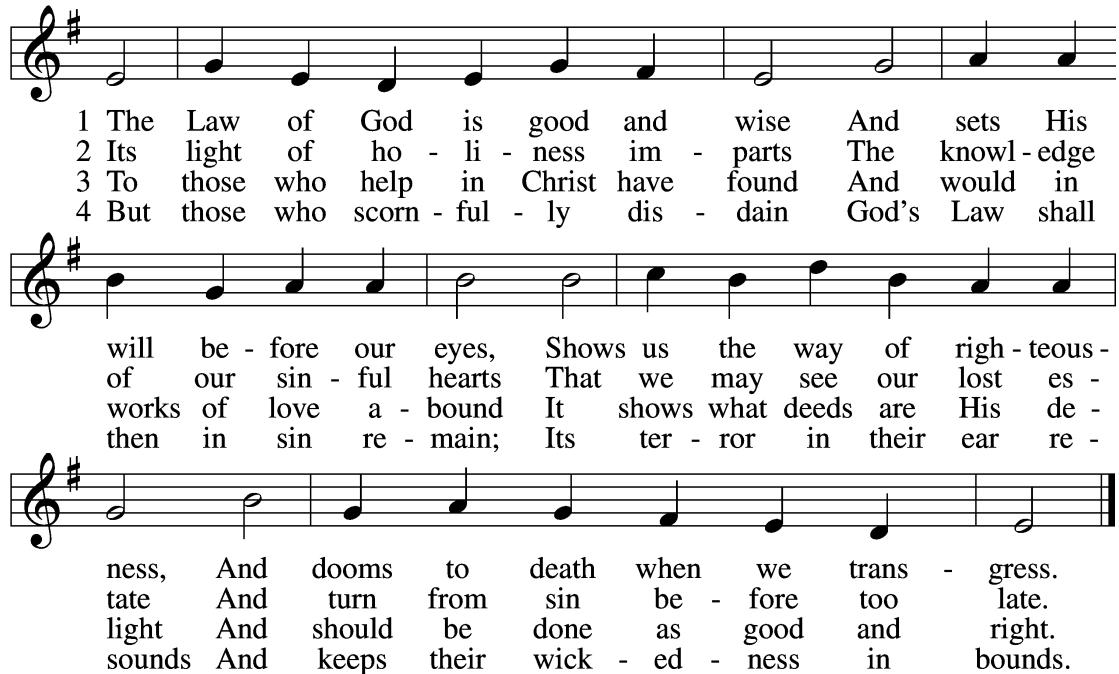


But my sin was this, that I looked for
pleasure, beauty, and truth not in Him but in
myself and His other creatures and that led
me instead to pain, confusion, and error.

St. Augustine of Hippo
Confessions, 1.20.31

HYMN OF THE DAY

579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise



1 The Law of God is good and wise And sets His
2 Its light of ho - li - ness im - parts The knowl - edge
3 To those who help in Christ have found And would in
4 But those who scorn - ful - ly dis - dain God's Law shall
will be - fore our eyes, Shows us the way of righ - teous -
of our sin - ful hearts That we may see our lost es -
works of love a - bound It shows what deeds are His de -
then in sin re - main; Its ter - ror in their ear re -
ness, And dooms to death when we trans - gress.
tate And turn from sin be - fore too late.
light And should be done as good and right.
sounds And keeps their wick - ed - ness in bounds.

5 The Law is good; but since the fall
Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die
And has no pow'r to justify.

6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

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.



Being overwhelmed by the beauty of Christ is a more real and profound kind of knowledge than...mere rational deduction.

Pope Benedict XVI

On the Way to Jesus Christ, p. 34[†]

...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

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

PSALM 116:12-13, 17-19



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Stand.

