



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

*Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack
nothing!*

*Many are the afflictions of the
righteous,
but the LORD delivers him
out of them all.*

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Friends of God,

The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he
gathers the outcasts of Israel. He
heals the brokenhearted and binds up
their wounds.

Psalm 147:2-3

Beauty shines through the Church in a million ways—including those things that may not be superficially attractive. For example, the poor, twisted feet of St. Teresa of Calcutta—misshapen from serving for decades while wearing shoes no one else wanted—were not pretty and yet they are beautiful as an image of the blessed feet that bring the Good News of the Gospel. Indeed, the Christian tradition can offer the beauty that will save the world.

Haley Stewart,

The Grace of Enough, p. 50

AUGUST 16, 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

Prelude in A Minor

Hesse

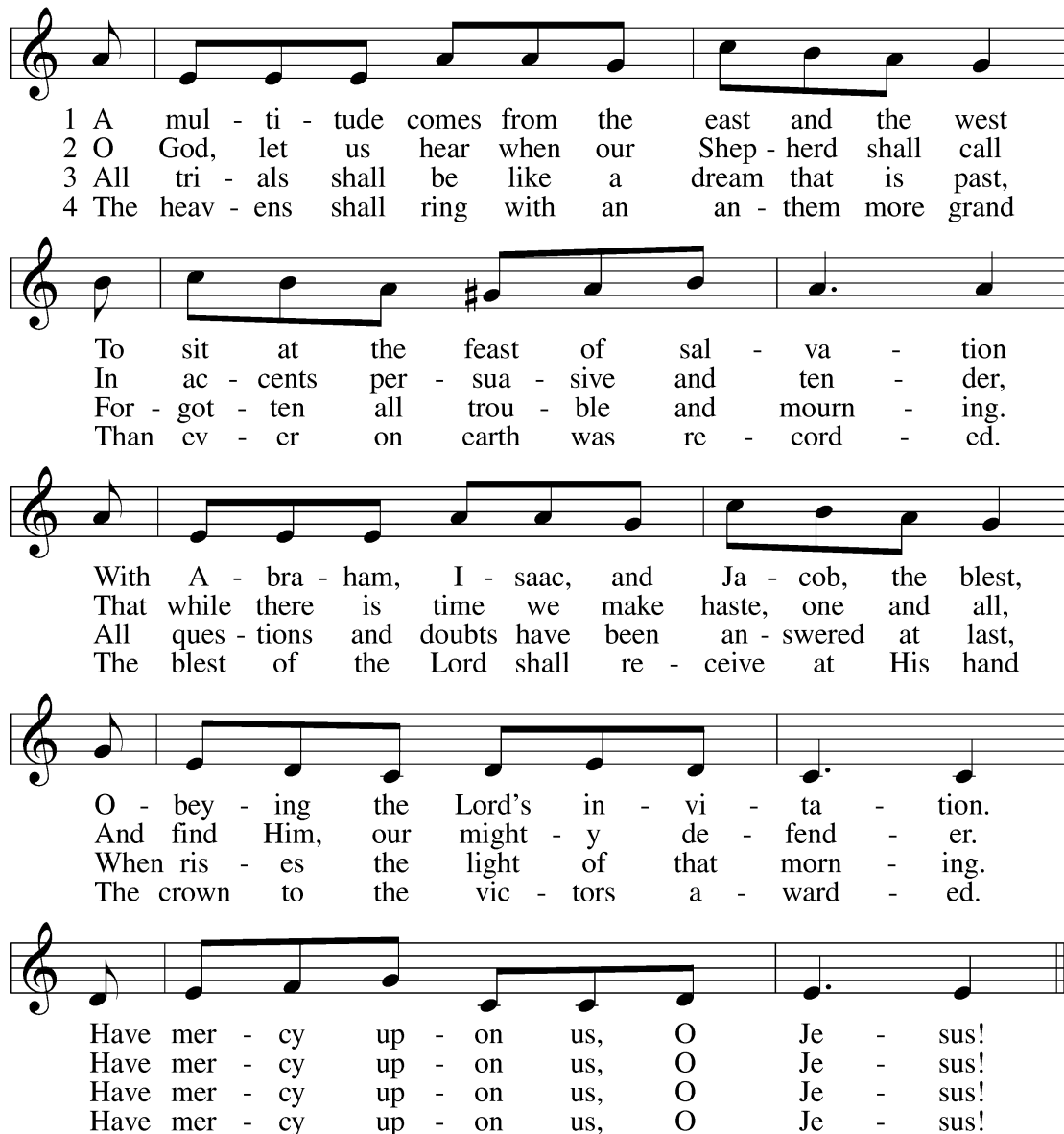
*As the prelude begins, please prepare for worship by composing yourself for prayer.
At the end of the announcements, please stand.*

