



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Friends of God,

I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what
has been hidden since the foundation of the world.

Matthew 13:35b

*Oh, the depth of the
riches and wisdom and
knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are
his judgements and how
inscrutable his ways!
For from him and
through him and to him
are all things. To him be
glory forever. Amen.*

Gradual

Romans 11:33, 36

It is the same catastrophe that has befallen countless numbers of us, people who tried to accomplish the best, who wanted to do decent work in the military, in social affairs, or as teachers, perhaps even as politicians, and even had some success and satisfaction, people who thought they could live their lives—and yet made only ONE mistake. And that mistake was their failure to ask in WHOSE name they were doing this, WHOSE wagon they were pulling.

Or perhaps it was a mother who raised her children with love and many sacrifices, who went hungry in order to feed them, wore shabby clothes in order that they might be neatly dressed, and yet depriving them of the ultimate foundations of life or even giving them false goals—with one hand giving them the goods of this world (food and drink, clothing and shoes) and with the other depriving them of the world to come.

The point is that in the last analysis the important thing in life is not whether a man, or a woman, has a bright mind, but rather which light it is that makes this brightness, whether it is the light of eternity or the sulphureous light of Satan.

Helmut Thielicke, Life Can Begin Again: Sermons on the
Sermon on the Mount, pp.208[†]

JULY 26, 2026 ✠ 8:30AM & 11AM

SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We are so glad that you are here! This is God's House and He put the wiggle in children, so please feel completely at home.

Sit towards the front: That's where children can easily see the procession, note the colors and watch the pastor and leaders.

Help your child look and listen: Tell them key words that will be used often. Point out crosses, banners and other reminders of Jesus and His Good News.

Participate joyfully! Sing, fold your hands for prayer, stand and kneel. Bring them to the Communion rail for a blessing. Your child will model your actions. He or she watches everything that you do.

Involve your child: Encourage them to say and pray their parts: *"Amen. Lord have mercy. I believe... Our Father..."* Ascension at Prayer allows you to learn songs and prayers ahead of time so that children recognize them as their own.

If You and Your Child Must Leave: There is a nursery for emergencies, but please come back. What we do here promises to engage your children little-by-little and shape them powerfully and forever.

Rainbow Activity Bags are available at the Usher Table for children five and under.

If you need help, just ask! We are here to serve Jesus who said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

If you are a visitor, we are delighted to have you join us in worshiping God and hearing His Word! Please take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor. You are cordially invited to join in our congregation's fellowship and study of God's Word between services and all week long.

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION



Our greatest desire is to share in the blessing of the Lord's Supper with you! Since this meal unites us spiritually by faith in the Word of God, we ask that you come having prepared your heart. Please read the following questions. If your answer to each is "Yes" then joyfully receive the Lord's gift in His Sacrament.

- ☐ **Do you come to the Lord's Table for assurance of forgiveness, healing from doubt and shame, and to receive God's gift of a holy life and reconciliation through Jesus?**
- ☐ **Have you been baptized and instructed in the Sacrament so that you come to confess the holy, catholic and apostolic faith along with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod?**
- ☐ **Do you believe Jesus' words, that the bread and the wine are, in fact, His own body and blood, given and shed for you?**

We invite all those who are not prepared to commune to join our study of God's Word and to speak to our pastor for direction. In the meantime, we invite you to receive a blessing at God's altar this morning. Please fold your hands over your heart during the distribution of the Sacrament and join in our prayers for God to restore us through repentance, to unity and holiness in Christ alone.

*The "white" individual cups at the center of each tray are alcohol-free.
For gluten-free communion, please ask the pastor prior to the service.*

Gathered Together...

PRELUDE

ABBOT'S LEIGH

Taylor

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.

646 Church of God, Elect and Glorious



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers
4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the

na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own
His most mar - v'lous light; Brought His truth to
to God's heart of love; But He brought you
peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and

spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter

grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
sight. Let your light so shine a - round you
bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,
sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing

Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh
Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may
Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in

knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.
joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

INVOCATION

1 Kings 8:27-30; Matthew 18:20; 28:18-20

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand.

INTROIT

Psalm 105:3-6; antiphon: v. 1, 2



Pastor sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- |
on his name;* make known his deeds
among the | peoples!

Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*
tell of all his | wondrous work!

Glory in his | holy name;*
let the hearts of those who seek the
| LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works
that | he has done,* his miracles,

and the judgments he | uttered,
O offspring of Abraham, his |
servant,* children of Jacob, his |
chosen ones!

