



ARE
YOU
READY?

"We [who] have the firstfruits of the Spirit,
groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for
adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.
For in this hope we were saved." *Romans 8:23-24*

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

July 19, 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19, 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: "Longing in Hope"

AS WE GATHER

We are among the many who have struggled to believe in a world where it seems our enemies triumph and our own wills fail us. But the promises of God are not only for the present. They point us to that which is to come. To know the Lord is to know His promises without having seen them fulfilled. Gathering around His Word and Table, we meet those promises. His voice speaks of what will be, and in the flesh and blood of Christ, we taste the future that will come by His power and promise. To know the Lord in this way is to enjoy comfort in trial and to have hope that will endure the tests that come.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

SONG

“Bless The Lord”

(Chorus)

**Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name**

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes **(chorus)**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find **(chorus)**

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore **(chorus)**

Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Give ear, O Lord, to the prayers of Your people, and listen to their cry for mercy.
C **You, O Lord, are a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Silence for self-examination

P Lord of mercy,
C **we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in You there is the fullness of righteousness and an abundance of mercy. We are poor sinners whose thoughts, words, and deeds betray our weakness and death.**

You, O Lord, are gracious and merciful and, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, You have saved us by His blood. Give to us true repentance that we know Your forgiveness and the comfort of a clear conscience. Give us also hearts made new by Your grace, that we love You above all things and our neighbors as ourselves and, by Your Holy Spirit, do what is pleasing in Your sight. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silence for meditation

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, our Savior, you have been made the children of God in Baptism and live because of His mercy. 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.**

P May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Phillippians 1:6*

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O steadfast Lord, You are the great I AM whose promises never fail us and in whom alone salvation is to be found. Grant to us hearts to trust in Your mercy and courage in the face of doubt and fear that we not surrender hope to darkness and faith to unbelief; 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

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 44:6–8 (ESV)

(Is there a God besides the Lord?)

⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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 8:18–27 (ESV)

(The sufferings of this present age are not worth comparing to the glory waiting to be revealed.)

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

(Then the righteous shall shine like the sun.)

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

²⁴ He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ 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?’ ²⁸ 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?’ ²⁹ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ 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.””

³⁶ 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.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SONG**“King Of Kings”**

In the darkness we were waiting Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus

**Praise the Father Praise the Son Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory Majesty Praise forever to the King of Kings**

To reveal the kingdom coming And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation Jesus for our sake You died **(chorus)**

And the morning that You rose All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ Who has resurrected me **(chorus)**

SERMON

“IN HOPE”

Romans 8:18–27
Pastor Jim Sprenkle

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.

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.

Lord, You have been the refuge and strength of Your people from generation to generation. Give to us the comfort of Your presence in time of trouble, Your grace to forgive our sins, and Your peace to govern our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, Your power holds all things together, in heaven and on earth. Give wisdom to those who lead our nation and guidance to those who make, administer, and judge our laws, so that life be protected and justice administered. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, Your Word speaks hope and life. Open our ears to hear Your voice and our hearts to believe in Jesus Christ and follow Him as Savior and Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, Your Church lives by the grace You bestow through Word and Sacrament. Bless the pastors who preach to us this Gospel and the church workers who serve us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, Your mercy extends to all our needs and Your grace gives healing according to Your will. Hear us on behalf of...Grant to them grace sufficient for all their needs and sustain them in the hour of trial. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, You pour out Your blessings on us each day. We thank You for those good gifts which are being celebrated this week...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, You give us new lives in baptismal water, and Your Spirit opens our hearts to faith. Help us to live out fully our vocation as Your children in the places where we live and work and do the good works You desire. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

"THE LORD'S PRAYER"

Bruce Blubaum, solo
Music by Albert Hay Malotte

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.)

SONG

“Shout To The North”

Men of faith rise up and sing
Of the great and glorious King.
You are strong when you feel weak,
In your brokenness complete. (chorus)

(Chorus)

**Shout to the north and the south,
Sing to the east and the west,
Jesus is Savior to all,
Lord of heaven and earth.**

Rise up, women of the truth,
Stand and sing to broken hearts
Who can know the healing pow’r
Of our awesome King of love. **(chorus)**

We’ve been through fire, we’ve been through rain;
We’ve been refined by the pow’r of His name.
We’ve fallen deeper in love with You.
You’ve burned the truth on our lips. **(chorus)**
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth.

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

JULY 19, 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.

† 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.

† LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES 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

Gabby Webber 7/25

BIRTHDAYS

Natalie Wentela 7/20 Carolyn Barendse 7/23

Lorraine Haggard 7/25

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

None

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 Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, 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.

STAFF

Rev. Jim Sprengle, Pastor
pastor@alcportland.org

Ruberto Ek Yah, Vicar
vicar@alcportland.org

Rev. Dan Critchett, Christian Outreach
pastordan@alcportland.org

Brad Hall, Worship and Music Coordinator
worship@alcportland.org

Michele Sprengle, Office Administrator
office@alcportland.org

Sonshiner Ministry
sonshiners@alcportland.org

**Barbara Vaughn, Childhood Center
Director**
director@alcportland.org

Bonnie Webber, Treasurer
Rebecca Williamson, Assistant Treasurer
treasurer@alcportland.org

Wanda Cassetty, Council Secretary
council@alcportland.org

