



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service

Eighth 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

O Lord Jesus Christ, open Thou the eyes of
my heart, that I may hear Thy word and
understand and do Thy will, for I am a
sojourner upon the earth. Hide not Thy
commandments from me, but open mine
eyes, that I may perceive the wonders of Thy
law. Speak unto me the hidden and secret
things of Thy wisdom...On Thee do I set
my hope, O my God, that Thou shalt
enlighten my mind and understanding with
the light of Thy knowledge, not only to
cherish those things which are written, but
to do them...For Thou are the
enlightenment of those who lie in darkness,
and from Thee cometh every good deed and
every gift. Amen.

St. John Chrysostom

JULY 19, 2026 ✠ 8:30AM & 11AM

SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION



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

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

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

Improvisation on Great Is Thy Faithfulness

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

ENTRANCE HYMN

Psalms 57:9; 100:4-5

Turn and face the cross in procession.

772 In Holy Conversation

1 In ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion We speak to God in prayer,
2 These ho - ly con - ver - sa - tions Be - gin in child-like ways;
3 As ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion, In si - lence or by word,
And at His in - vi - ta - tion Our deep - est thoughts we share.
We bring our sup - pli - ca - tions And words of thanks and praise.
In ev - 'ry sit - u - a - tion Through Je - sus, we are heard.
We come, His will o - bey - ing, As chil - dren bring - ing needs;
With care our Fa - ther lis - tens To ev - 'ry thought ex - pressed,
So let us pray se - cure - ly, Ex - press - ing hopes and fears
And to sup - port our pray - ing, His Spir - it in - ter - cedes.
Then an - swers our pe - ti - tions In ways He knows are best.
With con - fi - dence that sure - ly Our Fa - ther ev - er hears.

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 an 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 86:11-15; antiphon: v. 6



Leader sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;*
listen to my | plea for grace.

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I
may walk | in your truth;*
unite my heart to | fear
your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my
God, with | my whole heart,*
and I will glorify your name
for- | ever.

For great is your steadfast | love
toward me;*
you have delivered my soul
from the depths | of Sheol.

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;*
listen to my | plea for grace.

O God, insolent men have risen up
against me; a band of ruthless men | seek
my life,*
and they do not set you be- | fore them.

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and
| gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love and | faithfulness.

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.

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



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.

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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

ISAIAH 44:6-8

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the forty-fourth chapter.

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of
hosts:

“I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before
me,
since I appointed an ancient people.

Let them declare what is to come,
and what will happen.

Fear not, nor be afraid;

have I not told you from of old and
declared it?

And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock; I know not any.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 5:1-11

A The Epistle is from Romans, the fifth chapter.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

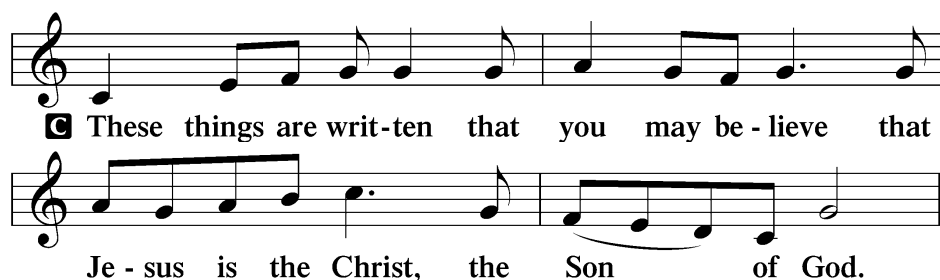
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68



HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" . . .

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

*Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3
Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

*John 3:16; Romans 10:9
Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:35
Galatians 4:4; Matthew 1:23-25
Matthew 27:26; John 19:1-3
Mark 15:25; John 19:30; Luke 23:53
Acts 2:24; 1 Peter 3:19
1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6
Acts 1:9
Acts 7:55*

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

*Acts 10:42; Matt. 26:64
John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38
1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22
Ephesians 4:1-6; 15-16; Revelation 7:9-17
Luke 24:46-48; Acts 13:38; Col. 1:14; 1 John 1:7
John 11:25; 1 Cor. 15:35-49; 1 Thess. 4:13-18
Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*

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

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



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.