ENTRANCE HYMN

Psalm 57:9; 100:4-5

Turn and face the cross in procession.

510 A Multitude Comes from the East and the West



1 A mul - ti - tude comes from the east and the west
2 O God, let us hear when our Shep - herd shall call
3 All tri - als shall be like a dream that is past,
4 The heav - ens shall ring with an an - them more grand

To sit at the feast of sal - va - tion
In ac - cents per - sua - sive and ten - der,
For - got - ten all trou - ble and mourn - ing.
Than ev - er on earth was re - cord - ed.

With A - bra - ham, I - saac, and Ja - cob, the blest,
That while there is time we make haste, one and all,
All ques - tions and doubts have been an - swered at last,
The blest of the Lord shall re - ceive at His hand

O - bey - ing the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion.
And find Him, our might - y de - fend - er.
When ris - es the light of that morn - ing.
The crown to the vic - tors a - ward - ed.

Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!

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 28:1-2, 6-7; antiphon: v. 8



Leader sings antiphon. All sing verses and Gloria.

The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be
not | deaf to me,*
lest, if you be silent to me, I
become like those who go down | to
the pit.

Hear the voice of my pleas for
mercy, when I cry to | you for help,*
when I lift up my hands toward
your most holy sanctu- | ary.

Blessèd | be the LORD!*

For he has heard the voice of my
pleas for | mercy.

The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

The LORD is my strength and my
shield; in him my heart trusts, and |
I am helped;*

my heart exults, and with my song
I give | thanks to him.

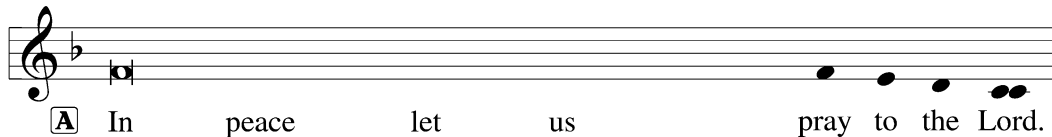
Glory be to the Father and | to the
Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



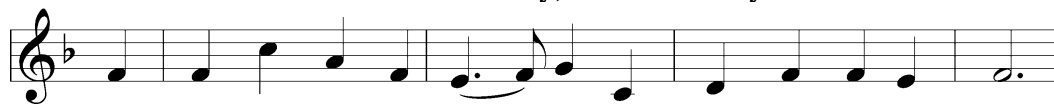
G Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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 Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; 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 56:1, 6-8

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the fifty-sixth chapter.

Thus says the LORD:
“Keep justice, and do
righteousness,
for soon my salvation will
come,
and my deliverance be
revealed. . . .

“And the foreigners who join
themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to
love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the
Sabbath and does not profane
it,
and holds fast my
covenant—

these I will bring to my holy
mountain,
and make them joyful in
my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their
sacrifices
will be accepted on my
altar;
for my house shall be called a
house of prayer
for all peoples.”
The Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts
of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already
gathered.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 11:1-2A, 13-15, 28-32

A The Epistle is from Romans, the eleventh chapter.

I ask, then, has God rejected his
people? By no means! For I myself am an
Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a
member of the tribe of Benjamin. God
has not rejected his people whom he
foreknew. . . .

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles.
Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the
Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order
somehow to make my fellow Jews
jealous, and thus save some of them. For
if their rejection means the reconciliation
of the world, what will their acceptance
mean but life from the dead? . . .

As regards the gospel, they are enemies
of God for your sake. But as regards
election, they are beloved for the sake of
their forefathers. For the gifts and the
calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you
were at one time disobedient to God but
now have received mercy because of their
disobedience, so they too have now been
disobedient in order that by the mercy
shown to you they also may now receive
mercy. For God has consigned all to
disobedience, that he may have mercy on
all.

