

Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone" Sunday, September 8, 2024

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lords Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lords Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christs body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of ones sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. (Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. (El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.)

+ PREPARATION +

THEME: "REVERSING THE RAMIFICATIONS OF SIN"

AS WE GATHER: Since the fall and expulsion from Eden, the ramifications of sin have been quite evident. People do not have to be worse sinners than anyone else to become blind, deaf, lame, or mute. They need not sin more than other people to find themselves unfairly treated in court. How can those problems be reversed? It takes God's power. The Gospel tells of how Jesus cast out demons and healed the deaf. He seeks to make such great reversals today! Through the letter to James, we, God's faith-filled people, are encouraged to treat our neighbors as ourselves and do more than give them lip service. But the inability of the disciples to exorcize a demon is a startling reminder that all things are possible only for God, to whom we must entrust all our problems.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

LSB 528

- Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise, The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!
- Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
 That bids our sorrows cease;
 'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
 'Tis life and health and peace.
- He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin;
 He sets the pris'ner free.
 His blood can make the foulest clean;
 His blood avails for me.
- See all your sins on Jesus laid;
 The Lamb of God was slain.
 His soul was once an off'ring made
 For ev'ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever giv'n By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing, Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt., Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION

- As we come humbly before Him, we hear His Word: I have trusted in Your steadfast love;
- my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.
- P The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
- a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

(sung - "Rock of Ages" - stanza 2)

Not the labor of my hands, Can fulfill Thy law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

- Let us consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.
- For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge. (Psalm 51:3-4)
- P Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(sung - "Rock of Ages" - stanza 3)

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling. Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.

- P Let us pray.
- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

- The Lord hears your confession, and you may rejoice in His grace. The promises of God are sure; one day creation will be set free from corruption. Your sins were taken to Christ's cross, where you were redeemed as God's beloved children. So, give Him thanks and find His peace and comfort in this good news: As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

SALUTATION

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Grant us strength that comes from vibrant faith, O Lord. By Your power and guidance, move us to show forth our faith with words and deeds of loving service;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

- P The peace of the Lord be with you all.
- And also with you.

+ THE WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:4-7a (ESV)

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you."
⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

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

EPISTLE READING

James 2:1-10 (ESV)

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which He has promised to those who love Him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it...

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

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-37 (ESV)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet He could not be hidden. ²⁵But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of Him and came and fell down at His feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷And He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered Him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹And He said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone. ³¹Then He returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to Him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged Him to lay His hand on him. 33 And taking him aside from the crowd privately, He put His fingers into His ears, and after spitting touched His tongue. 34And looking up to heaven, He sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." 35 And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more He charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

PRAYER AND LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

LSB 846

- Your hand, O Lord, in days of old Was strong to heal and save; It triumphed over ills and death, O'er darkness and the grave. To You they came, the blind, the mute, The palsied and the lame, The lepers in their misery, The sick with fevered frame.
- Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health, Gave speech and strength and sight; And youth renewed and frenzy calmed Revealed You, Lord of light. And now, O Lord, be near to bless, Almighty as before, In crowded street, by beds of pain, As by Gennes'ret's shore.
- O be our great deliv'rer still, The Lord of life and death; Restore and quicken, soothe and bless, With Your life-giving breath. To hands that work and eyes that see Give wisdom's healing pow'r That whole and sick and weak and strong May praise You evermore.

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old, Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-91, alt, Text: Public domain

SERMON "IN A WORLD OF BROKENNESS"

Pr. Jim Sprengle Mark 7:24-37

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

I 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. Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
 - Heavenly Father, by Your Spirit open our deaf ears to hear Your Word, that our tongues would be released to proclaim with zeal how Your Son has done all things well. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Mighty Lord, You have commanded Your Church to take the Word of life to the ends of the earth. Strengthen and support all who travel to foreign lands on behalf of the Church's mission. Give them wisdom and courage as they tell others about Christ. Bless their hearers with hearts that are receptive to Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy.
- hear our prayer.

