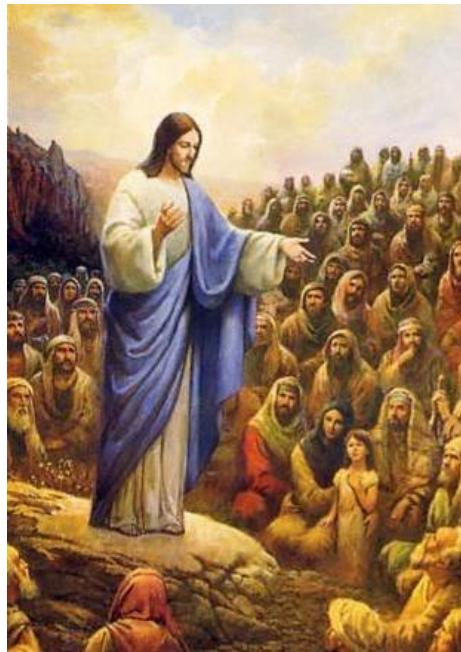


ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany – February 1, 2026



Rev. Adam Thompson, Pastor, pastor@ascensionpgh.com
Lisa & Emily Marcellus Music Director, music@ascensionpgh.com
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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. We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). You can find more information about our beliefs at LCMS.org/about/beliefs.

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 each Sunday. 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): Cooper Blake & Dave Dille

LAY READER: Darryl Gunther

USHERS: Ron Curcio & Edie Krom

ACOLYTE: Christian Fleishauer

SERVING NEXT WEEK:

ELDER(S): Mike Fiffik & Bob Booth

LAY READER: Trish Young

USHERS: Ken Lindsey & Cristen Fiffik

ACOLYTE: Hannah Koontz

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Pre-Service - His Glory and My Good

Welcome

Prelude

Holy Baptism

Opening Hymn – Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1

Be Thou my vision
O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me
Save that Thou art
Thou my best thought
By day or by night
Waking or sleeping
Thy presence my light

Verse 2

Be Thou my wisdom
Be Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee
And Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father
I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling
And I with Thee one

Verse 4

Riches I heed not
Nor man's empty praise

Thou mine inheritance
Now and always
Thou and Thou only
Be first in my heart
High King of heaven
My treasure Thou art

Verse 5

High King of heaven
When vict'ry is won
May I reach heaven's joys
O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart
Whatever befall
Still be my vision
O Ruler of all

Tag

Heart of my own heart,
Whatever befall.
Still be my vision,
O ruler of all.

When candidates are unable to speak for themselves, the sponsors answer the questions on their behalf.

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How are you named?

R Josephine Marie Thompson

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P Josephine Marie Thompson, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your + forehead and upon your + heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.
Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Josephine Marie Thompson according to Your boundless mercy and bless her with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that

through this saving flood all sin in her, which has been inherited from Adam and which she herself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that she be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, she would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

P Is it your intention to serve Josephine Marie Thompson as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R Yes, *with the help of God.*

P Adam and Marissa, as parents God has entrusted to your care this very precious life. He has called you to be faithful Christian parents, and He has promised to help you in that task. You also are to daily remember your child in your prayers, and bring her up in the true knowledge and worship of God and be taught the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer; and that, as she grows in years, you place in her hands the Holy Scriptures, bring her to the services of God's house, and provide for her further instruction in the Christian faith, that she come to the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood and thus, abiding in her baptismal grace and in communion with the Church, she may grow up to lead godly lives to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ.

This then you intend gladly and willingly to do, then answer "Yes, with the help of God."

Parents Yes, *with the help of God.*

P As Josephine is baptized into God's family today and also this church family, we have a responsibility also. We are to remember her and her family in our prayers, and offer help, when needed, to the parents as they strive to raise

her in the Christian faith. This then, as her Christian brothers and sisters, we intend gladly and willingly to do, then answer "Yes, with the help of God."

C Yes, with the help of God.

- P** God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.
- C Amen.**
- P** Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

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

The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

- P** The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even \dagger forevermore.

C Amen.

Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

- P** Josephine Marie Thompson, do you renounce the devil?
R Yes, *I renounce him.*
- P** Do you renounce all his works?
R Yes, *I renounce them.*
- P** Do you renounce all his ways?
R Yes, *I renounce them.*

- P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
R Yes, *I believe.*

- P** Do you believe 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?
R Yes, *I believe.*

- P** Do you 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?
R Yes, *I believe.*

- P** Josephine Marie Thompson, do you desire to be baptized?
R Yes, *I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

- P** Josephine Marie Thompson, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life  everlasting.

C **Amen.**

The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:

P Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sister in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

C **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

Stand

P Let us pray.
Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Josephine Marie Thompson the new birth in Holy Baptism and made her a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as she has now become Your child, You would keep her in her baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure she may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Lord and Giver of life, look with kindness upon the father(s) and mother(s) of this child and upon all our parents. Let them ever rejoice in the gift You have given them. Enable them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism that they may share eternally with their children the salvation You have given them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Peace  be with you.

C Amen.

All return to their places.

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 O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

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).

Hymn of Praise - Baptized in Water

Verse 1

Baptized in water
Sealed by the Spirit
Cleansed by the blood
Of Christ our King
Heirs of salvation
Trusting His promise
Faithfully now
God's praise we sing

Verse 2

Baptized in water
Sealed by the Spirit
Dead in the tomb
With Christ our King
One with His rising
Freed and forgiven
Thankfully now
God's praise we sing

Verse 3

Baptized in water
Sealed by the Spirit
Marked with the sign
Of Christ our King
Born of one Father
We are His children
Joyfully now
God's praise we sing

Sit

Old Testament

Micah 6:1–8

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has an indictment against his people,

and he will contend with Israel.
3“O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Answer me!
4For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.
5O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”
6“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
7Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
8He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the

foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Pastor Thompson

Hymn of the Day - In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

Sermon

Pastor Thompson

Lutheran Catechesis - Holy Baptism - Second

- P** *What benefits does Baptism give?*
- C** **It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.**

- P** *Which are these words and promises of God?*
- C** **Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)**

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 \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Offering

Meditation Song - Jesus Strong and Kind

Children

Stand

Offertory - His Glory and My Good

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good

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 \ddagger 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 \ddagger 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

Distribution Hymns - You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

LSB 641

Jesus Sat with His Disciples

LSB 932

Communion Dismissal

P Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve you, in body and soul, unto life everlasting. Depart in His peace \pm and with joy.

C Amen.

Stand

Post-Communion Canticle - For the Bread Which You Have Broken

For the bread, which You have broken
For the wine, which You have poured
For the words, which You have spoken
Now we give You thanks, O Lord
By this promise that You love us
By Your gift of peace restored
By Your call to Heav'n above us
Hallow all our lives, O Lord

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.

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 \pm give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Song - In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground

Firm through the fiercest drought and
storm
What heights of love what depths of
peace

When fears are stilled when strivings
cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay

Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Sit

Announcements

Memory Verse For The Week: Matthew 5:3 – “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Dismissal

P Go in peace and
C serve the Lord!

Acknowledgments

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Looking Ahead - Next Week's Verses:
Isaiah 58:3-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Cor. 2:1-12(13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

This week we pray for:

- **UPDATED:** Nelle Powers and Marissa Thompson, for healthy deliveries.
- John Fagen, for strength and faith as he battles cancer.
- **UPDATED:** Thanksgiving for successful surgery for Kurt Dolph and continued treatment.
- **UPDATED:** Thanksgiving for successful surgery for Larry Sauer and a blessed and swift recovery.
- For the family and friends of Alice Helmink, Marissa's great-grandmother, who died in the faith. Comfort them with the hope and peace that comes from the promise of the resurrection victory in Jesus.
- Greg Horne, husband of Rosalie Horne, as he deals with physical and mental distresses. Grant him relief and healing from his afflictions.
- Darryl Gunther for healing for his eyes.
- Barb, Jackie Dolph's sister, as she undergoes treatment for cancer, that the treatments are effective.
- We give thanks for the progress Jim Obringer Sr. has made recovering from his stroke. We pray you continue to grant him a return to even more mobility.
- Shirley Waselko, who has started another round of chemo treatments every six weeks. Prayers that she continues tolerate the treatments and that they continue to work.

