



# **ASCENSION**

## Lutheran Church

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

The Day of Pentecost - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Rev. Adam Thompson, Pastor, [pastor@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:pastor@ascensionpgh.com)  
Cathy Niebel, Music Director, [music@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:music@ascensionpgh.com)  
Allyson Hosilyk, Secretary, [secretary@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionpgh.com)

8225 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
[www.ascensionpgh.com](http://www.ascensionpgh.com) 412-364-4463

**Welcome! We're happy you're with us for worship today.**

**IF YOU ARE VISITING FOR THE FIRST TIME**, please take a moment to sign in at the podium at either sanctuary entrance. We pray your time with us strengthens your faith in the Lord.

**IF YOU HAVE SMALL CHILDREN**, we understand that God made them wiggly and noisy at times, but we also believe they should be with us in worship. If you need a moment, we have a nursery available to you through the hallway to the right of the altar. Children's bags are also available in the Narthex for use during service.

**HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated at Ascension Lutheran on the first and third Sundays of the month. We receive this Holy Sacrament 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 truly present for the forgiveness of our sins. All baptized believers who hold our confession of faith and have examined themselves according to Scripture's guidance (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), are invited to receive His Sacrament. If you are not yet baptized or are visiting us for the first time, we invite you to come forth during communion and fold your arms over your heart for a blessing. Pastor would be happy to discuss receiving Holy Communion at Ascension with you.

**AFTER EACH SERVICE** from September to May, please join us for a brief time of **FELLOWSHIP** with coffee and treats downstairs in our Fellowship Hall briefly before we begin our **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** hour for those ages 2 and above.

**If you have any questions, seek out Pastor, an usher, or a member with a name tag; they will be happy to help you out.**

### **SERVING TODAY**

**ELDER(S):** Dave Dille & Darryl Gunther

**LAY READER:** Darryl Gunther

**USHERS:** Lora Koontz & Edie Krom

**ACOLYTE:** Juliette Schroeder

### **SERVING NEXT WEEK**

**ELDER(S):** Cooper Blake & Bob Booth

**LAY READER:** Bob Booth

**USHERS:** Ron Curcio & Edie Krom

**ACOLYTE:** Elijah Blake

## Welcome

### Prelude – Eternal Father, Strong To Save

#### As We Gather

The messenger may change; the message remains the same. When Jesus is the sum and focus of the messenger who stands before you this day, the message is Jesus Himself. Pentecost proves this. The power of Pentecost, as we will see in Acts 2, is not the persuasiveness of Peter and the other disciples. No, the power of Pentecost is the Spirit of the message: Jesus Christ Himself. Working through the Spirit whom He poured out upon the lives of His followers, Jesus equips those who carry His message into all the world. These are the messengers who spread the Good News of the One who was crucified for us, who rose again, who reigns on high, and who will one day return in His full glory. Listen to His message today as the Spirit brings it to you and be assured that as you are called to faith in Christ, you receive the fullness of who He's called you to be.

*Stand*

#### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

#### Opening Hymn – Come Holy Ghost, God And Lord

*LSB 497*

#### Confession and Absolution

**P** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,

**C** and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

*In silent prayer, we ask the Holy Spirit to create clean hearts within us.*

**P** O Spirit of God,

**C** we confess that we have dishonored Your Holy Word through our lives of disobedience. By what we do and what we fail to do, we have not allowed Your message of truth to rule in us. Forgive us, faithful God. By Your grace, draw us to the cross of Jesus. Through faith in His promises, enable us to receive the restoring mercy that You alone can give. Amen.

**P** In Christ Jesus, you and I receive the fullness of who we are called to be through the Spirit who has been given to us. United with Christ through our Baptism, the Spirit who claims us as the Father's own now delivers to us the message of His mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, commissioned by His Spirit, 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

*Following the Absolution, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matthew 5:22–24; Ephesians 4:1–3).*

*Sit*

## Old Testament

*Numbers 11:24–30*

<sup>24</sup>Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. <sup>25</sup>Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

<sup>26</sup>Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." <sup>28</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." <sup>29</sup>But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" <sup>30</sup>And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

*Acts 2:1–21*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, <sup>11</sup>both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." <sup>12</sup>And all were amazed and

perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup>But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>15</sup>For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup>But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams;

<sup>18</sup>even on my male servants and female servants  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;  
<sup>20</sup>the sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

<sup>21</sup>And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Holy Gospel

*John 7:37–39*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventh chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

**<sup>37</sup>On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup>Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” <sup>39</sup>Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## Children's Message

*Pastor Thompson*

## Hymn of the Day – There Is A Redeemer

## Sermon

*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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

## Offering

### Meditation Song – Hymn Of The Holy Spirit

*Praise Team*

*Stand*

## Offertory – Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*LSB 805*

## 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

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

**Communion Songs – Eat This Bread**

*LSB 638*

**Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared**

*LSB 622*

*Stand*

**Post-Communion Canticle - Thank The Lord**

*LSB pg. 181*

## 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 - God Bless Our Native Land**

*LSB 965*

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace and

**C** serve the Lord!

### Acknowledgements

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022

---

**LOOKING AHEAD: The assigned readings for next week are:  
Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Acts 2: 14a, 22-36; Matthew 28:16-20**





### *Prayer Requests*

- ✝ Prayers for the family of Marie Schuetz, (wife of Ralph Schuetz, a past Elder at Ascension before his passing), who went to be with her Lord on May 23, 2023.
- ✝ We pray for God's healing for Diane McClellan who is suffering from colitis. We pray for God to restore her to health.
- ✝ We pray for healing and restoration for Jackie Horn, family to Eileen Vogel, who has become ill & lost her ability to walk. We pray for God to restore her back to health.
- ✝ We pray for comfort & peace for Chris Schroeder and his family as they grieve the loss of their grandmother.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED** – The office will be Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Happy Memorial Day!

