

# Ascension Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod



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March 28, 2021  
Pastor: Rev. Adam Thompson  
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Secretary: Barbara Marcellus  
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## Welcome To Our Guest

It is a great joy to have you here today. We pray that your time with us has helped to deepen your faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ. If we can be of service to you or your family, we invite you to talk to us at your convenience. You will always be welcome here. Please do us the honor of signing the guest sheet at the podium at the front of the church or at the entrance from the Education Wing.  
Thank you for coming!

# **PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION**

**March 28, 2021**

**Worship Service - 9:30 AM**

## **WELCOME**

## **PRELUDE**

### **AS WE GATHER**

Sunday, “the eighth day of the week,” is celebrated by Christians as the first day of the eternal life into which they were baptized. Today, the beginning of the great and Holy Week of Lent, we begin with the note of great joy as the crowds receive Jesus entering Jerusalem. This will be the last time He comes to the holy city. For we then follow Him to the judgment hall, the cross of suffering, and the fearful tomb of death. The penitential season of Lent concludes with the three holy days, the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Let us follow our Lord as He takes our sins upon Himself, that we may receive His new life in the forgiveness of our sins and the joy of the resurrection.

*(stand)*

### **INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**OPENING HYMN:** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” LW 102, vs. 1, 2, & 4

**All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.**

**All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
The company of angels are praising You on high;  
Creation and all mortals in chorus make reply.**

**All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
To You, before Your Passion, they sang their hymns of praise.  
To You, now high exalted, our melody we raise.**

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(Silence for private confession)*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: 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 the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

*(sit)*

**OLD TESTAMENT:** Zechariah 9:9–12 *(The coming King of Zion)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE:** Philippians 2:5–11 *(Every knee should bow at the name of Jesus.)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*(stand)*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Mark 15:1-47 *(The Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fifteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Congregation reads together:*

**15:1** And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led Him away and delivered Him over to Pilate. **2** And Pilate asked Him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And He answered him, "You have said so." **3** And the chief priests accused Him of many things. **4** And Pilate again asked Him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against You." **5** But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

**6** Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. **7** And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. **8** And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. **9** And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" **10** For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered Him up. **11** But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. **12** And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" **13** And they cried out again, "Crucify Him." **14** And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify Him." **15** So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.

**16** And the soldiers led Him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. **17** And they clothed Him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on Him. **18** And they began to salute Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" **19** And they were striking His head with a reed and spitting on Him and kneeling down in homage to Him. **20** And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the purple cloak and put His own clothes on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him.

**21** And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry His cross. **22** And they brought Him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). **23** And they offered Him wine mixed with myrrh, but He did not take it. **24** And they crucified Him and divided His garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. **25** And it was the third hour when they crucified Him. **26** And the inscription of the charge against Him read, "The King of the Jews." **27** And with Him they crucified two robbers, one on His right and one on His left. **29** And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, **30** save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" **31** So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked Him to one another, saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. **32** Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with Him also reviled Him.

<sup>33</sup> And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. <sup>34</sup> And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?” <sup>35</sup> And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, He is calling Elijah.” <sup>36</sup> And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down.” <sup>37</sup> And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed His last. <sup>38</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup> And when the centurion, who stood facing Him, saw that in this way He breathed His last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

<sup>40</sup> There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. <sup>41</sup> When He was in Galilee, they followed Him and ministered to Him, and there were also many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.

<sup>42</sup> And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, <sup>43</sup> Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>44</sup> Pilate was surprised to hear that He should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether He was already dead. <sup>45</sup> And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. <sup>46</sup> And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud and laid Him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. <sup>47</sup> Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

LW 106

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to His breast,  
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor palm branch waving and chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of men and angels rode on in lowly state,  
Nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.

