

Ascension Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod

A **Christ-centered** community where we *connect, learn, and serve*.



November 21, 2021

Welcome To Our Guests

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!

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LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

November 21, 2021

Worship Service - 9:30 AM

WELCOME

PRELUDE

AS WE GATHER

Do you remember what Jesus told His disciples about when He would return? Jesus said, "But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come" (Mark 13:32–33). Do you remember the promise the angels shared as Jesus ascended? "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). Be on guard, keep awake, and remember He is coming soon.

(stand)

DIVINE SERVICE II (SECOND SETTING)

This service begins on page 178 in the front of Lutheran Worship Book (LW)
(Spoken Responses / *Sung Responses*)

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

LW 278, v. 1, 4, & 5

**Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heav'nly 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 Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And 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 years, The potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail Throughout eternity.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION – (Page 178)

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 reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

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 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.

People: **Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE

(At this time, please turn around and greet each other with the peace of Christ.)

(sit)

SPECIAL MUSIC: "With Grateful Heart, I Thank You, Lord"

Ascension Choir
and Children

(stand)

INTROIT *(Antiphon, Matt. 24:13; Ps. 85:1-4, 7)*

Pastor: He who stands firm to the end will be saved.

People: **You showed favor to your land, O Lord; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

Pastor: You forgave the iniquity of your people
People: and covered all their sins.

Pastor: You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger.
People: Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.

KYRIE - (Page 179)

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE - This is the Feast (Page 182)

Pastor: *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.*

People:

***Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:***

***Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia, alleluia.***

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 51:4–6

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL: (*Rev. 7:14; Ps. 84:5*)

Pastor: These are they who have come out of the great tribulation;

People: **they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

Pastor: Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

People: **who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.**

EPISTLE: Jude 20-25

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

VERSE - (Page 184)

***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.***

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 13:24–37

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the thirteenth chapter

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

(Congregation reads together:)

²⁴“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning- ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: ***Praise to You, O Christ.***

(sit)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Thompson

THE APPLICATION OF GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

Pastor Thompson

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS - (Page 187)

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

After each prayer, the response will be:)

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen

(sit)

OFFERING / MEDITATION: "Sleepers Wake" – J.S. Bach Chris Schroeder, cello

OFFERTORY - *What Shall I Render* (Page 188)

***What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the
Lord.***

***I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.***

PREFACE - (Page 189)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: ***It is right to give Him thanks and praise.***

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all place give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS - *Holy, holy, holy* (Page 189)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER - (Page 190)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: 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 X 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 is My X blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

(sit)

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI - *Lamb of God* (Page 191)

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

***Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace,
grant us peace.***

(sit)

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is celebrated at Ascension Lutheran in the glad confidence that our Lord Jesus, as His word says, gives not only bread and wine, but also His true Body and Blood for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Our Lord invites to His table those who, repenting of their sins, believe His word that His body and blood are really present for the forgiveness of our sins. All baptized believers who hold this confession and have examined themselves according to Scripture's guidance (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), are invited to receive His Sacrament.

COMMUNION HYMN: "I Come, O Savior, To Your Table"

LW 242

HOLY COMMUNION (Page 192)

(stand)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE - *Thank the Lord* (Page 192)

***Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.***

PRAYER - (Page 194)

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

(sit)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

THE BLESSING - (Page 194)

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN/SONG: "You Alone Can Rescue"

Pastor: Go in peace and

People: **serve the Lord.**

LOOKING AHEAD: The assigned readings for next week are:
Jeremiah 33:14–16 ; 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13; Luke 21:25–36

ASCENSION NEWS

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by Janet and Bill Seitz in honor of their fathers, Larry Spindler, Sr. and Bill Seitz, Sr.

COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST - Please send any current prayer concerns by **Wednesday of each week** to: secretary@ascensionpgh.com. We will place the list in the bulletin and monthly newsletter. Prayers will remain on the list for 30 days and then be removed unless an extension is requested by notifying the church secretary. These prayers, if you give permission, will also be shared in the weekly email.