Helmut Thielicke, *Life Can Begin Again: Sermons on the Sermon on the Mount*, pp.208⁺

HYMN OF THE DAY

913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts
2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,
Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.
from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,
in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing
Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in
That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -
That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love
us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us
ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.
and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.
That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing
Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing
Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er
Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - creas - ing.
And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.
Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

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.



He has now reconciled you in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him...

Colossians 1:22

OFFERING & VOLUNTARY

Please place your tithes and offerings in the plates as the ushers pass by.
Take a moment to sign and pass along the red books found at the end of each pew.
Stand.

OFFERTORY

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

TIMOTHY 2:1-4

- L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For faithful stewardship of all creation, that we may care for it until the Lord sets it free from its bondage to decay and gives it to us anew in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the delegates who are assembled in convention this week, that God would give them wisdom to work for the welfare of our Synod; that He would guard the lips of those who speak and the ears of those who hear; that He would give us courage to do with integrity what we promise; and that, according to His will, He would bless and prosper all plans and actions undertaken in His name and thereby bring the Good News to all the Earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our leaders, that they be faithful and wise, and that peace and safety may abound. We pray especially for our President, Donald, our governor, Josh, and Mayor, Rob, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick, aged, infirm, mourning or dying, that they would be given healing in accord with God's will and grace to sustain them in their needs. We pray especially for...

our members

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:

Russell & Wyatt Families
Runge Family
Barbara Robenolt
Schmidt Family
Lauren McDaniel
Joan Lee
Kuechler Family
Warnke Family
Mike Chaney
Moul Family
Peggy Korzeniowski
Toby Gowin
Al Nicholas
Cassandra Shropshire

and rejoice with...

our family birthdays:

Paula Henry
Jordan Timm
Matheus Przewalla
Ryan Zarski
Carmin McDonald
Elaine Elston
Carson Gunn

Rachel Christ
Heather Eckert
Tom Kalnik
Dixie Cole
Tim Fangmeier

praise & thanksgiving:

the installation of
Pastor Zachary
Thornton at Lake
Norman Lutheran
Church in Denver,
NC

let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

- L** For all Christian homes, that they may be places where faith is nurtured and where we may learn to live our new lives in holiness and righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all who receive the Lord's Supper, that we may come with hearts free of pride, presumption or any profaning sin; and that, hoping for what we do not see, we may receive His forgiveness and life, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For certainty that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** To Him we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

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

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

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

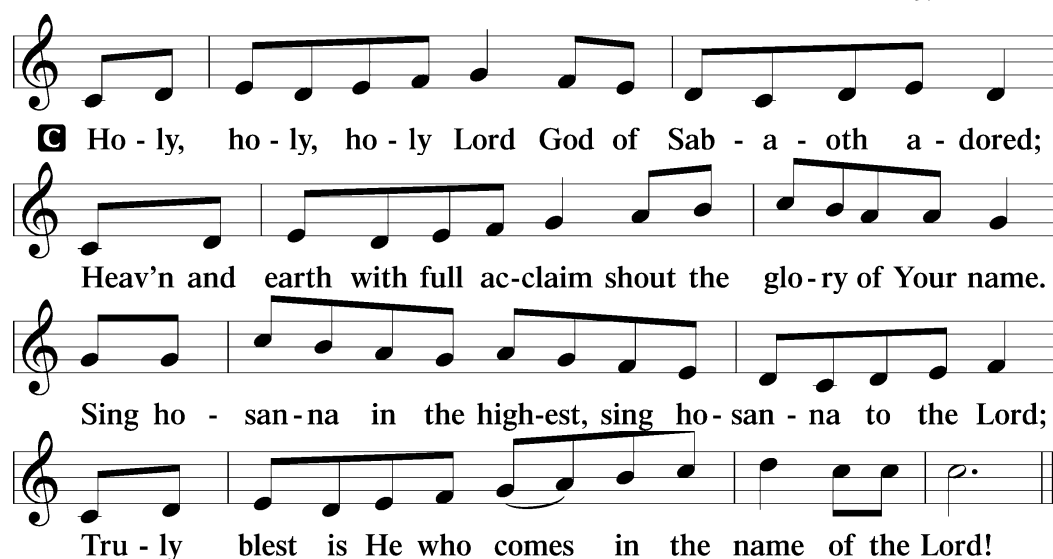
PREFACE

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

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

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



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

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

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

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

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29; Revelation 5:6, 12

1 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Matthew 26:30

576 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and
righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
<i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
<i>Refrain</i></p> |
|--|---|

Refrain On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.
Refrain

- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! *Refrain*

804 O Worship the King

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 O worship the King,
all-glorious above.
O gratefully sing
His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender,
the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor
and girded with praise.</p> | <p>2 O tell of His might,
O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath
the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path
on the wings of the storm.</p> |
|---|--|

3 This earth, with its store
of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r
hath founded of old,
Established it fast
by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
like a mantle, the sea.