**“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,  
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav’n our King.  
Oh, may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice  
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!**

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*(sit)*

## **THE APPLICATION OF GOD’S WORD FOR TODAY**

Pastor Adam Thomson

*(stand)*

### **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.**

*(sit)*

### **OFFERTORY MEDITATION SONG: “The Road to the Cross”**

*(stand)*

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**We praise You, Father, that You have sent Your Son not in wrath but in mercy. As we enter this most holy week and ponder together the mysteries of Your great salvation, show to us the answer to Your people’s prayers of “Hosanna,” “save now,” in the Passion, death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,**

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Uphold this world in Your order. Preserve the Church and the preaching of Your Word against all enemies. Bless our homes, that parents and children may serve one another faithfully and grow in instruction and faith until life's end. Give health and wisdom to all who serve in public office, that their authority may be exercised for the benefit of our people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We bring before You the sick, distressed and needy [*especially . . . individual prayer requests may be spoken at this time followed by the petitioner saying "Lord, in Your mercy" after each request*]. Give Your abiding comfort in every circumstance, that in Christ we shall not die but live, and declare His works. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, we here remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*(sit)*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(stand)*

## **THE BLESSING**

**The Lord bless us and keep us.**

**The Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us.**

**The Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace.**

## **CLOSING SONG: "Lead Me To The Cross"**

Pastor Go in peace and

**People: serve the Lord.**

**LOOKING AHEAD:** The assigned readings of the Church Calendar for next week are Isaiah 25:6-9, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, and Mark 16:1-8.

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:**



**SEDER MEAL EVENT, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021**

**6:30 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Please RSVP to [pastor@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:pastor@ascensionpgh.com) by Monday.

Event limited to 25 people. First come, first served.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021:**

**7:00 PM SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**



**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021:**

**7:00 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE**

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021:**

**\*9:30 AM SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*11:30 AM SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*If you will be attending either of the Easter services, please notify the church office by 3:00 PM on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at [secretary@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionpgh.com) or 412-364-4463 to reserve a seat.**





**THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION**

MARCH 28, 2021	WORSHIP SERVICE IN-PERSON AND LIVE-STREAMED	9:30 AM
	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	15 MINUTES AFTER WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY	PRAYER AND PRAISE GROUP VIA ZOOM	10:00 AM
	SEDER MEAL EVENT	6:30 PM
THURSDAY	MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE	7:00 PM
FRIDAY	GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE	7:00 PM

**ASCENSION NEWS**

**IMPORTANT** – **EVERYONE please sign in** on one of the attendance sheets located at the Narthex or the Education Wing entrances.

**FACE COVERINGS** – Please wear face coverings indoors in all parts of the building (those who are over age two [2] and medically able to do so). If you forgot a face covering, there are some available in the Narthex and at the office entrance.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING** – Please practice social distancing in the Sanctuary (six [6] feet between households), and seating in every other pew. Please do not linger inside the building entrances/exits prior to and following worship services. Please enjoy the outside as you visit from six (6) feet apart!

**HAND SANITIZER** – Hand sanitizer is available in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall, and at the office entrance for your use.

**BUILDING RESTRICTIONS** – To limit the need for cleaning and disinfection, the classroom areas will be taped off. *If anyone needs to comfort a child, we will temporarily ask parents to use the Narthex.*

**OFFERINGS** – Since the offering plate will not be passed during the service, an offering plate will be available in the Narthex for you to present your gifts as you exit or arrive.

**CHILDREN’S BAGS** – Children’s bags will be stored in the closet to the right of the main entrance. Please feel free to take one (or more) from the closet on your first visit and keep it in your car for your kids’ use during services. Please do not put any bags back in the closet.

**HELP NEEDED** – We are looking for volunteers to wipe down the handrails after the services. Please see Pete Candreva if you can help.

**BULLETINS** and **CHILDREN’S BULLETINS** are available on our website: [www.ascensionpgh.com](http://www.ascensionpgh.com).

<b>ACOLYTE:</b> .....	Isaac Krieger
<b>ALTAR GUILD / MARCH:</b> .....	Mary Ellen Lindsey
<b>ELDER ON DUTY TODAY:</b> .....	Cooper Blake
<b>LAY READER:</b> .....	David Dille
<b>USHERS:</b> .....	Matthew Gunther / Edie Krom
<b>ATTENDANCE 03/21/21: WORSHIP</b> .....	42; <b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b> .....
<b>ATTENDANCE LENTEN SERVICE 03/24/21:</b> .....	28
	23

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

March 29: Greg & Patti Lopresto

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

March 28: Deanna Edwards, Tillie Gaertner; March 29: Rachel Dille; Eileen Vogel

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Janet and Bill Seitz in memory of Janet’s mother, Margaret Spindler, and in honor of their daughter, Amy’s, birthday.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – There will be a supervised Sunday School offering for 6th grade and under during the Adult Bible Study. There will be a lesson and social distancing will be observed. Please wear a mask. Questions? Contact Ali Lucas at 412-478-0674