Prayers for this week:

- We pray for Roger Vogel (Eileen Vogel's brother in law) who will be undergoing cancer treatments. That God would strengthen Him and bless the treatments.
- We pray for Bill Powers as he recovers from successful knee replacement surgery.
- We pray for Joni and Robert, Vanessa's mom and step-dad, as they relocate to a new home.
- We pray for Diane McClellan as she recovers from an illness in the hospital.

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICER OF CHURCH COUNCIL - The congregation elected a new slate of officers to begin serving on church council in the new year. They are Lynn Gunther (President), Mark Strazheim (Vice-President), Patti Lopresto (Treasurer), Kristin Mayes (Financial Secretary), Chris Schroeder (Head Trustee), Amy Diak (Stewardship) and Trish Young (Secretary). Thank you for your willingness to serve! Congregation, keep them in your prayers as they transition into their new roles.

THANK YOU TO OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS - A big thank you to the members of council who are rolling off at the end of the year! Russ Lucas (President), Bob Marcellus (Financial Secretary), Janet Seitz (Stewardship), and Pete Candreva (Head Trustee). Thank you for your faithful service to Ascension Lutheran Church! Take some time when you see them to thank them for their service to our congregation and the Lord.

SHEPHERD'S HEART COAT DRIVE: The Shepherd's Heart Coat Drive is now extended through the end of November. Men's and women's coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and socks are need (*but NOT children's at this time.*) Place your donations in the boxes under the mailboxes in the Narthex.

OUTREACH ACTIVITY: Concordia of Franklin Park Christmas Gift Drive starts on Sunday, Dec. 5 - pick up a resident's name and wish list return your wrapped gifts by Dec. 19th / there are 53 residents who need gifts! NEW for this year - Concordia of Wexford - Christmas Gift Drive because extra funds were available this year, we have added a new resident hall. They currently have 37 residents. The Outreach Committee will purchase gifts, and we will have a "wrapping party" on Sunday, Dec. 12 during the Education Hour. Everything will be provided - the gifts, boxes, wrapping paper, etc. Food will be provided! Please come to help us out!

CHURCH DECORATING: Do you like to put up Christmas decorations? If so, please come help decorate our church on **Saturday, Dec. 4** beginning at 9:00 a.m.

DID YOU MISS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PACK A SHOEBOX? - The LWML ladies packed 19 boxes for OCC and are looking for some donations to cover the shipping costs. If you want to donate, contact Janet Seitz at janetseitz@hotmail.com.



TODAY is the final day to turn in your shoeboxes!

Happy Birthday!

November 25 - Melissa Wolfslayer

November 27 - Lydia Jarboe

November 27 - Bekki Weber

Happy Anniversary!

November 26 - Ron & Myra Davis



Poinsettia Order Form

You may order poinsettias to be picked up on Christmas Eve. Forms are available in the Narthex, or on our website.

Deadline to order: Sunday, Dec. 5

Worship Servants

SERVING TODAY

ALTAR GUILD / NOVEMBER:Nancy Hughey
ELDER ON DUTY TODAY:Pete Candreva
LAY READER:Bob Booth
USHERS:Edie Krom & Ron Curcio
ACOLYTE:Isaac Krieger

SERVING NEXT WEEK

ALTAR GUILD / NOVEMBER:Nancy Hughey
ELDER ON DUTY TODAY:Cooper Blake
LAY READER:Trish Young
USHERS:Lora Koontz & Matt Gunther
ACOLYTE:Juliette Schroeder

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| SUNDAY, 11/21//21 | WORSHIP SERVICE | 9:30 AM |
| | In-Person and Livestreamed | |
| | Reception for New Members – Fellowship Hall | 10:30 AM |
| | Christian Education for Adults and Children | 11:00 AM |
| WEDNESDAY | Prayer and Praise Group via ZOOM | 10:00 AM |
| | Confirmation Class | 7:00 PM |
| THURSDAY | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED NO CHOIR or BELLS | |
| FRIDAY | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED | |
| NEXT SUNDAY, 11/28 | WORSHIP SERVICE and Christian Education | 9:30 / 11 AM |