



*"For He must reign
until He has put all
His enemies under His feet. The last
enemy to be destroyed is death."*

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

Ascension Lutheran Church and School
“A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone”
November 22, 2020

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

NOVEMBER 22, 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: “Christ the King reigns now and forever!”

AS WE GATHER

Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. This Sunday is traditionally filled with themes of Christ's roles as King and Judge. But also consider these words from Psalm 95: "We are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand." We are God's chosen sheep. He is our Shepherd. We follow Him as He goes to seek the lost, bring back the stray, and bind up the injured.

PRELUDE

“Heaven Is In My Heart”

Words and Music by Graham Kendrick
Karin Richardson and Karon Keup, duo

WELCOME

HYMN

“All Hail The Power Of Jesus’ Name”

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, you martyrs of our God, who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod, and crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod, and crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all;
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng, we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all.

INVOCATION

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

- P** Come to worship Jesus Christ, Alpha and Omega, the one who is, who was, and is to come (Rev. 1:8).
C **We come to worship the one who rules justly** (2 Samuel 23:34).
- P** Come to worship Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth! (Rev. 1:5)
C **Bread of Heaven, God with us!** (John 6:51, Mt. 1:23.)
- P** Good Shepherd, True Vine! (John 10:11, John 15:1.)
C **Eternal Word, Great I AM** (John 1, John 8:58).
- P** Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace! (Isaiah 9:6.)
C **We come to worship Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords!** (Rev. 19:16.) **To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever! Amen.** (Rev. 1:6.)

CONFESSİON AND ABSOLUTİON

- P** Let us confess our sins to our God and King and be restored by His mercy and forgiveness.
C **Almighty God, we confess that although we willingly say that “Jesus is King,” we often fail to bow our knees before Him. Instead, we grant our allegiances to the relationships and material goods of this world. In Your mercy, hear our prayer of confession. Grant us the humility to bow before You, the Ruler of all nations, so that we may be loyal servants in Your kingdom. Through Your Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, Amen.**

P Through the crucified body and blood of Christ the King, we have been given a pardon from God. "For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14). Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, proclaiming Jesus as Lord of all. 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.**

WORD

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, 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

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:20–28 (ESV)

(When all is said and done, Christ the King conquers all His enemies.)

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a Man has come also the resurrection of the dead.²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at His coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under His feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that He is excepted who put all things in subjection under Him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subjected to Him who put all things in subjection under Him, that God may be all in all.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS' LESSON

Pastor Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31–46 (ESV)

(On that last day, we'll see that things aren't always what they seem.)

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

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. ³²Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And He will place the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸And when did we see You a stranger and welcome You, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹And when did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me.’ ⁴¹“Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ ⁴⁵Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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

HYMN**“Crown Him With Many Crowns”**

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul and sing Of Him who died for Thee;
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the virgin's son, the God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave.
Who rose victorious in the strife, for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high.
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n, enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to Whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns as thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, for He is King of all.

SERMON “OH, THE SURPRISES WE’LL SEE IN HEAVEN” Pastor Dan Critchett
“For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.” 1 Corinthians 15:25-26

HYMN**“Day by Day and With Each Passing Moment”**

Day by day and with each passing moment, strength I find to meet my trials here;
trusting in my Father's wise bestowment, I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure gives unto each day what He deems best
lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure, mingling toil with peace and rest.

In that land where God's eternal glory Brightens every single perfect day,
Beaming Jesus' grand salvation story on each gentle heav'nly Son-lit ray.
On the cross He paid the fullest measure, of His life and love He freely gave
So that we by faith receive the treasure of that conq'ring vict'ry o'er the grave.

Meanwhile, as I walk this earthly journey, drawing closer to my Lord each day;
Every circumstance a chance for learning how to know and live His better way.
He gives grace to me afresh each morning, fills each hour and day with His sweet love.
Guiding, guarding, with both grace and warning till I'm safely in His home above.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

C I believe in the Triune God of the Bible.