- Loving Father, help parents to raise up their children to know You as their help and hope, that they may not put their trust in those in whom there is no salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Almighty God, we place our hope in You and ask Your blessing on the leaders of our country and all rulers, that their plans would be ordered for the welfare of those they govern and that You would execute Your justice for the oppressed. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, give us a humble and urgent faith that would beg even for crumbs from Your Son's table, that as Your children we may receive the fullness of the feast He gives in His body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God, create and sustain in us a lively faith in Christ Jesus, and lead us by Your Spirit to be active in all good works. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Healer of every ill, graciously behold the sick and those in any need...Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord of all goodness, thank You for the blessings You have graciously given...Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- O Lord, our God, Source of all life and the life that never ends, receive our prayers this day in the name of Your beloved Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

(8:30am service, please turn to page 14 for the benediction.)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

We believe in the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.

Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

(Grape juice is available in the center of the trays for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

+ DISTRIBUTION SONGS +

Taste And See

Refrain
Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord
for God has been so good to me. (refrain)

Glorify the Lord with me.

Together let us all praise God's name.

I called the Lord who answered me;
from all my troubles I was set free. (refrain)

Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. **(refrain)**

"Taste and See", text adaptation and music by James E. Moore, Jr. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission under OneLicense, LLC annual license # A-729093

Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer.
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken, For by my side the Saviour, He will stay. I labour on in weakness and rejoicing, For in my need, His power is displayed. To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me. Through the deepest valley He will lead. Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
The future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And He was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
For He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: Yet not I, but through Christ in me. Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me, ©2018 CityAlight Music; Farren Love And War Publishing; Integrity's Alleluia! Music. Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #759893.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks, almighty God, that You have done what we could not do. You have shown us mercy, bestowed faith in our hearts, and provided the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that You will strengthen us thereby so that we may serve You now in time and forever in eternity; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- The mercy, strength, and peace of God Almighty—the Father, the

 → Son, and the Holy Spirit—go with you, now and forever.
- C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See the FYI in the back of the Bulletin for more information.)

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849

- Praise the One who breaks the darkness
 With a liberating light;
 Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
 Turning blindness into sight.
 Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
 Healing ev'ry dread disease,
 Calming storms, and feeding thousands
 With the very Bread of peace.
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word; Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand; From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
 Christ, who suffered in our place.
 Jesus died and rose victorious
 That we may know God by grace.
 Let us sing for joy and gladness,
 Seeing what our God has done;
 Let us praise the true Redeemer,
 Praise the One who makes us one.

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness, Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955, Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Acknowledgments

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 4.

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Thanks to Joann Schulz for the lovely Altar flowers, given to the glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

† THE CHOSEN SEASON 4

The next watch party for episode 4 is on Saturday, Sept. 14 beginning at 10:30am.

† JOIN US IN THE CHURCH CLEANUP!

We have planned another workday, September 21 from 8:30am to 11:00am.

† THE LUTHERAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

Performances continue this fall beginning Sept. 15 through Oct. 6. Looking ahead, there will be a Christmas/Epiphany concert on January 5, 2025.

The large ecumenical choir has members from dozens of churches and several denominations and has sung since 1938. Sue Thompson Armentrout directs the choir with pianist Karl Jurisons. There is no admission charge. A free-will offering will be taken.

The repertoire is broad, with music from traditional choral to downhome gospel, and tender to majestic, with a variety of talented composers.

† YOUTH AND FAMILY NIGHT - JOIN US!

What: Food fun and fellowship!

Where: Ascension Community Room When: Friday, Sept. 20 at 6:30pm

Why: Our goal is to bring together all of our youth and family

members!