4 Thy bountiful care
what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills,
it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills
in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust
and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust,
nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender,
how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender,
redeemer, and friend!

6 O measureless Might,
ineffable Love,
While angels delight
to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
shall sing to Thy praise.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

1 What a fellowship, what a joy
divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms,
what a blessedness, what a peace is
mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure
from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the
everlasting arms.

2 Oh, how sweet to walk, in this
pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms,
oh, how bright the path grows from
day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Refrain

3 What have I to dread, what have I to
fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms,
I have blessed peace with my Lord
so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

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 seen 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

Psalms 107:1

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

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalms 103:1

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

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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

DEPARTING HYMN

809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

POSTLUDE

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Philipp Nicolai

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Griebel

Assistant: Vicar Andrew Borseth

Organist: Eric Hauck

Worship Assistants: Mike Homan/Curt Kuechler

Communion Assistants: Tim Robinette/Valerie Clark

Crucifer: /Landen Meier

Acolyte: /Jonah Meier

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

Readers: Vince Cook/Elaine Elston

Greeters: Lisa Wyatt/Kim Miller

Ushers: John Henry, Stu Nichols, Kevin Pollard/Simon Buser, Jeff Miller

Sound & Video: Branden Korzeniowski/Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

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Vicar Andrew Borseth
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Welcome!

WORSHIP BROADCAST

Sunday Divine Services are broadcast live on the Internet at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN SOUP KITCHEN

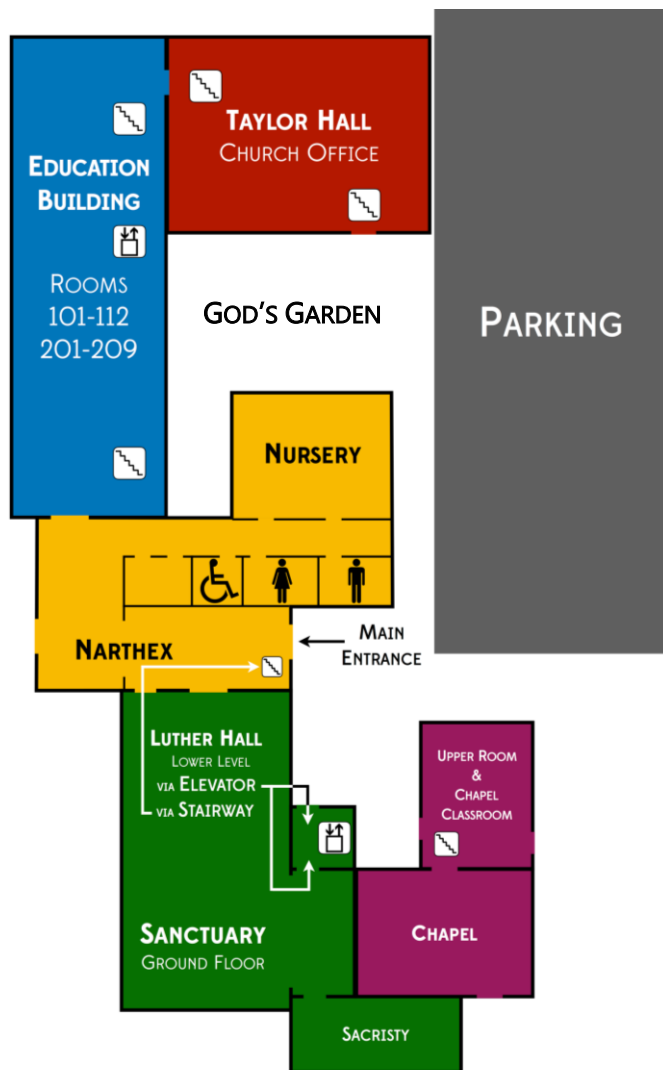
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

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.