**God the Father, who created me to love and serve Him;
God the Son, who gave His life that I could be reconciled to my Creator;
God the Holy Spirit, who gives me faith to receive the gift of eternal salvation, and to
trust and obey Him in this earthly life.**

**The Bible says there is a day coming when everything on earth will come to a halt.
All humans will stand before Almighty God and will be judged for eternity. Some will
be ushered into the mansions of heaven and will enjoy God's glorious presence
forever. The others will be cast away from His presence, and will be separated from
Him eternally.**

**My only hope is in the finished work of Jesus on the cross and through the empty
tomb. I trust the promise of Jesus when He said, "I go to prepare a place for you,
and I will come and receive you to Myself, so that where I am, there you may be
also".**

**I desire to grow in that trust, and I dedicate my life to loving and serving Him all of
my days.**

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 Lord, You promise to seek the lost. We pray for all those who have wandered away
from Your Church. We pray that You would strengthen us to reach out to them, to
receive them with open arms and open hearts when they return home. Hear our
prayer, O Lord.**

C Give ear to our cry.

**P Lord, You promise to strengthen the weak. Send Your strength and courage to all
those who need it, to the aging, the lonely, the tired, and the vulnerable. Protect and
defend them from the evils of this world. Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

C Give ear to our cry.

**P Lord, You promise to rescue Your flock from all enemies. Guard and keep us from
the enemies of sin, death, and Satan. Lead us away from temptation and always
closer to the arms of our Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

C Give ear to our cry.

P Lord, by Your Word You have told us that the last enemy to be destroyed is death. As we await the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead, we still grieve and mourn when the enemy of death strikes. Be near all those who are mourning, comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C **Give ear to our cry.**

P Lord, You promise to bind up the injured. Bring Your healing to all those who suffer now through injury, illness, and oppression, Especially...Heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C **Give ear to our cry.**

P Lord, we thank You for all the blessings You pour out upon us, and we rejoice with those who are celebrating this week...Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C **Give ear to our cry.**

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

C **Amen.**

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

P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us 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

"Lift High The Cross"

(refrain)

Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore
His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow
Where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious,
Christ, the Son of God. (refrain)

Led on their way
By this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God
In conqu'ring ranks combine. (refrain)

So shall our song of
Triumph ever be:
Praise to the
Crucified for victory! (refrain)

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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† 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 HOMEOBOUND 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.
- alcportland.org for Bible Studies and Worship Services

† ATTENDING SATURDAY SEVICE

The official rule for religious services is maximum 50 people, including pastors and assistants, as long as 6-foot distancing is possible. Our sanctuary has a seating arrangement that will allow 35 people to meet with proper social distancing. Beginning Saturday, September 12, you may attend the 3:00pm recorded worship services. Every other pew is blocked off for distancing. Individuals must sit at the end of the pews, unless in a family unit. Reservations are required, so please contact the office the week prior. After the service is recorded, a brief communion service will be held for those in attendance.

Reservations: Contact office and speak to Michele.

No voice messages or emails to make reservations

Reservations for coming Saturday only (no multiple weeks)

If full that week, names go on next week's list

The procedure for coming is as follows:

1. Do not have ANY illnesses or symptoms.
2. Arrive prior to 3pm as the service is taped and disturbances after beginning are not good
3. Wear a mask when entering
4. Use hand sanitizer on the table and sign in on the sheet there
5. Social distance of 6 feet at all times
6. Enter the building through the Narthex Entrance
7. To enter the sanctuary, use the door at the hallway not the main sanctuary doors as they are blocked off due to filming.
8. No dwelling after church in the narthex. Please take conversations outside.

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Wyatt Brown 11/25

BIRTHDAYS

Jennifer Alvarado	11/22	Don Tigges	11/23
Rebecca Williamson	11/25	Sasha Harris	11/27
Dale Porath	11/27		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Wanda and Joe Cassetty 11/24/1990

PRAYER NEEDS?

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

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The Family of Rev. Dave Carstens, Carolyn Erdmann, Elly Brown, Bonnie Webber, Mike Hatley, The family of Alejandra Gamboa, The Family of 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, Rich Zahursky, Audrey Bauch, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Ray Brown, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ella Murray, Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Ordena Laxton, *Jean Smith, *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath, All those suffering or infected with Covid-19.

**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 Karen Arronson).



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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

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