**SEDER MEAL EVENT** – We are going to be doing a Seder Meal event this year on **Wednesday**, March 31st at 6:30 PM. It will take place at church in the Fellowship Hall. This event will be limited to 25 people in order to keep distancing guidelines for COVID in mind. We will also be masked as well. This obviously won’t be a standard Seder Meal because of the issues of jointly prepared and distributed food in our current environment. So this event will consist of a guest speaker, Mitch Tepper, a Messianic Jew who will walk us through the meal and bring examples of what the meal would look like. The main purpose of this event is to demonstrate the connection between God’s deliverance in the Exodus story of the Old Testament and its foreshadowing to the even greater deliverance God worked through Jesus for all people who believe. Attendees will participate in some of the spoken parts of the celebratory meal and have the option of trying certain of the foods from the meal in their own socially distant groups. **Please RSVP to [pastor@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:pastor@ascensionpgh.com) by Monday (March 29th) and include the number of your group.** First come, first served.

**EASTER SERVICES – RESERVATIONS REQUIRED** – We will be having two Easter worship services—one at 9:30 AM and one at 11:30 AM. **If you will be attending, please notify the church office by 3:00 PM on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at [secretary@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionpgh.com) or 412-364-4463 to reserve a seat.** Reservations will be limited to 60 people at each service with overflow seating available in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend, only the 9:30 AM service will be live-streamed at [Ascension Lutheran Church PGH - YouTube](#). Please note that the wearing of masks and social distancing will be observed.

**LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES** – **Maundy Thursday:** Jesus invites us to join Him once again at the Table. He repeats the invitation again and again because He feeds us in order to build us up and strengthen our faith. His invitation draws us into a place where we have fellowship with all believers. And yet, our fellowship is stained by sin: “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me” (Mark 14:18). We are not asked to root out the offender, not commanded to judge one another. That is God’s task, not ours. Instead, Jesus gives us His own body and blood, and with it a promise: “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many” (Mark 14:24). His invitation to return is accompanied by His promise to make all things new, when once again we will share the fruit of the vine with Christ Himself. **Good Friday:** The author of creation hangs on the cross, wracked with pain and writhing in agony. It is almost unbearable to look on this scene, and yet without it we would be lost forever, still trapped in our sins. As we gather together on Good Friday to remember the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for each of us, may we focus on the One who is the way and the truth and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®.

**PRAYER AND PRAISE GROUP** is meeting via Zoom. Join us on **Wednesday** (March 31) from 10 AM to 11 AM and then every Wednesday thereafter until we are able to meet in person. If you have any questions or need prayer, please call me at 808-295-1835. In the Love of Jesus, Bob Booth

**SPRING APPEAL** – Join in the fun! We’re getting close to our goal of \$11,000 for the Spring Appeal. Check out the thermometer in the Narthex for the total. It’s awesome!! Don’t forget the deadline to give is March 31st. Give in person, give online, or give by mail. But give! We can do this!! If you have any questions on how to give, contact Bob Marcellus at [finance@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:finance@ascensionpgh.com). Thank you!

**EASTER EGG HUNT** – While Easter looks a little different this year, one tradition is making its way back: the annual **Easter Egg Hunt** for the families of Ascension! **Join us after the 11:30AM Easter Sunday Service (around 1:00)** over at the side lawn to hunt for eggs as we celebrate and remember the new life that God gave us through the resurrection of His son Jesus. **Please wear a mask!** Email [youth@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:youth@ascensionpgh.com) for more information.

**NEWSLETTER** – If you would like a printed copy of the April 2021 issue of *The Heart of Ascension* mailed to you, please call Barb in the church office at 412-364-4463.

**ACOLYTES, ELDERS, LAY READERS, AND USHERS** – If you have not already done so, please check your mailboxes in the Narthex for the April 2021 schedules. Thank you all for your dedicated service!

**HAVING A MEETING, GROUP STUDY, OR GATHERING AT THE CHURCH?** If so, you should request access to the church building by contacting the secretary at [secretary@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionpgh.com) or by contacting a trustee at [trustees@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:trustees@ascensionpgh.com). We are here to help make your function go smoothly.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES** – Following the narrative of Mark’s Gospel, *The Marks of Love* explores the life and ministry of Jesus. We meet a Savior who endured life’s hardships, suffered our pain, and bore the weight of our sins. Each left its mark on Him as He pressed on to the cross, giving His life for ours, appeasing God’s wrath against sin, and rising victorious over sin, death, and the devil. Available to [read online](#) or as a [podcast](#), *The Marks of Love* can also be received as an [e-mail subscription](#). Visit [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) for more information. If you would like a printed copy, please call Barb at 412-364-4463 or email [secretary@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionpgh.com).