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

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

P 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 15:21-28

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



And if we, without being puffed up or boastful... *persevere in God's love*, in obedience and gratitude to Him, then we will receive greater glory from him. Moreover, it will be a glory which will grow ever brighter as we gradually assume the likeness of him who died for us.

St. Irenaeus, Against Heresies III, 20, 2

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
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*
He descended into hell. *Acts 1:9*
The third day He rose again from the dead. *Acts 7:55*
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.

*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*
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.

*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.



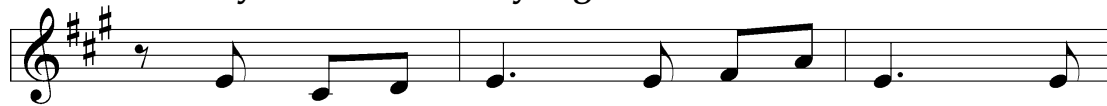
Aquinas says there are only three things to know:
What truth to believe in, and that's summarized in the
Creed.
What choices to make, and that's summarized in the
Commandments, and
What to desire, and that's summarized in the Lord's
Prayer.

Peter Kreeft

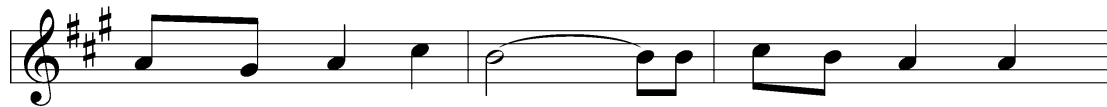
How to Combat Hedonism, talk 9/26/22

HYMN OF THE DAY

720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No
2 We may not touch His hands and side, Nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And
4 For You, O res - ur - rect - ed Lord, Are
5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In



gra - cious words we hear From Him who spoke as
fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise
may our faith a - bound To call on You when
found in means di - vine: Be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You



none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.
we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"
You are near And seek where You are found.
and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

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.



What links those who partake of the Lord's Supper... is that which they share together.

Werner Elert

Eucharist and Church Fellowship in the First Four Centuries, 4

...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.



I slept, but my heart was awake. A sound! My beloved is knocking. "Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one..."

Song of Solomon 5:2

OFFERING & VOLUNTARY

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

Stand.

OFFERTORY

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

A musical score for the hymn 'Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful'. It consists of six staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes.

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

1 Timothy 2:1-4

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the unity of the Church and harmony among its members; and for our life together in worship, witness, prayer and service to those within and outside of the household of faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For Matthew, our Synod president; for Bill, our district president; for Steven, our pastor; and for all church workers and their faithful service to us in Your name, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the homes of God's people, that He would keep them from all harm and danger; and that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of His holy angels, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For leaders made wise and obedient to God's Word, that amid the temptations and perils that threaten humanity, God's grace may be continually sought, His judgement averted and that He answer the prayers of His faithful people with peace, protection and prosperity, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and afflicted, those beset with grief and sorrow, pain and any trouble, that the Lord would be pleased to answer their cries for the sake of Christ. We pray especially for...

our members

Allie Homan

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:

Wiedenmann Family

Paul Zellmer

Kane Family

List Family

Greene Family

Judi Domeier

Steve Barringer

Hermione Moul

Joan Lee

Mike Chaney

Toby Gowin

Cassandra Shropshire

let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who are about to receive Christ's body and blood from this altar, that these crumbs may strengthen us in faith and love, united with God and neighbor, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the Church, that she may steadfastly proclaim the irrevocable gifts and calling of God; that the disobedient may receive mercy; and that those who hear may become branches grafted onto the true vine, Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Lord God, giver of all that is good, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your grace, that we may endure the changes and chances of this mortal life and be found worthy when our Savior comes to bring to completion all things; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share His peace with one another.

