



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL
"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"
September 5, 2021 ~ Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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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!

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 Lord's 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 Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians, (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine, (3) confess and repent of one's 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 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).

(P = Pastor, C = Congregation, A = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: “Reflecting the Faithful Work of Jesus”

AS WE GATHER

In today’s Readings, James encourages us toward good works of service and love, and Jesus does the good work of healing by restoring a man’s hearing and speech. Our faith in Jesus is marked by our reflection of His love and service. While we are not able to do all the things Jesus can do, we are called to reflect His faithful work as we serve in our vocations by loving our neighbors.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

(tune: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds)

Where charity and love prevail, There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ’s love, By love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul Now love Him in return.

Forgive we now each other’s faults As we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well In Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown, Let all contention cease;
Be God’s the glory that we seek, Be ours His holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst, Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined, We are in Him made one.

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Based on Psalm 146*

- P** Praise the LORD, O my soul!
C **I will praise the LORD as long as I live.**
- P** Blessed are those whose hope is in the LORD;
C **the LORD sets the prisoners free.**
- P** The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
C **The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.**
- P** The LORD upholds the widow and the fatherless.
C **The LORD will reign forever!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** The Lord reigns over every nation, language, and people. Yet, we have not loved all people as Christ has loved us. The fruits of our faith are not always evident. But our Lord is gracious and merciful, and He offers His forgiveness to us all.

Silence for reflection.

- P** Heavenly Father,
C **we have failed to love others as You love them. We have failed to reflect Your grace to the world in service and sacrifice. We have failed in our actions and in our unwillingness to act. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may follow You in joy. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy sent Jesus Christ to serve and save all people. By His death, He forgives all our sins. By His resurrection, He destroys death forever and offers us eternal life. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. We are set free to love and serve our neighbors.**

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your grace and mercy overflow to all people. Lead us to love our neighbors, regardless of their differences from us, so that all people might know the good news of Your death and resurrection for their eternal life and salvation; for You live and reign with the Father 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.

C And also with you.

✠ THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:4–7a (ESV)

(God will come and restore all things.)

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

James 2:8–10, 14–18 (ESV)

(What good is a dead faith?)

⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.

⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 7:31–37 (ESV)

(Jesus heals a deaf man in the Decapolis.)

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

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

³¹ Then He returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And 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. ³⁴ And 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. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And 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.

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

HYMN**“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”**

Lord of all nations, grant me grace
to love all people, every race;
and in each person may I see
my kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.

Break down the wall that would divide
thy children, Lord, on every side.
My neighbor’s good let me pursue;
let Christian love bind warm and true.

Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
by loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
will grieve my Lord anew.

With thine own love may I be filled
and by thy Holy Spirit willed,
that all I touch, where’re I be,
may be divinely touched by thee.

SERMON**“FAITH OVERFLOWING”**

James 2:8–10, 14–18
Pastor Jim Sprenkle

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.)

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He’s given
Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He’s given
Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now, let the weak say, “I am strong.”
Let the poor say, “I am rich”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now, let the weak say, “I am strong.”
Let the poor say, “I am rich”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks.

(repeat all)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For all nations, their leaders and residents, that peace may reign and the Church may be a faithful witness of Jesus’ love and service in every place. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For all who mourn the death of loved ones, we pray for comfort in the face of grief and find hope in the resurrection to eternal life with Jesus. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**

- P** For those who have abandoned the faith, Lord, that they would once again hear Your Word and receive Your good gifts. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For Christians throughout the world, that their faith and good works would overflow blessing others. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For those with disabilities, Lord, that we might treat them with thoughtfulness and care, serving them as Your beloved people. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For all who are sick, injured, preparing for surgery, and recovering, especially...that God would grant them healing according to His good and gracious will. Lord of all nations, grant us grace,
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For the gifts You bestow on us and on those who are celebrating this week, we give You thanks. We remember... Lord, of all nations, grant us grace,
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** Lord, into Your hands we place all these things, knowing that You hear us and remain faithful.
- C** **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** As our Lord Jesus has taught us in scripture, we pray with boldness in His name:
- 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.**

(11:00 service, please turn to page 12 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.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Jesus instituted, or established the Lord's Supper for us; 1Cor 11:23-26; Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20)

PAX DOMINI

(Latin for "Peace of the Lord" - the response is, "Amen!", or "So be it!")

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you out-poured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

He, Who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers, life eternal yields;
With Heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

“Here I Am, Lord”

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.
I Who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send? **(refrain)**

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? **(refrain)**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have renewed us by the body and blood of Christ. Empower and energize us to serve our neighbors in faith toward You and fervent love toward all people; 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

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.
Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN “Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service” (tune: Beach Spring)

Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Offered mercy’s perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose Ev’ry gift that You impart.

As we worship, grant us vision, Till Your love’s revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to Your service, Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, Love in living deeds to show.
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, Counsel, aid, and peace we give
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom, May Your mercy know, and live.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

*Thanks to Carol Hoefler for the lovely flowers placed in gratitude
of God’s many blessings.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

† **ORDENA LAXTON MEMORIAL**

Thursday September 23 at 11:00am with a short reception will follow in the Community room. All are welcome.

† **VOTER'S ASSEMBLY SEPT. 26**

The meeting will follow the late service.

† **PRAYER NEEDS?**

Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail: office@alcportland.org

† **PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:**

Mae Smith, Miki Natonik, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Karon Keup, Bonnie Webber, Carolyn Erdmann, Carlyn Staudt, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, *Lewis Eilers, Rich Zahursky, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath.

*Home Bound.

† **PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:**

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);

Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);

Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

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

† **MILESTONES**

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Barb Greco	9/5	Jim Eckart	9/10
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BIRTHDAYS

Kaye Beaulieu	9/9	Dustin Schaffer	9/9
Bill Guthrie	9/11		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Wayne and Debbie Noonan	Sep 7, 1979
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UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK – SEPTEMBER 5-II

Sunday, Sept. 5	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Adult Education
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Sept. 7	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 8	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Sept. 9	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Sept. 10	6:30pm	Noche Familiar

NEXT WEEK – SEPTEMBER 12-18

Sunday, Sept. 12	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Adult Education
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Sept. 14	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 15	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Sept. 16	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Sept. 17	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, Sept. 18	8:30am	Church Work Party

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Herb Hoefler (WA)	Bob Ritchie (WA)
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	NEED	NEED
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Michele Sprengle
PowerPoint:	Rebecca Williamson	Michele Sprengle
Greeters:	Elizabeth Alvarado Riki Neagle	Bonnie Webber
Readers:	Jim Eckart	Bonnie Webber
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie Webber Rebecca Williamson
Flowers:	Both Services	Carol Hoefler

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, SEPT. 12

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Tony Aguilar (WA)
Acolytes:	Whitney Latter	None
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis	Matthias McInaney
Audio/Visual:	Debbie Rekdahl (sound)	Michele Sprengle
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	Michele Sprengle
Greeters:	Sue Lewis Heather Gulde	Rebecca Williamson
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Rebecca Williamson
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Debbie Rekdahl
Counters:	Both Services	Karon Keup Sheryl Maier
Flowers:	Both Services	None

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750

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.

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