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 Church, that by holding fast to the Word of life in the midst of a crooked and twisted world, she may be as a light in the evening, bringing joy to all who are without hope, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all grumbling, rivalry and conceit in the Church of God to end; and for humble and devout faith to last until the day of Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the world to hear the proclamation of God's true justice, that the wicked may turn and follow in the way of forgiveness and life, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all useful scientific research and industry, that those who apply their gifts for the betterment of their neighbors might be blessed with wisdom and skill, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our leaders, for civil servants and for those who serve in our armed forces, that knowing Him before Whom the might of man is nothing, they might serve faithfully, honorably and well, fearing only God, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all who face sickness, surgery and pain, that they may not be afraid, and that they might be healed according to the abundance of God's steadfast love. We pray especially for...

our members

Curt Schmidt
Dan Nelson
Jackie Elam
John Strohschein
Ted Cash
John Henry
Jasmine Timm
James Dake
Peri Hertzog
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:

Melissa Voelker
Bryson Family
Glen
Barnette Family
Molly

Wyatt Dawson
Ruchelle Smith
Jim Melton
King Family
Carby Family
Judi Domeier
Steve Barringer
Hermione Moul
Mike Chaney
Toby Gowin
Charlotte Area Soup
Kitchens

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:

Michael Homan, Jr.

Rainer Blessing

Tim Robinette

Gina Contreras

Sally Bixby

praise & thanksgiving:

Abigail Anastasia

Finlay, born September 13th

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

- L** O God, we pray for all those who approach your altar this day, that we may have one mind and heart in doctrine and witness, since in You there is no shadow due to change. Enkindle Your divine light in us that, united as Christ's own body and holding fast to the Word of life, we would shine brightly in the midst of this world; 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

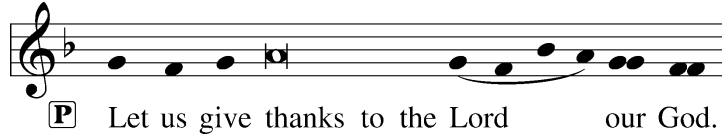
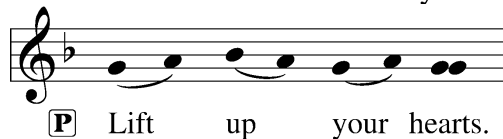
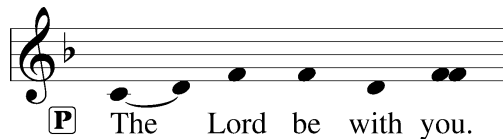
Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

- 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

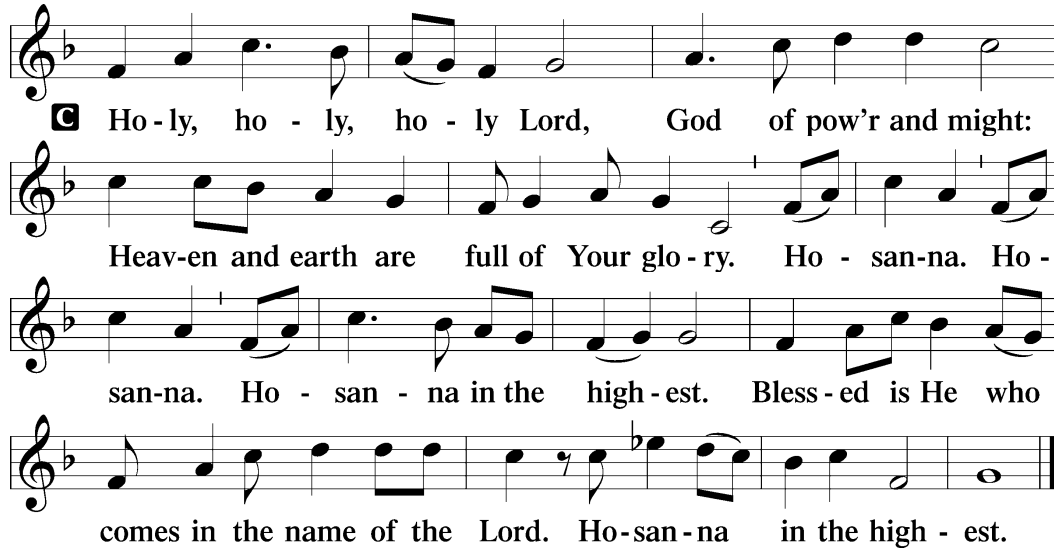
2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136