**OFFICE CLOSED** – The Church Office will be closed on Monday, **April 5, 2021**.

**MEN’S SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY** – The Saturday Men's Study Group is scheduled to meet on Saturday, **April 10, 2021** in person and via Zoom. We will continue reading *Fearless*, by Max Lucado. If you would like to attend in person, Mike Fiffik will be in the Fireside Room at 8:30 AM. The Bible study will start no later than 9:00 AM and that will be offered on Zoom as well.

**BIBLE STUDY FOR TEENS** – Remember that Bible study about C.S. Lewis that we started right before the pandemic hit? Well, we are ready to bring it back and start over! Starting on **Sunday, April 11th** we’re going to restart “**Aslan’s World**” during Sunday School Hour in the **Youth Room**. All confirmed youth are welcome to attend! We can’t wait to see you!

**LCMS STEWARDSHIP NOTE** – **Zechariah 9:9** – “**Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**” No king ever rode to war like this. But no king had ever come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is; He does this to bring us from death to life and to make us His own people. And He also does all this to show us an example of self-giving love for us to follow.

**GIVING ENVELOPES** – If you have not been attending in-person services and have not obtained your 2021 giving envelopes yet, they are probably still in your mailbox in the Narthex. You can coordinate with Barb, the church secretary, to pick them up during the week during normal office hours, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The office number is 412-364-4463. Contact Bob Marcellus for more information at [finance@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:finance@ascensionpgh.com).

**PRIVATE COMMUNION SERVICES** are available to members who should not attend or who are not yet ready to return to worship in person due to Covid-19. Appointments will be made every 20 minutes on Tuesdays between 7:00-9:00 AM and Fridays between 4:00-6:00 PM. Please email Pastor Thompson at [pastor@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:pastor@ascensionpgh.com) to make your appointment.

**GET TO KNOW YOU VISITS** – Have you scheduled your get to know you visit with Pastor Thompson yet? There are three options—Zoom (Tuesdays-Fridays from 2:00-7:00 PM meeting times, as available), in person, or if neither of those options work, a telephone call option. For scheduling, please email Pastor Thompson at [pastor@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:pastor@ascensionpgh.com).

**LIVE-STREAMING WORSHIP SERVICES** – Our worship services are live-streamed on our YouTube Channel. Just click on this link [https://www.youtube.com/channel/Ucu\\_ARgzTTcfZZXuZAeiyEVQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/Ucu_ARgzTTcfZZXuZAeiyEVQ/videos) or search in YouTube for Ascension Lutheran Church PGH. More detailed directions are available on our website ([www.ascensionpgh.com](http://www.ascensionpgh.com)). If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vanessa Candreva at [music@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:music@ascensionpgh.com).

**EMAIL ACCOUNTS** – Please use the email addresses below for contacting these individuals/groups:

Pastor Thompson	<a href="mailto:pastor@ascensionpgh.com">pastor@ascensionpgh.com</a>
President (Russ Lucas)	<a href="mailto:president@ascensionpgh.com">president@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Treasurer (Patti Lopresto)	<a href="mailto:treasurer@ascensionpgh.com">treasurer@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Financial Secretary (Bob Marcellus)	<a href="mailto:finance@ascensionpgh.com">finance@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Elders	<a href="mailto:elders@ascensionpgh.com">elders@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Board of Christian Education	<a href="mailto:education@ascensionpgh.com">education@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Board of Trustees	<a href="mailto:trustees@ascensionpgh.com">trustees@ascensionpgh.com</a>
SOAR Respite Nights	<a href="mailto:soar@ascensionpgh.com">soar@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Music Director (Vanessa Candreva)	<a href="mailto:music@ascensionpgh.com">music@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Media (Cherie Shaginaw)	<a href="mailto:media@ascensionpgh.com">media@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Vacation Bible School	<a href="mailto:vbs@ascensionpgh.com">vbs@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Youth (Ronette Blake)	<a href="mailto:youth@ascensionpgh.com">youth@ascensionpgh.com</a>
Secretary (Barbara Marcellus)	<a href="mailto:secretary@ascensionpgh.com">secretary@ascensionpgh.com</a>

**SOCIAL MEDIA** – Ascension is on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/AscensionPgh](http://www.facebook.com/AscensionPgh)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/AscensionPgh](http://www.twitter.com/AscensionPgh)). You don't have to have accounts to view our pages online. Please do check us out (and “Like”/follow us).