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Please e-mail: office@alcportland.org or call (leave a message if no one is here) 503-665-8821

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Carolyn Gordon, The family of Mike Cochran (Barb's Son), Mike Fogarty, The Family of Carolyn Barendse, Karla Deal, The family of Bob Rekdahl, Jan Galberth, Jim Eckart, Gina Kreps, Herb and Carol Hoefer, Mae Smith, Gertrud Bublies, Alma Bangs, Marcia Bryant's relative (Ron), Kaye Beaulieu's Brother (Dick), Virginia Jacob's brother (Robert), Mel Haggard, The Family of Mike Hatley, Esperanza Gutierrez' mother (Antonia), *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Lorraine Haggard. *Home Bound.

† PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Brett Manson – Navy, San Diego CA (Grandson of Joann Schulz) Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve, Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Navy, Kaneohe Bay HI (nephew of Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force – (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy – (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy – Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

Bradley Zeller, Army – Fort Lewis WA (grandson of Neil and Deb Zeller)

Kyle Zeller, Army – Ft. Hood TX (grandson of Neil and Deb Zeller)

† LWML MISSIONS

Want to take part in a gift of love to those all around the world? You can give to "Quilts Around the World". Donate any size fabric to this mission, all kinds are accepted, sheets too! You can leave donations in the conference room.

EVENTS THIS WEEK - SUN., SEPT. 8 - SAT., SEPT 14				
8:30am	Worship			
9:45am	Adult Ed and Sunday School			
11:00am	Worship with Communion			
12:15pm	Bell Practice			
5:00pm	Spanish Worship w/ Communion			
1:00pm	Human Care Board			
2:00pm	Woman's Bible Study			
6:00pm	Council Meeting			
2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together			
6:00pm	Praise Team			
7:00pm	Choir Practice			
6:30pm	Noche Familiar			
7:00pm	Youth Group			
10:00am	The Chosen Season 4 watch party			
	8:30am 9:45am 11:00am 12:15pm 5:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 6:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm			

EVENTS NEXT WEEK - SUN., SEPT. 15 - SAT., SEPT 21

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Sunday, Sept. 15	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Adult Ed and Sunday School
	11:00am	Worship
	12:15pm	Bell Practice
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
Monday, Sept. 16	1:00pm	Altar Guild Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 17	6:00pm	3:10 Group
Wednesday, Sept. 18	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	6:00pm	C-101
Thursday, Sept. 19	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
Friday, Sept. 20	6:30pm	Youth and Family Night
Saturday, Sept. 21	8:30am	Church Work Party

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUN., SEPT. 8, 2024

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	Bob Ritchie
Acolytes:	NEEDED	NEEDED

Ushers: Jim Eckart Johnnie Driessner

Randy Schroeder Matthias McInaney

Bob Freeman James Freeman

Audio/Visual: Teresa Osgood Laura Potter

PowerPoint: Taylor Osgood Rebecca Williamson

Greeters: Sue Lewis Riki Neagle

Heather Gulde

Readers: Sheryl Maier Johnnie Driessner

Altar Guild: Both Services: Margo Bachhuber
Flowers: Both Services: Joann Schulz

Counters: Both Services: Bob and Elaina Ritchie **Sunday School** 9:45am: Hana Brandt and Gina Kreps

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT, SUN., SEPT. 15, 2024

8:30am 11:00am

Elder:Dave OswaldJohn HazenAcolytes:NEEDEDNEEDEDUshers:Stan ChapulisPaul Walter

John Aden Marcus Young

Mike Adams

NEEDED

Audio/Visual: Stan Chapulis J. E. Knox

PowerPoint:Rebecca WilliamsonRosemary KnoxGreeters:Norma DillonMargaret Hubbard

Jean Dillon Esperanza Gutierrez

Readers: Julie Williamson John Hazen

Altar Guild: Both Services: Jan Oswald Flowers: Both Services: NEEDED

Counters: Both Services: Bob and Elaina Ritchie

Sunday School 9:45am: Carrie and Michele



1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233 Office Phone: 503-665-8821 · Web Site: www.alcportland.org Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

"Take part...Join Jesus on His mission."

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God— the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

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