- P** 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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 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, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior.
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. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.
Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

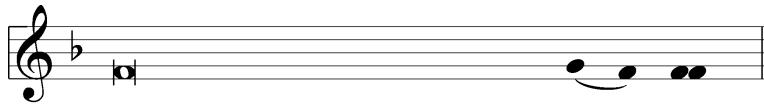
Matt 26:26f; Mk 14:22f; Lk 22:19f; 1 Cor 11:23f

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✙ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✙ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



C 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

Matthew 26:30

527 O Savior, Precious Savior

1 O Savior, precious Savior,
Whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor,
All other names above,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our holy Lord and King.

2 O bringer of salvation,
Who wondrously hast wrought
Thyself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess
Thee,
Our gracious Lord and King.

3 In Thee all fullness dwelleth,
 All grace and pow'r divine;
 The glory that excelleth,
 O Son of God, is Thine.
 We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
 To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 We praise Thee and confess Thee,
 Our glorious Lord and King.

4 O grant the consummation
 Of this our song above
 In endless adoration
 And everlasting love;
 Then shall we praise and bless Thee
 Where perfect praises ring,
 And evermore confess Thee,
 Our Savior and our King!

528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
 My great Redeemer's praise,
 The glories of my God and King,
 The triumphs of His grace!

4 He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin;
 He sets the pris'ner free.
 His blood can make the foulest clean;
 His blood avails for me.

2 My gracious Master and my God,
 Assist me to proclaim,
 To spread through all the earth
 abroad,
 The honors of Thy name.

5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own
 Your God, ye fallen race.
 Look and be saved through faith
 alone,
 Be justified by grace.

3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
 That bids our sorrows cease;
 'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
 'Tis life and health and peace.

6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
 The Lamb of God was slain.
 His soul was once an offering made
 For ev'ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love
 Be now and ever giv'n
 By saints below and saints above,
 The Church in earth and heav'n.

684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary

1 "Come unto Me, ye weary,
 And I will give you rest."
 O blessèd voice of Jesus,
 Which comes to hearts oppressed!
 It tells of benediction,
 Of pardon, grace, and peace,
 Of joy that hath no ending,
 Of love that cannot cease.

3 "Come unto Me, ye fainting,
 And I will give you life."
 O cheering voice of Jesus,
 Which comes to aid our strife!
 The foe is stern and eager,
 The fight is fierce and long;
 But Thou hast made us mighty
 And stronger than the strong.

2 "Come unto Me, ye wand'rers,
 And I will give you light."
 O loving voice of Jesus,
 Which comes to cheer the night!
 Our hearts were filled with sadness,
 And we had lost our way;
 But Thou hast brought us gladness
 And songs at break of day.

4 "And whosoever cometh,
 I will not cast him out."
 O patient love of Jesus,
 Which drives away our doubt,
 Which, though we be unworthy
 Of love so great and free,
 Invites us very sinners
 To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

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.

THANK THE LORD

Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43; 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

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.

Psalm 107:1



C A - men.

Psalm 103:1

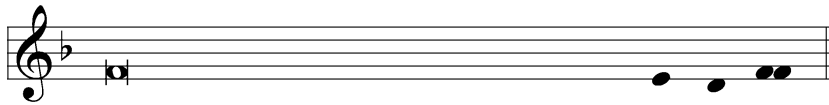


Christ has planted His Table like an oasis along our pathway. When we become weary, weak and hungry in our souls, discouraged and wounded from false steps, stumbling and falling, we may then enter there and be refreshed with the living Bread of Life.

Carl Olaf Rosenius, in *For All the Saints*, l: 88g†

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 A - men.