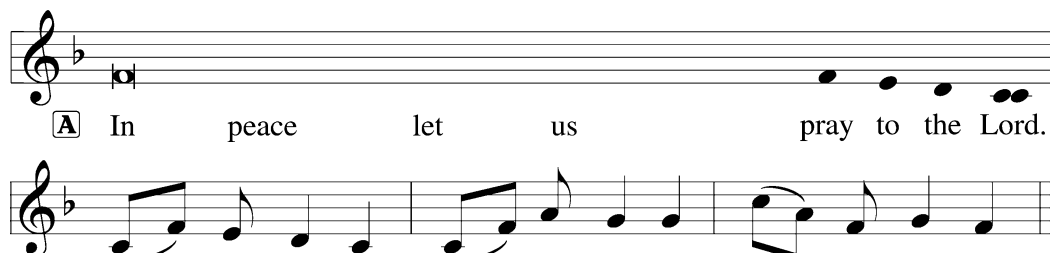
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- |
on his name;* make known his deeds
among the | peoples!

Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*
tell of all his | wondrous work!

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

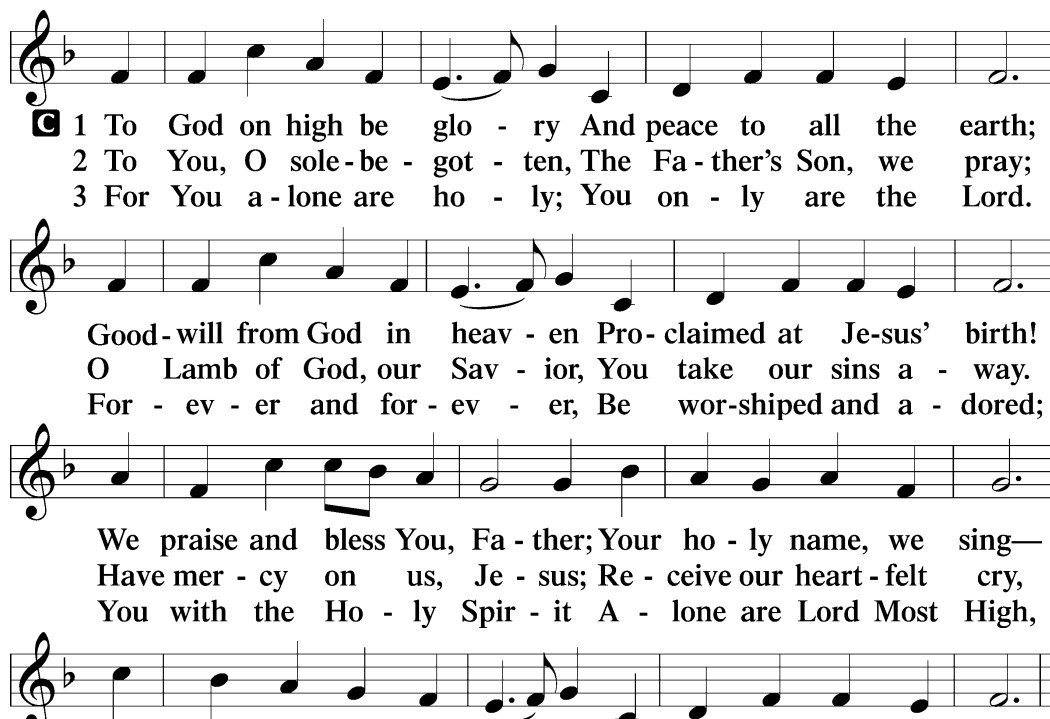


A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with your spirit.
- P** Let us pray.
- Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit.

...Around the Word...

OLD TESTAMENT READING

DEUTERONOMY 7:6-9

A The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy, the seventh chapter.

“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

EPISTLE

ROMANS 8:28-39

A The Epistle is from Romans, the eighth chapter.

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed
all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be
slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Stand.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68

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

C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:44-52

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.



God condemns your sins: and if you also condemn them, you are united to God. [...] And when your own deeds will begin to displease you, from that time your good works begin, as you find fault with your wicked deeds.

St. Augustine, Tractates on the Gospel of John, XII, 13.

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

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

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

sts. 1-4



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish
 Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
 Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?
 Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
 Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.
 Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
 Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and
 God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its
 Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.
 hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.
 Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

SERMON

SUPPLICATION OF THE FAITHFUL

Ephesians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 11:26

- P** Heavenly Father, strengthen us, your unworthy servants, for Your service with the power of Your Holy Spirit.
- C** Now let us, the faithful, proclaim the death of the Lord, confess His resurrection, and await His coming with joy. Amen.