## **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

**“GOD WITH US” ON THE RADIO** – If you are not attending in-person worship services and do not have access to a computer for online services, the Lutheran broadcast “God With Us” is **available on WORD-FM 101.5 on Sundays at 10:30 AM**. “God with Us” features Rev. Dr. Daniel A. Hahn Jr., Pastor of Tri-Parish (St. John’s, Bethel and Zion, Lawrenceville).

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** is on WWNL/1080 AM on Saturdays at 3:30 PM and on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM. Read or listen to the sermon at [www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org). **April 4, 2021: “Fear...Like Onions, You Know?”** Why end a good news story on a note of fear? St. Mark's Gospel wants us to see human fear as evidence that God is at work. (Mark 16) Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

**KFUO RADIO**, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @**KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). **This week on KFUE.org**, join us for Tre Ore service from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. CT on Good Friday 4/2, hear special Maundy Thursday edition of Joy! on 4/1 and Good Friday edition on 4/2 at 1:00 p.m. CT, and begin studying 1 Thessalonians on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT).

**CHRISTIAN COUNSELING ASSOCIATES** is a full-service counseling center committed to using the resources of the Christian faith in helping individuals and families achieve emotional, spiritual, and physical well-being. Licensed and certified professional counselors provide all services. Available services include help for those seeking professional help for emotional and life challenges such as depression, anxiety, marital problems, addictions, grief, trauma, or any mental health concern. CCA offers services to adults, children, adolescents, and families. Christian counseling engages a faith-based process of change that can equip individuals to overcome the challenges they face. CCA accepts many different health insurances for payment and offers a sliding fee scale if there is no insurance. Ascension provides office space for CCA. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 724-396-1510.

**LIFE QUOTE:** “Good Friday shows us—in case there was any doubt before—that something is wrong with the world, something worth mourning deeply ... There will be a time when God wipes all of these tears from our eyes. We are not there yet, but we can surely take heart in the knowledge that God is close to the brokenhearted.” *Derek Caldwell, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

## **PRAYER REQUESTS – March 28, 2021\***

***“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” (James 5:15-16)***

### **FOR HEALTH & HEALING**

Kelly Vogel (recovery from surgery); Natalie Gaertner (health issues); Roy Wiegand (pneumonia and other health issues); Susan Stewart and Barbara Howe (cancer – sisters of Carolyn Walker); Ruth Miller; Elva Fields; for all those ill with coronavirus; Gene Williams (mesothelioma); Clay McClellan; Nadine Weber

### **FOR STRENGTH & COMFORT**

For all those who lost loved ones, especially Deb (friend of Cristen Fiffik) and family on the death of a daughter; for the citizens, survivors, relief workers, missionaries, and families affected by hurricanes, earthquakes, terrorist attacks and disasters worldwide

### **FOR THANKSGIVING**

For the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; all our guests; the gifts of love and God's Word; family and friends; our country

### **FOR SAFETY/PROTECTION**

For all affected by the coronavirus pandemic; healthcare workers; college students; school students, teachers, staff and bus drivers; missionaries; our armed forces; unborn children

### **FOR DIRECTION AND FAITH**

For those who are experiencing a crisis of faith; women with unplanned pregnancies

### **GENERAL PRAYER, GUIDANCE, AND PROVISION**

For Kurt and Jackie Dolph; Pastor Thompson's transition; our country and leaders; the Gaertner family; SOAR Respite Nights families; Megan and Gene Williams, Jr. and DiscipleMakers; Pastor Eric Andræ and Campus Ministry in Oakland; seminary students; the residents and staff of Concordia Lutheran Ministries; Shepherd's Heart Fellowship; Food For The Poor; Christian Counseling Associates counselors and their clients; those with special needs (physical, mental, or emotional)

***“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” (Colossians 4:2)***

**\*Please note that prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for 60 days and then be removed unless an extension is requested by notifying the church secretary.**