Church News & Announcements:

Christian Education Hour - Join us at 11am (after some tasty treats in the Fellowship Hall) for one of our Bible Classes and Sunday School! Options are available for those aged 2 and above. See the Learn bulletin board in the Narthex for more info and about future classes and offerings.

Sunday School- Sunday school meets on the 2nd floor in the education room and is divided into three classes: PreK taught by Mrs. Fleishauer; K-2nd taught by Mrs. Lopresto and 3rd-6th taught by Mrs. Koontz. There are signs located outside of each classroom.

Youth Group (7th – 12th)- Join Janine Nicolette in the Youth Room as she will present Children & Teen Study.

Adult Bible Class-

- **Foundations of Faith-** Join us for a 12-week class on the Foundations of the Lutheran Confession of the Christian faith. This class is for visitors looking to become members of our congregation, transfers from other LCMS congregations, and anyone who wants to get a refresher on the basics of the Christian faith. We will meet in the Fireside Room each week during the Christian Education hour. Any questions, see Pastor Thompson.
- **Adult Topical Study-** Join Mike Fiffik in Fellowship Hall for a workbook study of the book of Titus.
- **Adult Book of the Bible Study-** Join Cooper Blake for an adult book bible study on Proverbs.

Prayer and Praise: We are meeting this Wednesday at 10am for Prayer & Praise! We meet in the Fireside Room at church or we have an online option via Zoom. The link is sent in the Weekly Reminder email. If you have questions or need prayer, please contact Bob Booth at 808-295-1835.

A/V Booth Helpers Needed: We are looking for volunteers to help in the A/V Booth. If interested, please reach out to me at pastor@ascensionpgh.com.

New Members needed for Praise Team – With the departure of some of our long-time Praise Team members we need some new people to help serve the worship of the congregation on Sundays. Please prayfully consider joining our Praise Team! If you have any questions, please contact Lisa or Emily Marcellus.

Altar Guild Help: Looking for a way to serve? How about joining the Altar Guild? Only one month a year to set up the altar and a year's worth of good feelings from your service! Contact Nancy Hughey at 412-780-5641 to find out how you can help. Thank you.

Galentine's Women's Event: Join us for a fancy afternoon of food, activities & fellowship **this** Saturday, February 7th at 4pm! Please sign up in the Narthex to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Please also bring one of your FAVORITE things (\$10 or less, new, unwrapped, think candles, treats, cosmetics, etc.) to use as a prize for our game. Questions to Lora Koontz or Elizabeth Russler. See you there!

Meal Train for Thompson Baby: We have another new church baby! Let's shower Pastor & Marissa with some church love and help them transition to life with two little ones. Sign up to bring them a meal here: <https://takethemameal.com/XBDT5162> If you don't want to sign up online, call or text Ronette Blake (412-443-3704) and she'll get you scheduled.

Ladies' Bible Study- Ladies of Ascension, come join us for some fellowship, conversation and study of the faith this Saturday, February 14th at 10 am in the Fireside Room.

Congregational Meeting: There is a congregational meeting on Sunday, February 22, 2026 following the Divine Service.

Lenten Dinners - Lent begins February 18th and so do our Lenten dinners. We will be serving before Wednesday services from 4:30 to 5:45 pm (to allow time for clean up) in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Encourage them to stay for the service. We need help with contributions of soup and desserts. You can find a sign-up sheet under the Serve Board in the Narthex. If you're able to help clean up, please put a check mark in that column too. Any questions, please contact Vicki Wiegand at 724-816-0413 or vickig@zoominternet.net. Thank you for your help.

Special Music Survey - Attention everyone! If you have any interest in participating in bells or choir for Holy Week 2026 please fill out this [Special Music Survey](#) by Sunday, Feb. 8. No musical talent required! More details can be found in the survey. Email Lisa (LMarcellus@ascensionpgh.com) with any questions!

This week at Ascension Lutheran Church:

Sunday 02/01	Divine Service Christian Education Hour	9:30 AM 11:00 AM
Tuesday	Outreach Committee Meeting Worship Committee Meeting Christian Education Meeting	1:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM
Wednesday	Prayer & Praise Confirmation Class	10:00 AM 7:00 PM
Saturday	Galentine's Day Event	4:00 PM
Sunday 02/08	Divine Service Christian Education Hour	9:30 AM 11:00 AM