...And Blessed

All those wishing to commune should examine themselves, as in the following prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, You call to Yourself all those who labor and are heavy burdened, to refresh them and to give rest to their souls. Dear Lord, I pray, let me also experience Your love at the heavenly feast, which You have prepared for Your children on earth. Rescue me here from impenitence and unbelief, so that I do not receive the Sacrament to my damnation. Remove the spotted garment of my flesh and my own righteousness and adorn me with the garment earned by Your blood. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and hereafter make me to sit at Your heavenly table, where You give me to eat of the eternal manna and to drink of the river of Your pleasures. Hear me for Your own sake. Amen.



Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Matthew 8:8

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

743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

sts. 5-6



5 E - vil world, I leave thee; Thou canst not de-ceive me,
6 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of glad - ness,
Thine ap - peal is vain. Sin that once did blind me,
Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther,
Get thee far be - hind me, Come not forth a - gain.
Though the storms may gath - er, Still have peace with - in.
Past thy hour, O pride and pow'r; Sin - ful life, thy
Yea, what - e'er I here must bear, Thou art still my
bonds I sev - er, Leave thee now for - ev - er.
pur - est plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

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 preservation from error and deliverance from temptation, that we may remain steadfast and immovable in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all pastors, that they may faithfully teach the whole counsel of God's Word; and that we may receive their words with joy and thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For faithfulness in our vocations, that we would come to see the various offices God has given us as gifts through which we serve Him and our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all who make, administer and judge our laws, that they would lead with wisdom, and seek what is best for all in accordance with God's will, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those burdened by sickness and affliction, that they may await healing and deliverance in the firm conviction that nothing can separate them from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We pray especially for...

our members

Scott Hertzog
John Strohschein
Sharon Gugel
Ted Cash
John Henry
Jasmine Timm
James Dake
Peri Hertzog
Tony Byrum
Cissi Burtner
Elaine Elston

those at home:

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

those dear to us:

Brian Marshall
Kaleigh & Chris Greene
Hermione Moul
Nelson List
Bryson Family
Russell & Wyatt Families
Runge Family
Barbara Robenolt
Lauren McDaniel
Joan Lee
Mike Chaney
Peggy Korzeniowski
Toby Gowin
Cassandra Shropshire

and rejoice with...

our family birthdays:

Curt Kuechler
Sandra Talbert
Annie Woodie
Lisa Wyatt

Sarah Lowrey
Laura Jordan
Steve Newberg
Jaxon Nash
Hope Korzeniowski

Landon Kreun
Brenda Gordon
Easton Nash

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

- L** For those who receive the Sacrament, that with penitent hearts and a common confession of faith, they may be freed by the blood of God's eternal covenant, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** In thanksgiving to God for those who have fallen asleep in Christ; and in joyful expectation of our inheritance with the saints in light, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C** **Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

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

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us share His peace with one another.

Greet one another in the Lord's name saying, "Peace be with you!"

PREFACE

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

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

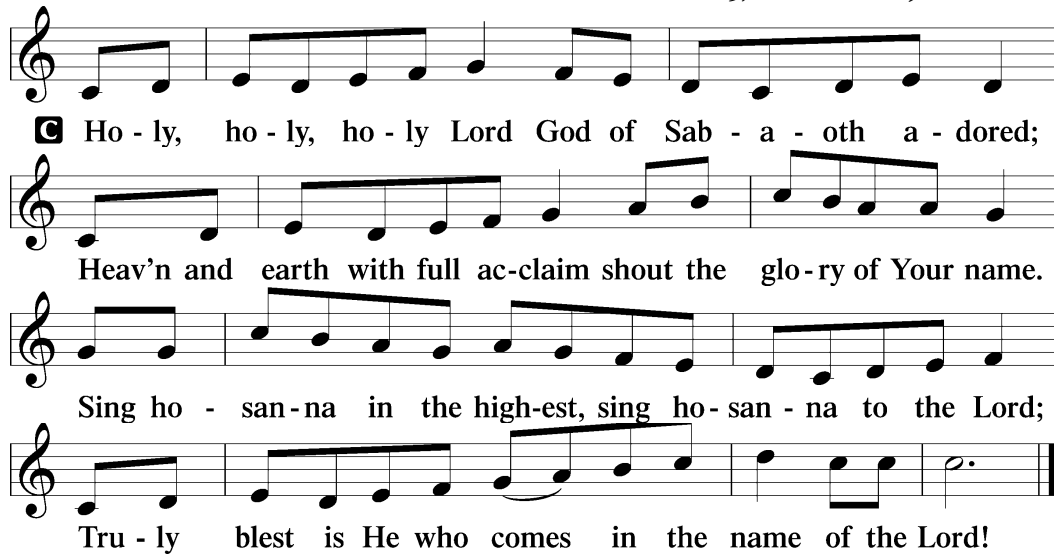
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