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

PREFACE

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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And 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:

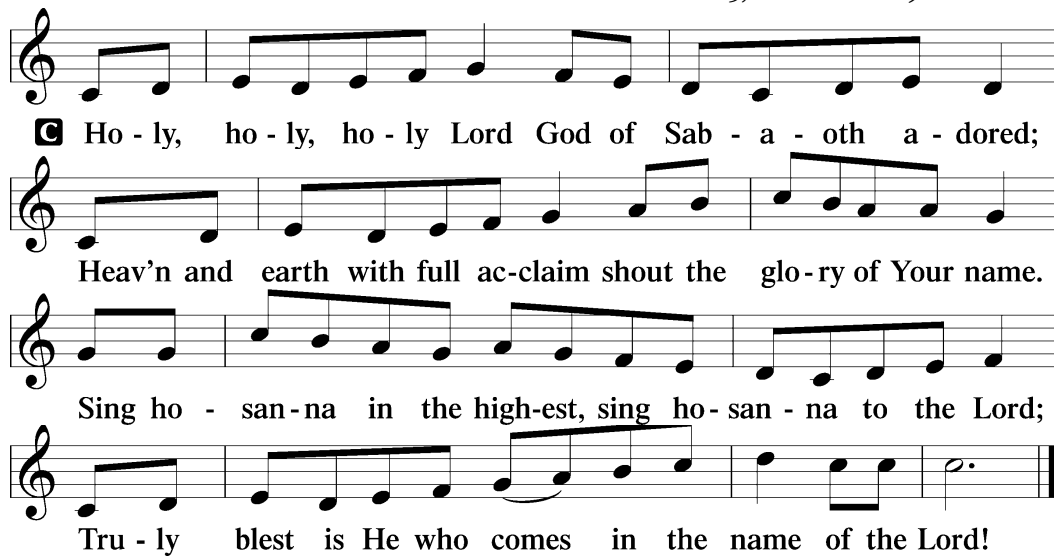


Christ can be forgotten in preaching, but He cannot be forgotten in the Supper.

Hermann Sasse

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Matthew 26:30

770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!</p> | <p>2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.</p> |
|--|--|

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
 Cumbered with a load of care?
 Precious Savior, still our refuge—
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
 Thou wilt find a solace there.

910 Now the Silence

1 Now the silence Now the peace Now the empty hands uplifted Now the kneeling Now the plea Now the Father's arms in welcome Now the hearing Now the pow'r Now the vessel brimmed for pouring Now the body Now the blood	Now the joyful celebration Now the wedding Now the songs Now the heart forgiven leaping Now the Spirit's visitation Now the Son's epiphany Now the Father's blessing Now Now Now
---	---

936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel

1 Sing praise to the God of Israel! Sing praise for His visitation! Redeeming His people from their sin, Accomplishing their salvation, Upraising a mighty horn within The house of His servant David!	3 You, child, will go on before the Lord As prophet, His way preparing; To speak on behalf of God Most High, His counsel of truth declaring: Rich mercy and grace for all whereby Iniquity is forgiven.
2 God spoke by the prophets long ago, His promise on oath recalling— To Abraham made in former years: Of vanquishing foes appalling, That those He delivered from their fears Might gladly and truly serve Him.	4 O bright, rising Sun, now shine on us In need of illumination; Come scatter the shades of sin and death And shatter their domination. Be guiding our footsteps on the path Of peace, in Your presence dawning!

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

C 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 it, 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

694 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower

1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I
2 Thee will I love, my life, my Sav - ior, Who art my
3 I thank Thee, Je - sus, Sun from heav - en, Whose ra - diance
4 O keep me watch - ful, then, and hum - ble; Per - mit me
5 Thee will I love, my crown of glad - ness; Thee will I
love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my
best and tru - est friend. Thee will I love and praise for -
hath brought light to me; I thank Thee, who hast rich - ly
nev - er - more to stray. Up - hold me when my feet would
love, my God and Lord, A - mid the dark - est depths of
pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I
ev - er, For nev - er shall Thy kind - ness end. Thee will I
giv - en All that could make me glad and free; I thank Thee
stum - ble, And keep me on the nar - row way. Fill all my
sad - ness, And not for hope of high re - ward, For Thine own
love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.
love with all my heart— Thou my Re - deem - er art!
that my soul is healed By what Thy lips re - vealed.
na - ture with Thy light, O Ra - diance strong and bright!
sake, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.