**THANK YOU** - Pastor and the Christian Education team want to thank the congregation for their participation in the study of God's Word this past year. It is good to be gathered with you around God's Word. We also want to give a special thank you to the teachers who have led classes: Patti Lopresto, Laura Koontz, Emily Marcellus, Mike Fiffik, David Dille, Janine Nicolette, and Cooper Blake. Thank you for helping us all be in the Word! Join us to celebrate on June 4th at our church picnic!

**ASCENSION PICNIC** – Mark your calendar, Sunday, June 4th rain or shine! Ascension will close our Christian Education year with a picnic to be held on Sunday, June 4th, immediately following the service. Please bring a side dish. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex so you can let us know you are coming & what you plan to bring. We will provide hot dogs, drinks & ice cream sundaes. How can you resist such a fun invitation??? Any questions, please contact Vicki Wiegand at [vickiq@zoominternet.net](mailto:vickiq@zoominternet.net) or you may text her at 724-816-0413. Thank you!

**PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN** - The Pittsburgh Lutheran is a newsletter published 10 times a year that shares news from the LCMS congregations (including ours!) in the Pittsburgh area. If you would like to subscribe to receive a copy sent to your email and hear what is going on in our sister congregations,

follow this link: <https://www.palmpa.org/pittsburgh-lutheran>. Scroll down to the bottom and fill in your name, email, and church and hit subscribe!

**PRAYER AND PRAISE** – Please join us on Wednesday’s at 10am for Prayer & Praise! We meet in the Fireside Room at church or on Zoom (link below). If you have questions or need prayer, please contact Bob at 808-295-1835. Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99710525952?pwd=d0tyY0t1a2MzWkovY0hhYIBVUnB4Zz09>

**VBS LEADERS & HELPERS NEEDED!** Sign-up sheets can be found in the Narthex for the helper and leader positions still needed for our VBS (July 10-13). Please see Emily and Lisa or email them at [vbs@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:vbs@ascensionpgh.com) for more info!

**\*\*All volunteers should complete the registration form found at [Ascensionpgh.com](http://Ascensionpgh.com)\*\***

**VBS & CLEARANCES** – If you plan to volunteer for VBS this year (July 10-13) or if you will be on Ascension’s campus anytime between 5:45-8:15 those evenings, you will need to have the following clearances:

1. State Police Background Check (Free!)
2. State Child Abuse History (Free...and faster if you provide SS#!)
3. One of the following: a) Sworn Statement (if you've lived in PA for the last 10 years – free) or b) Fingerprints (\$22.60)

**\*\*All clearances for VBS volunteers are due by June 12th to the church office!\*\***

**NEW HYMNAL DEDICATIONS** - Recently Ascension was blessed with a set of new hymnals at a discounted price to enhance our musical worship for decades to come. Now YOU have an opportunity to dedicate a hymnal to a loved one and help cover the \$15 church cost per hymnal. Do you have a living friend who you would like to honor or a deceased relative you’d like to memorialize? Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex and provide a free will offering in the offering plate or online! Deadline to sign up: June 11th. If you have any questions, contact Amy Diak.

**STEWARDSHIP** - The Stewardship Committee is reminding you to share your Stewardship of Time tips on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall! We’re all looking for ways to be more efficient, prioritize and use our time for God’s glory. A few great ideas have already been posted. What insight can you share?

**KID’S SAFETY EVENT & FARMERS MARKET** – The Block Northway would like to cordially invite parents, friends and students to join us on Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 3-6pm. This is a FREE event to the public and is designed to educate our young friends and families on all aspects of health and safety along with some fun activities! For more info please see the flyer posted in the Narthex, or contact Jamie Pavlot contact me at (724) 759-5432 or email [jpavlot@theblocknorthway.com](mailto:jpavlot@theblocknorthway.com).

**SUMMER READING CHALLENGE** - Since we had such an excellent response to last year's Summer Reading Challenge, we would like to continue the fun & learning this summer as well!!! If you'd like to participate, please select ONE of the following two books to read:


1. *How Should We Then Live: The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture*
2. *Spirituality of the Cross*

- Sign up in the Narthex for the corresponding sessions on 6/11, 7/2, 8/6 for the book of your choice
- Read the first 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of your book by June 11<sup>th</sup> (coming up fast!), read the second 1/3<sup>rd</sup> by July 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the last 1/3<sup>rd</sup> by August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Attend the book sessions to discuss.

You can find these books at online stores such as Amazon, or you can locate them in second hand stores, the library, or elsewhere. If you need help purchasing, please text or call Janine Nicolette at 412-965-0428.

**GARDEN HELP** – It's that time of year again for planting & growing! There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex, please sign up to help water or weed if you can. Your help is greatly appreciated!

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>5/28/2023</b>	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!</b>	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>PRAYER &amp; PRAISE</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>6/4/2023</b>	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>ASCENSION PICNIC</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>