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

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

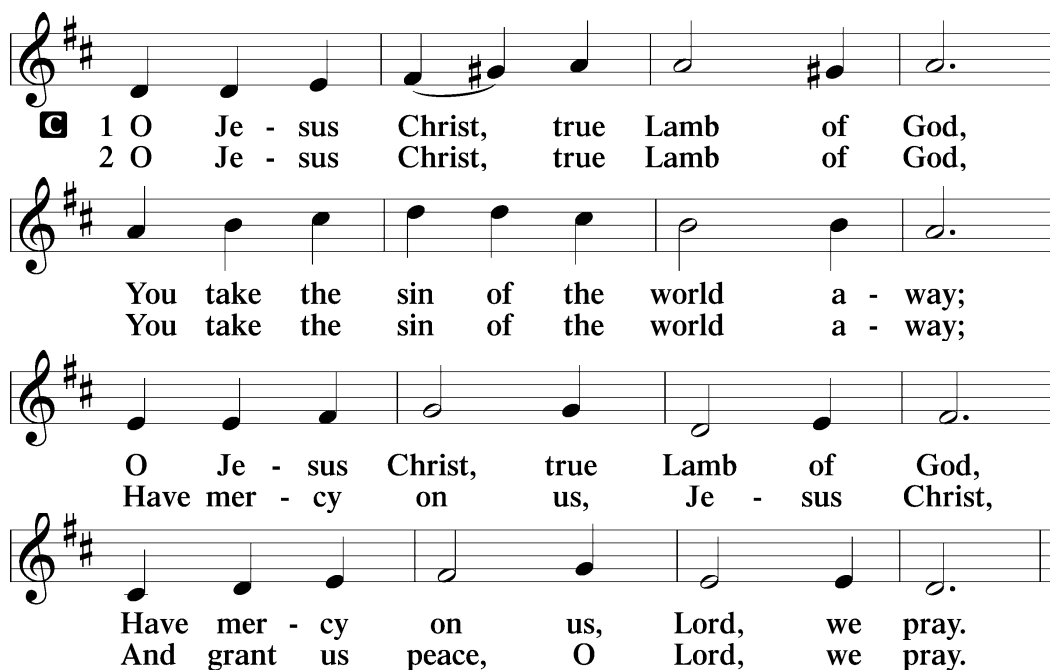
PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29; Revelation 5:6, 12



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit.

818 In Thee Is Gladness

1 In Thee is gladness
 Amid all sadness,
 Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
 By Thee are given
 The gifts of heaven,
 Thou the true Redeemer art.
 Our souls Thou wakest,
 Our bonds Thou breakest;
 Who trusts Thee surely
 Has built securely;
 He stands forever: Alleluia!
 Our hearts are pining
 To see Thy shining,
 Dying or living
 To Thee are cleaving;
 Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

2 Since He is ours,
 We fear no powers,
 Not of earth nor sin nor death.
 He sees and blesses
 In worst distresses;
 He can change them with a
 breath.
 Wherefore the story
 Tell of His glory
 With hearts and voices;
 All heav'n rejoices
 In Him forever: Alleluia!
 We shout for gladness,
 Triumph o'er sadness,
 Love Him and praise Him
 And still shall raise Him
 Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

1 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,
 Thy blood which Thou for me
 didst shed,
 These are my life and strength
 forever,
 By them my hungry soul is fed.
Refrain

Refrain Lord, may Thy body and Thy
 blood
 Be for my soul the highest good!

2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united;
 I live in Thee and Thou in me.
 No sorrow fills my soul, delighted
 It finds its only joy in Thee.
Refrain

3 Who can condemn me now?
 For surely
 The Lord is nigh, who
 justifies.
 No hell I fear, and thus
 securely
 With Jesus I to heaven rise.
Refrain

4 Though death may threaten
 with disaster,
 It cannot rob me of my
 cheer;
 For He who is of death the
 master
 With aid and comfort e'er is
 near. *Refrain*

5 My heart has now become Thy dwelling,
 O blessèd, holy Trinity.
 With angels I, Thy praises telling,
 Shall live in joy eternally. *Refrain*