POSTLUDE

In Thee Is Gladness

Manz

*The altar flowers today are given in honor of
Don and Ginny Kendall's 62nd wedding anniversary
from their grandchildren: Joshua, Catherine and Pat. We love you!*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright

© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg

Assistant: Vicar Andrew Cole

Organist: Eric Hauck

Worship Assistants: Robin Domeier/Tammy Blessing

Communion Assistants: Vince Cook/Rainer Blessing

Altar Guild: Janie Swenson, Lindsay Tinkelenberg/Natalie Broome, Sarah Buser

Readers: Michael Iwanski/Heather Eckert

Greeters: John Henry, Paula Henry/Jan White

Ushers: Sam D'Avila, Scott Eicher, Paul Fretz/Valerie Clark, Soren Knutson, Wade Knutson, Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

Sound & Video: Wayne Balling/Simon Buser

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 36 families,
86 family members on 8/7 & 8/10.**

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

Melanie Broome, Office Manager

admin@ascensioncharlotte.org

Ardith Hertzog, Communications

communications@ascensioncharlotte.org

Jon Greene, Facilities Manager

facilities@ascensioncharlotte.org

Patia Bowman, Administrative Asst.

bowman@ascensioncharlotte.org



Rev. Steven Newberg, Pastor

newberg@ascensioncharlotte.org

Vicar Andrew Cole

vicar@ascensioncharlotte.org

www.ascensioncharlotte.org

Welcome!

WORSHIP BROADCAST

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

ASCENSION LUTHERAN SOUP KITCHEN

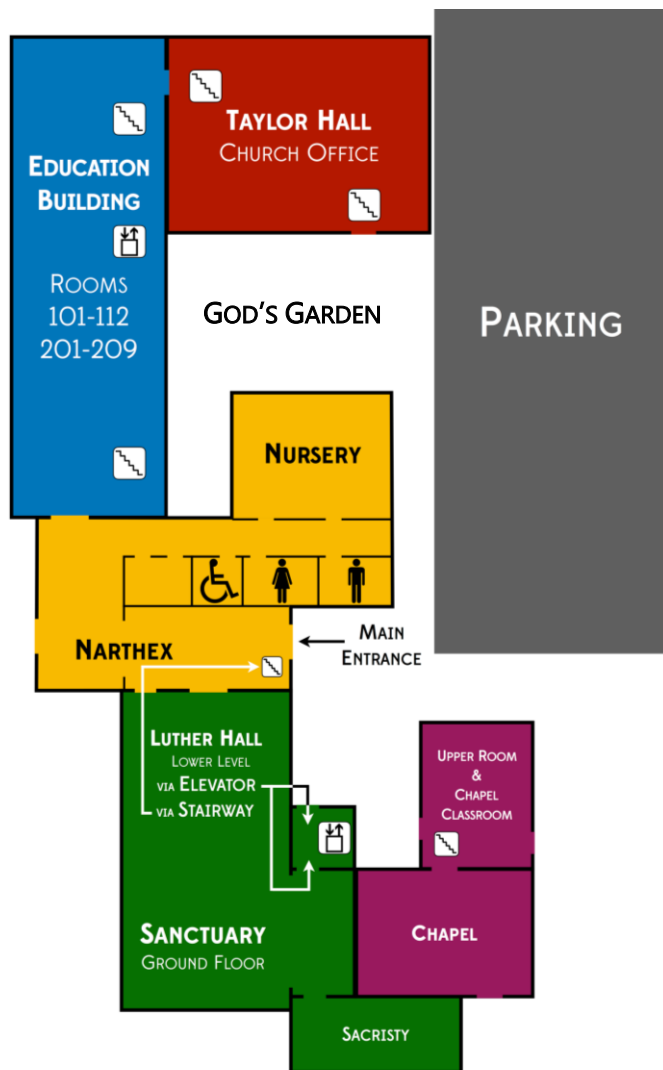
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Find out the way we receive the Christian Faith in the Lutheran tradition each week.



ALCcharlotte



RESTROOMS are located down the hallway at the back of the narthex.



A NURSERY for children age 3 and under is located across the hallway from the restrooms. The worship service can be seen and heard from the Nursery. A baby-changing table is available in the Nursery and the Family Restroom (accessible).



ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available for check-out from the sound booth in the rear of the sanctuary.

THOSE IN CRITICAL NEED

Members needing financial or physical assistance, please contact pastor for application to the crisis fund or access to folks eager to lend a helping hand.