

Ascension Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod

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

October 2nd



Welcome To Our Guests

It is a great joy to have you here today. We pray that your time with us helps 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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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME

PRELUDE

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes our faith is weak, and we wonder if God will hear our complaints and prayers. But He is always there, listening in love and offering grace and blessings. The bigger question is whether we will hear His promises and forgiveness. Today's Reading from Habakkuk is a resounding "yes," for it is a reminder that we trust our heavenly Father because of the greatest gift we have received: faith. Sometimes, like with the apostles in today's Gospel, it seems we need more faith, but God, who has given us that precious gift, promises, "the righteous shall live by his faith" (Habakkuk 2:4). In the Epistle, Paul rejoices over Timothy's faith in our Savior, who "abolished death and brought life and immortality to light" (2 Timothy 1:10). Paul encourages Timothy to "guard the good deposit entrusted" to him and each person of faith (2 Timothy 1:14). Rejoice, for today that faith moves us to hear, listen, and respond in word and song.

Stand

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

OPENING HYMN - Lord, I Need You

BAPTISM OF CALEB RAJENDARAN

EXHORTATION

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

CONFESSION OF SINS

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE

At this time, you may turn to those around you and greet each other with the peace of Christ.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4

- ¹The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.
- ²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?
Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?
- ³Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law is paralyzed,
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
so justice goes forth perverted.

¹I will take my stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the tower,
and look out to see what he will say to me,
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

²And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so he may run who reads it.

³For still the vision awaits its appointed time;
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.
If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

2 Timothy 1:1–14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our

Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹²which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:1–10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

1[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! **2**It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. **3**Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, **4**and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

5The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” **6**And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

7“Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? **8**Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? **9**Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? **10**So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Thompson

HYMN OF THE DAY - Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

LW 197

THE APPLICATION OF GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

Pastor Thompson

Stand

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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

OFFERING

We Praise You, O God

LW 494

Stand

OFFERTORY - Give Thanks

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

After each prayer, the response will be:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

- P** 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 † 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 cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PEACE OF THE LORD

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

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 our confession and have examined themselves according to Scripture’s guidance (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), are invited to receive His Sacrament

COMMUNION SONGS: The Lamb

Sent Forth by God’s Blessing

LW 247

Stand

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE - Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)

LW pg. 173

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

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.

CLOSING SONG – By Faith

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace and
- C** **serve the Lord!**

Acknowledgments

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**LOOKING AHEAD: The assigned readings for next week are:
Ruth 1:1-19a; 2 Timothy 2:1-13; Luke 17:11-19**

SERVING TODAY

ELDER(S).....Darryl Gunther & Bob Booth
 ALTAR GUILD.....Diane DePasquale
 LAY READER..... Darryl Gunther
 USHERS.....Denise Bedel & Ron Curcio
 ACOLYTE.....Elijah Blake

SERVING NEXT WEEK

ELDER(S)Cooper Blake
 LAY READER.....Trish Young
 USHERS.....Ken Lindsey & Edie Krom
 ACOLYTE.....Juliette Schroeder

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUMPKINFEST / FLEA MARKET – Saturday, October 8, 2022 from 8am to 1pm

Refreshments, hot dogs, nachos, chili, soup, and various other deliciousness! Homemade apple, Dutch apple, & pumpkin pies for sale! Lots of local vendors, shopping and more!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED – We are still in need of some folks to assist with our Sunday School programs. If you are interested & can help, please contact Janine Nicolette for more details. janine.wordsmith@gmail.com

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - The women are doing an 8 week co-led bible study called "Chosen: A Study of Esther" by Donna Snow this Fall. Every Thursday 7-8:30pm. Runs until November 17.

PUMPKINFEST HELP WANTED! – We need volunteers to help set up tables for the Pumpkinfest on Friday, October 7th. If you are available **during the day**, please let Vicki know and she will arrange her schedule around yours. You can text or call her 724-816-0413, or email is vickiq@zoominternet.net.

ASCENSION BELL CHOIR - Last call for bell ringers! We are looking to do a piece for All Saints day, then we will start to look at things for Christmas! Please RSVP if you are interested in ringing with us to Chris Schroeder at chrisschroeder2003@gmail.com or 412-759-8068!

10K LUTHERAN LIFE BIKE RIDE - Multi-church 10k Life Bike Ride on the 3 River's Heritage Trail from the Hot Metal Bridge to Station Square on Oct. 15th at 9:30m (rain date Oct. 22nd at 9:30am). We are raising funds for Mary's Place of the South Hills and all funds raised will be matched by the Synod's Million Dollar Life Grant program. Flyer & sign-up sheet are in the Narthex. Contact Pastor or Karen Booth for more information to sponsor riders: Donations can also be received to Peace Lutheran Church, 107 Carol Dr., McMurray, PA. 15317. Checks made to: Peace Service Team, memo line: 10k Ride.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Our Sunday School classes have started back up! Please join us immediately following Divine Service. Toddlers – with Emily Marcellus; K-2 – with Patti Lopresti; 3rd - 6th Grade with Lora Koontz. Parents of the toddlers may stay in the classroom with your child if you wish to.

YOUTH GROUP – Our 7th - 12th graders Youth group will begin meeting with Pastor in the Youth Room directly following our Divine Service.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Our Adult Bible Studies will be held immediately following Sunday Divine Service. We are offering two Adult classes: Topical study & Book of the Bible:

- ❖ Topical Study: Nurturing Your Faith series, facilitated by Mike Fiffik & Dave Dille, in our Fellowship Hall.
- ❖ Book Study: Isaiah's Ancient Songs for Today, facilitated by Cooper Blake in the Fireside Room.



ASCENSION'S PRAYERS

- ✦ We pray for God's strength and healing for Melissa Wolfslayer's sister Rebecca Calderwood, she is having some health issues from Shingles and Lyme Disease.
- ✦ Continued prayers for Barb Marcellus's cousins – Lynda who is receiving PT/OT at Concordia after hospitalization with hydrocephalus & Dale Hesse who went to be with his Lord and Savior this past weekend. We are thankful that God has ended his suffering and lovingly took him home. Prayers for God's comfort and strength for his family.
- ✦ We pray for the comfort and peace of the resurrection for the family of Roy Eckert, Ron Gredlein's stepfather, who passed away in the faith.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

SUNDAY	WORSHIP SERVICE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACOLYTE TRAINING	9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
TUESDAY	MINISTRY TEAM MEETINGS	6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	PRAYER & PRAISE DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL CLASS CONFIRMATION CLASS	10:00 AM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM
THURSDAY	WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM
SATURDAY	PUMPKINFEST & FLEA MARKET	8AM – 1PM
SUNDAY 10/9/2022	WORSHIP SERVICE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	9:30 AM 11:00 AM