



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday In Lent – March 15, 2026



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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): Bob Booth & Mike Fiffik

LAY READER: N/A

USHERS: Lora Koontz & Cristen Fiffik

ACOLYTE: Gabriel Blake

SERVING NEXT WEEK:

ELDER(S): Cooper Blake & Dave Dille

LAY READER: Trish Young

USHERS: Ron Curcio & Edie Krom

ACOLYTE: Juliette Schroeder

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Pre-Service - Be Thou My Vision

Praise Team

Welcome

Prelude

Our service today follows Divine Service Setting Three in the Lutheran Service Book starting on page 184.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation - You Said I Am (Behold and Believe)

Verse 1

You said I am the Bread of Life
Whoever comes to dine
Will not hunger will not thirst
And will be satisfied
You said I am the only light
That gives the blind their sight
And if we see You will lead us through
The darkest night

Chorus

We behold we believe
You are the Lion and the Lamb
The Prince of Peace
We adore we confess
You are the one who came and died
And rose again
The great I Am

Verse 2

You said I am the open door
That souls are longing for
If we walk in new life begins
forevermore
You said I am the Shepherd guide

Who came to live and die
To lead the ones He loves
To resurrection life
(Chorus)

Interlude

The great I Am

Bridge

Before creation's spark
Before light from the dark
Before the waters part You are
You are the great I Am
Before You breathed on the dust
Before Abraham was
Before the burning bush You are
You are the great I Am
(Repeat)

Tag

You are the great I Am
You are the great I Am

Verse 3

You said I am the only way

To see the Father's face
The only truth the only life
The one who saves
You said I am the one true vine
In You we will abide
To bear the fruit of Gospel truth
In death and life

That all might know the mighty name
Of Jesus Christ
(Chorus)

Ending
You're the great I Am
You're the great I Am

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

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).

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

C One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

P For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

C And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,

who say to metal images,
“You are our gods.”

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 142



L ¹With my voice I cry out | to the LORD;*
with my voice I plead for mercy | to the LORD.

²I pour out my complaint be- | fore him;*
I tell my trouble be- | fore him.

³When my spirit faints within me,
you | know my way!*

In the path where I walk
they have hidden a | trap for me.

⁴Look to the right and see:
there is none who takes notice | of me,*
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares | for my soul.

⁵I cry to you, | O LORD;*
I say, “You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the | living.”

⁶Attend to my cry,
for I am brought | very low!*

Deliver me from my persecutors,
for they are too | strong for me!

⁷Bring me out of prison,
that I may give thanks | to your name!*

The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully | with me.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 9:1–41

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



C **Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may

believe in him?” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day - O Son of God, in Galilee

LSB 841

Sermon

Offering

Meditation Song - Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Hannah and Adalyn on clarinet

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

After each prayer, the response will be:

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

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

- P** The Lord be with you.

- C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Lift up your hearts.

- C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

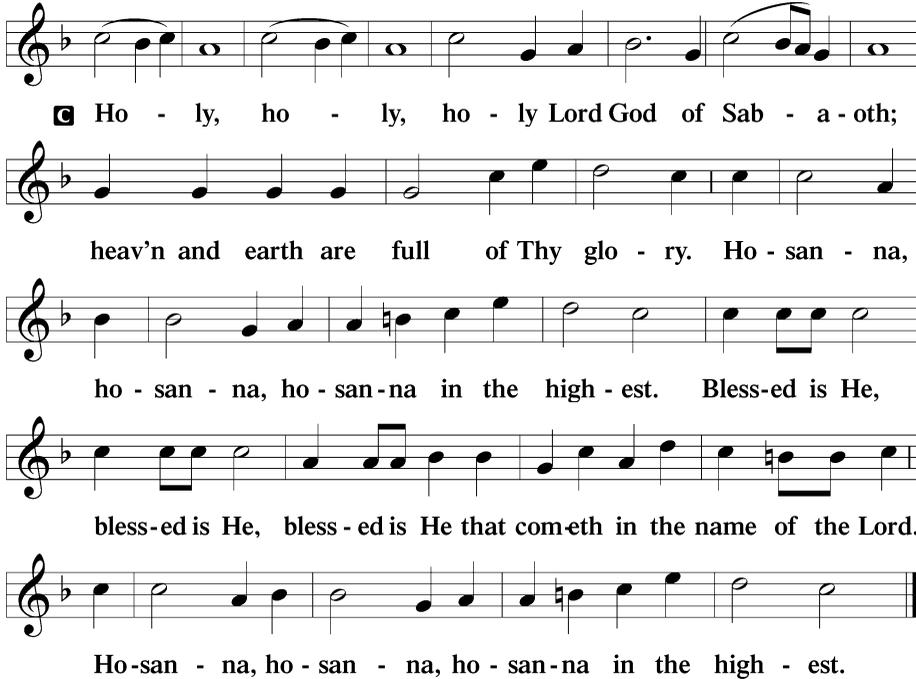
- C** It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Full)

- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 Our Lord *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.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



□ A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

Musical notation for Agnus Dei. It consists of five staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The lyrics are: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men. The piece ends with a double bar line.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns - You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

LSB 641

Amazing Grace

LSB 744

Communion Dismissal

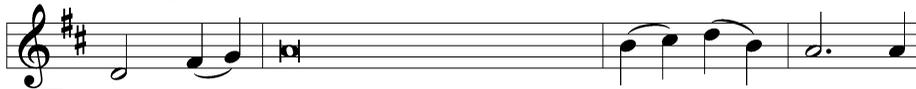
P Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve you, in body and soul, unto life everlasting. Depart in His peace and with joy.

C Amen.

Stand

Post-Communion Canticle - Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A 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 A - men.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Song - Turn Your Eyes

Verse 1

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Verse 2

Turn your eyes to the hillside
Where justice and mercy embrace
There the Son of God gave His life for
us
And our measureless debt was erased

Chorus

Jesus to You we lift our eyes
Jesus our glory and our prize
We adore You behold You our Savior
ever true
Oh Jesus we turn our eyes to You

Verse 3

Turn your eyes to the morning
And see Christ the lion awake
What a glorious dawn fear of death is
gone
For we carry His life in our veins
(Chorus)

Verse 4

Turn your eyes to the heavens
Our King will return for His own
Every knee will bow every tongue will
shout
All glory to Jesus alone
(Chorus)

Tag

Oh Jesus We Turn our Eyes to You

Announcements

Memory Verse For The Week: Isaiah 42:16 – And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will

turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.

Dismissal

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

Acknowledgments

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Looking Ahead - Next Week's Verses:
Ezek. 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Rom. 8:1-11; John 11:1-45

This week we pray for:

- **NEW:** Arlene Rusnica, who sustained a broken arm in a fall, that she recovers quickly and is relieved from pain.
- Clayton Mees as he recovers from hip surgery.
- Give thanks for the newest members of our Ascension congregation, Shane, Amber, Jadon, Caleb and Noah Mitchell and Brian and Anitha Brugos. We ask God to bless them as they assimilate into the congregation.
- Thanksgiving for healthy and safe deliveries and the gift of new life for Nelle Powers and Marissa Thompson.
- John Fagen, for strength and faith as he battles cancer.
- Thanksgiving for successful surgery for Kurt Dolph and continued treatment.
- 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.
- 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:

Happy Anniversary to: Paul & Edie Krom March 18th

Happy Birthday to: Ronette Blake March 19th
Christian Fleishauer March 21st

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-

- **Adult Book of the Bible Study-** Join Cooper Blake for an adult book bible study on Proverbs.
- **Adult Topical Study:** Join Mike Fiffik in Fellowship Hall for Junk Drawer Jesus study. Each of us is the owner of a seemingly random collection of theologies, doctrines, and superstitions—a junk drawer of religious ideas and influences.
 - It's the witticisms your grandmother tossed around with ease that sounded like they came from a religious text
 - It's the mental screenshot of a meme shared on social media.
 - It's the empowering idea you underlined in a book and wrote on a Post-it Note now forever affixed to your laptop.

These are the things stuffed in our spiritual junk drawers because something in us says, “This might be useful.” And so we hold on. But should we? In *Junk Drawer Jesus*, the spiritually exhausted are invited to examine our religious clutter and compare it to the person and the promises of Jesus Christ. We’ll discover what—if anything—of our spiritual collection should be kept.