696 O God, My Faithful God

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 O God, my faithful God,
True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is,
All perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame,
And may I have within
A conscience free from blame,
A soul unstained by sin.</p> <p>2 Grant me the strength to do
With ready heart and willing
Whatever You command,
My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should
While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good,
For You must give success.</p> <p>3 Keep me from saying words
That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech
May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place
I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace
Lest I offend the weak.</p> | <p>4 Lord, let me win my foes
With kindly words and
actions,
And let me find good friends
For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught,
To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might
To live in peace with all.</p> <p>5 Let me depart this life
Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul
That it may live forever;
And let my body have
A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave;
And let it sleep in peace.</p> <p>6 And on that final day
When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand,
My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice,
Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice
With those who love Your
name.</p> |
|---|--|

After communing it is right to quietly give thanks, as in the following prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You that You have again refreshed us with the gift of Your holy body and blood in this comforting Sacrament. Bless our participation in Your body that we may depart from here with peace and joy, strengthened in our remembrance of Your forgiveness and in our witness to the knowledge that we are reconciled to God, in Your holy name. Amen.

Stand.

DISMISSAL

Isaiah 41:10; Romans 5:9-10; Hebrews 9:14; 10:19

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Psalm 107:1

- L** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with your spirit.
L Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN

573 Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee

1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened
△ 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's

nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy
heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy
bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and

grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me
heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;
King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,

Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this
For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,
Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed

end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.
if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

POSTLUDE

May the Road Rise to Meet You

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg

Assistant: Vicar Andrew Borseth

Organist: Eric Hauck

Worship Assistants: Mike Homan/Curt Kuechler

Communion Assistants: Sam D'Avila/Ruth Pilsbury

Crucifers: August Newberg/Natali Delozier

Acolytes: Dietrich Newberg, Frederick Newberg/Emarie Delozier, Nicolas Delozier

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

Readers: Paula Henry/Allison Pence

Greeters: Frank Moravec, Sandra Moravec/Diane Beard

Ushers: John Henry, Stu Nichols, Kevin Pollard/Jeff Miller, Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

Sound & Video: Darren Seigler

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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

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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 39 families,
91 family members on 7/17 & 7/20.**

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

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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

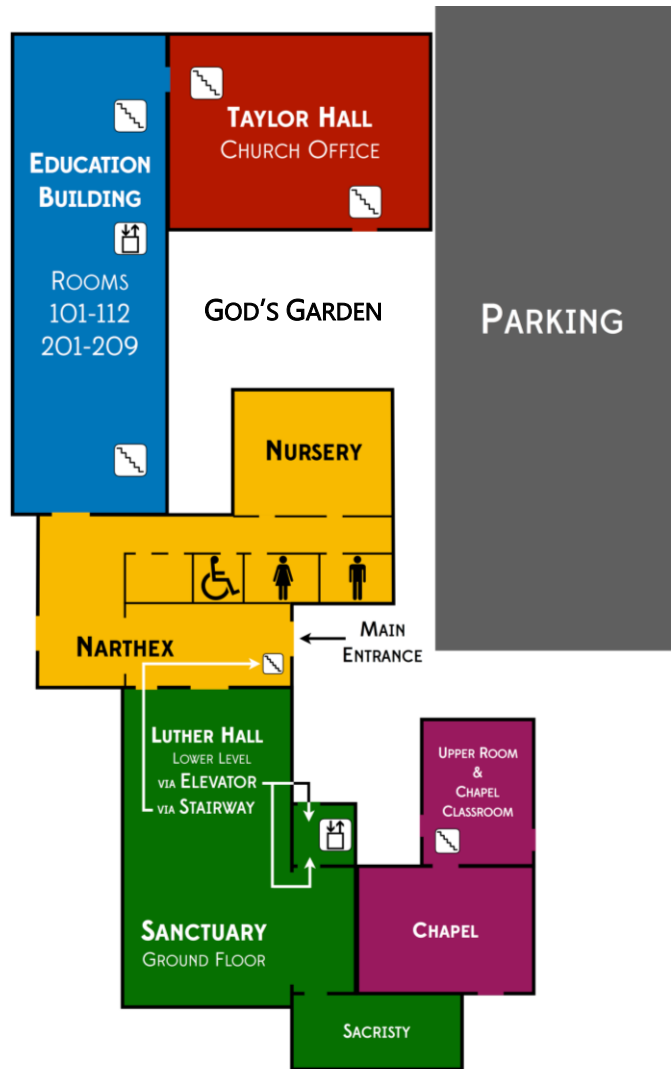
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.