DEPARTING HYMN

504 Father Most Holy



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good-ness un -
3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea-tures praise Thee; All for Thy
△ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;
joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,
wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.
praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

POSTLUDE

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Boud

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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*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 Assistants: Ed Sielsky/Adam Pilsbury

Communion Assistants: Wayne Balling/Ruth Pilsbury

Crucifers: Jacob Timm/Easton Nash

Acolytes: Jordan Timm, Joseph Timm/Emarie Delozier, Jaxon Nash

Altar Guild: Kim Cates, Kate Duncan, Shawna Knutson, Marlys Sielsky, Barbara Suddreth, Emily Tweel

Readers: Scott Hertzog/Bristol Carico

Greeters: Lisa Wyatt/Sandra Talbert

Ushers: Dale Bogenschneider, Kevin Bowman, Mike Gordon, Tom White/Jim Aydelott, Bruce Onsager, Hank Soule, Ryan Zarski

Sound & Video: Darren Seigler/Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

Sunday School & Bible Study Year

9:45-10:45am

Nursery (under 3 yrs) *Church Nursery*

Ages 3-4 *Ed. Bldg. Rm. 111*

Kindergarten-Grade 2 *Ed. Bldg. Rm. 107*

Grades 3-5 *Ed. Bldg. Rm. 105*

Confirmation (Grades 6-8) *Ed. Bldg. Rm. 209*

High School (Grades 9-12) *Ed. Bldg. Rm. 201*

Young Adult Bible Study *Ed. Bldg. Rm. 112*

Parent Bible Study *Adult Library*

Adult Sunday School (Everything New) *Luther Hall*

New Member Class:

TONIGHT!

Sunday, September 27-October 18

6-7:30pm in the Sanctuary

Please contact Pastor Steve
and be sure to fill out
the Red "Join Ascension" Card
you'll find located in your pew!

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 37 families,
82 family members on 9/18 & 9/21.**

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

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

1225 E. Morehead Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

704-372-7317 MAIN NUMBER

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Jon Greene, Facilities Manager

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Patia Bowman, Administrative Asst.

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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

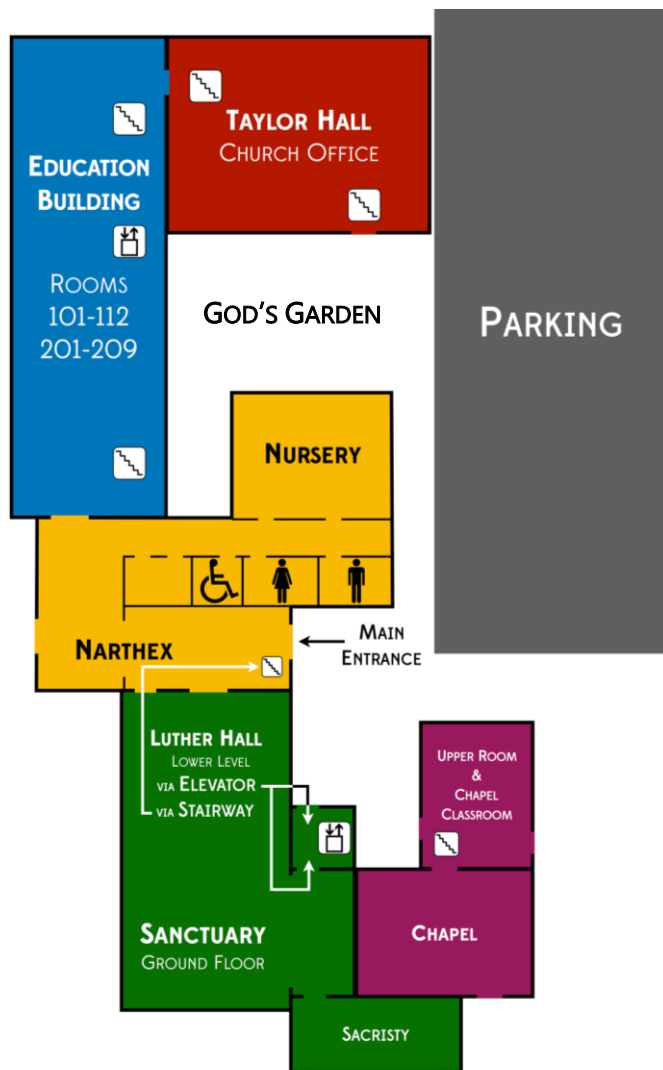
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.