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 prayerfully 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! We specifically need help to cover the month of July. Contact Nancy Hughey at 412-780-5641 to find out how you can help. Thank you.

Lenten Dinners – Lent has begun and so have 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.

Set Apart to Serve Survey - Where do we get pastors who preach and care for us with God’s Word? Where do we get teachers who teach our children about Jesus in our Lutheran schools? Where do we get our directors of Christian

education, deaconesses and directors of parish music? *Set Apart to Serve (SAS)* is partnering with our seminaries, Concordia universities, districts, congregations and many others to build a Synodwide culture of church work formation and recruitment. You can contribute toward this effort by taking this brief online survey at lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey. Please let us know how all of us can make SAS more beneficial to your congregation. It is important we hear what you have to say. Responses are due by the end of March.

Annual Easter Brunch - Please join us for fellowship and a delicious meal following the Divine Service on Easter Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet on the table under the CONNECT bulletin board to indicate what type of dish you will bring and the number of adults and children in your group.

Free Drive-Through Spaghetti Dinner- This event will occur on Wednesday, April 15th from 4 to 7 pm and is open to the public. This is our second effort at this type of outreach. We especially need helpers to greet cars, deliver meals, help with traffic control, make cookies, and offer a prayer if wanted. And of course, helping to prepare meals on the day of the event. If you can volunteer for even an hour or two, that would be so appreciated. Please help us make this project as successful as the first when we served 300 dinners. A sign-up sheet is available on the table under the SERVE bulletin board. Any questions please contact Trish at 412-538-8339.

Attention 7th-12 grade youth, families and interested volunteers!- Please join us in the fellowship hall following Bible Study **today** for an informational meeting and **BAKED POTATO BAR!** We will be planning out the next 6 months of youth activities and getting to know each other a little bit. Hope to see you there!

Board of Stewardship- We are currently looking for someone to fill the Head of the Board of Stewardship. The Board of Stewardship's main objective is to initiate programs of good stewardship attitudes amongst the Congregation members regarding their time, talents, and treasures. This can include, but not limited to recognizing members for their stewardship, annual pledges, training opportunities, and assistance with finding ministry opportunities. If you feel called to serve in this role, please contact Pastor Thompson, pastor@ascensionpgh.com or Beth Gard, president@ascensionpgh.com

Men's Bible Study: Men of Ascension, come join us for some fellowship, conversation and study of the faith on Saturday, March 28th at 8:30 am.

Pop-Up Pleasant Valley Volunteer Opportunities - Please see the flyer on the Serve Bulletin Board if you are interested in helping with some cleaning and organizing at the Pleasant Valley Emergency Shelter on Thursday, March 19th or Wednesday, March 25th from 6pm to 7:30pm. We have been partnering with this shelter by taking meals down for the clients and thought it would be nice to show support in this way too if you're able! Email Lisa with any questions (LMarcellus@ascensionpgh.com).

Special Congregational Meeting Parking Lot – We plan to hold a special meeting for voting on the parking lot project on Sunday, April 12th.

This week at Ascension Lutheran Church:		
Sunday 03/15	Divine Service Christian Education Hour Youth Group Orientation	9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12-1:30 PM
Tuesday	Elders Meeting	6:30 PM
Wednesday	Prayer & Praise Lenten Dinners Mid-Week Lenten Service Choir Rehearsal	10:00 AM 4:30-5:45 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM
Sunday 03/22	Divine Service Christian Education Hour	9:30 AM 11:00 AM



Maundy Thursday, April 2nd - 6:30pm
Good Friday, April 3rd - 6:30pm
Easter Vigil, April 4th - 8:00pm
Easter Sunday, April 5th - 9:30am

Maundy Thursday

The term Maundy in Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin, *mandatum*, meaning “commandment.” This refers to the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples on the first Holy Thursday after washing their feet. (John 13:1-12; 13:31-35). This same night, Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper. We partake of the Lord’s Supper on Maundy Thursday to celebrate the institution of this gift from God. At the end of the service tonight the altar will be stripped, the crucifixes and crosses are removed or veiled, and the altar is left bare to prepare for the solemnity of the Good Friday service