

A photograph of a church steeple with a cross on top, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and purple clouds. The steeple is dark and silhouetted against the bright sky.

"I will
make
with
you an

EVERLASTING COVENANT."

ISAIAH 55:3

Ascension Lutheran Church and School
"A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone"

August 2, 2020

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 2, 2020

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

P = Pastor, **C** = Congregation, **A** = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: “God’s Everlasting Love”

AS WE GATHER

We experience a feast today. Isaiah the Prophet foretells a time when eating and drinking will be free of charge. In our Gospel, Jesus provides food for thousands in a great miracle. Though bodily sustenance seems to be the point of our readings, God calls us to “incline our ears” to Him. No doubt we need our daily bread for survival, but God’s everlasting love comes in His promises through His Word. Seeking worldly food is a short-term endeavor, while the feast that the Lord provides through His everlasting love is eternal.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

INVOCATION

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

OPENING PSALMODY *from Psalm 136*

P Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever.**

P To Him who alone does great wonders,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever;**

P The Lord remembered us in our low estate,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever;**

P He rescued us from our foes,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever;**

P He gives food to all flesh,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever;**

P give thanks to the God of heaven,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Isaiah 55:2b

P Together we confess:
C **We have sinned against You, mighty God, in thought, word, and deed.**

P When we have been more concerned with the food that feeds our stomachs than we are with the food that nurtures our souls,
C **we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**

P When we live as if the gifts God provides are meaningless,
C **we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**

P When we fill our hearts with all sorts of things that cannot give us the life You give,
C **we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**
Forgive our sins, have mercy on us, and restore us.

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.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 PEACE OF THE LORD

(Though separated in place, we take a moment to consider the peace we offer our brothers and sisters in Christ and the forgiveness which reigns among us.)

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠ THE WORD ✠

(The reading of God's Word is central to our worship, our life, and our faith; this portion of the service concludes with the sermon, or the preached Word.)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:1–7(ESV)

(Come, all who hunger and thirst, and the LORD will satisfy you with all that you need.)

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to Me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, My steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for He has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 9:1–8 (ESV)

(Paul anguishes over the people of Israel.)

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. ⁶ But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷ and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸ This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS' LESSON

Pastor Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:13–21 (ESV)

(Jesus feeds the five thousand, and all were satisfied.)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, He withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by Himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed Him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When He went ashore He saw a great crowd, and He had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ Now when it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They said to Him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” ¹⁸ And He said, “Bring them here to Me.” ¹⁹ Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Come, Thou Fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; may I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I’ve come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand’ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand’ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen, how I’ll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; take my ransom’d soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry me to realms of endless day.

SERMON

“IT’S ON THE HOUSE”

Isaiah 55:1–7
Pastor Jim Sprengle

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

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.

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.

PRAYER FOR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Hungry and thirsty we come to You, O Lord, and we pray You to supply us with all things needful to this body and life, and to teach us to receive Your gifts with thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P With restless hearts we come to You, O Lord, and we pray that by faith we rest our hopes, dreams, anxieties, and needs upon Your everlasting arms and find contentment and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Knowing that You have established Your Church by Your Word and Spirit and endowed her with the Means of Grace, we pray for those who serve us in Your name: for Matthew, our Synod President; Paul, our District President; and for our pastors and church workers. Raise up those who will follow in their footsteps and serve You faithfully on our behalf. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Knowing that all power is Yours both in heaven and on earth, we thank You for all the blessings bestowed upon us in this nation and for those who govern for the protection of the weak, the punishment of the evildoer, and the encouragement of virtue. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Mindful of the poor and those who struggle with daily needs, we ask You, O Lord, to grant us the good fruits of the earth and the fruits of our honest labors to supply what we need and for the poor, the needy, and the unemployed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Broken and wounded, we come to You, O Lord, for healing and comfort. Hear us on behalf of all those who cry to You in any need, *especially*... that Your gracious will be done and all be preserved in affliction and raised to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed with many good things, we give You thanks that we can lift up and rejoice with our brothers and sisters this week...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Mt 6:9ff; Lk 11:2ff)*

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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.**

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace and guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills in this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS—FYI

AUGUST 2, 2020

† VIRUS UPDATE RELATED TO CHURCH ACTIVITIES

All Church activities are canceled until further notice. Although we are not fearful, we will take prudent measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community. ***Please stay at home, do not go out unless it is unavoidable and stay 6 feet away from others.*** You may call the office phone and listen to current messages, check the web site and emails to stay up on the latest news so you will be aware of what you need to do to stay healthy.

Remember all our worship services and a weekly Bible study are on our web site, www.alcportland.org.

† SEEKING PART TIME THIRD/FOURTH GRADE TEACHER

Trinity Lutheran Christian School is seeking a part-time, Grade 3/4 teacher for the 2020/21 school year. This position includes teaching religion, language arts and math in the morning. Job description and application details can be seen at www.trinityportland.org.

† ASCENSION HELP LINE – 971-715-1416

Our goal is to offer practical help for our members and friends in need during this difficult time. We have volunteers who are willing to run errands, bring groceries, or help with other needs. In addition, volunteers can call to check on people, offer a connection, and pray. Please leave your name, number, and as clearly as possible describe your need, and a HELP LINE Volunteer will return your call within 24 hours.

† ALTERNATIVE FOR HOMEBOUND WORSHIP

- Online Daily Devotions are on our Facebook page: Ascension Lutheran Church and School - Portland
- Radio: KPdq on 93.9FM Sunday mornings at 7:00am.

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Schrader	8/5	Ashley Swanson	8/5
Tristan Swanson-Cromwell	8/5	Douglas Whittier	8/7
Carolyn Barendse	8/8		

BIRTHDAYS

Teresa Osgood	8/2	Will Teyema	8/2
Jim Eckart	8/5	Trever Fogarty	8/6
Barbara Lewis	8/7	Lesly Aguilar	8/8
Don Brown	8/8	Rosalba Lavadores Tziu	8/8
David Oswald	8/8		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Karla and Tim Deal	Aug 4, 1979
Bill and Sylvia Guthrie	Aug 6, 1959

PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail: office@alcportland.org

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

All those suffering or infected with Covid-19, Mike Hatley, The family of Alejandra Gamboa, Randy Arronson, Mary Niska, Jack Webber, Larry Hart, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, John Eilers and Family, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Lewis Eilers, Wayne Rippon, Ella Murray, Rich Zahursky, Audrey Bauch, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubbaum, Judy Blubbaum, Ray Brown, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Ordena Laxton, *Jean Smith, *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath **Home Bound*.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);
Jaden Keup, Army – deployed (great-nephew of Karon Keup);
Jon Porath, Air Force — Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas NV (son of Dale and Sherry Porath);
Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);
Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);
Clayton Wright Air Force – Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Randy and Karen Arronson).

Ascension Lutheran Church and School

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750
Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement: *Go and Share Jesus Christ*
Our Vision Statement: *Take part... Join Jesus on His mission*

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8): With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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