



FAITH

Ascension Lutheran Church

Third Sunday After Pentecost ~ June 13, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 13, 2021

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 obleas libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición).

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

✠ PREPARATION ✠

THEME: “Like a Grain of Mustard Seed”

AS WE GATHER

Though much is made of the smallness of the mustard seed, the focus of Jesus is on outcome—the plant that becomes large enough to give nest and shade to all the birds of the air. The kingdom of God seems small and even irrelevant in the face of large problems, challenges, and problems of this mortal life, and yet it is the kingdom of God that is great. God gives to us the forgiveness that makes a clear conscience, the life that is stronger than death, and the joy that is greater than every joy this world can deliver. In this way, the small seed makes for a great plant, large enough for us to find refuge and a home in its shade. How the kingdom of God grows may seem part of the mystery, but we know that it is a seed planted in the good soil and fed and nourished by God’s grace to the day when the harvest delivers us into His presence forevermore.

PRELUDE (11:00)

John Knoke, guitar

WELCOME

HYMN

“Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing”

(tune: Holy Manna)

Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.

May the Spirit’s pow’r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 1:5–6

- P** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
C **for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Silence for self-examination.

- P** Holy and gracious God,
C **I confess that I have sinned against You, in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done, and by what I have not done. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, my Savior, I ask forgiveness and pray You to deliver and restore me by Your mercy. Amen.**

- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and given to us His only Son to suffer and die for our salvation. 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.

RESPONSE (sung)

“Thank You, Lord”

Thank You, Lord, for saving my soul.
Thank You, Lord, for making me whole.
Thank You, Lord, for giving to me
Thy great salvation so rich and free!

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.

C **And also with you.**

✠ THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 17:22–24 (ESV)

(The LORD promises to plant a sprig and make it grow,
that it may be a noble tree and bear good fruit.)

²² Thus says the LORD God: "I Myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I Myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³ On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴ And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:1–7; 14-17 (ESV)

(We walk by faith and not by sight.)

¹ For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³ if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked.

⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 4:26–34 (ESV)

(The kingdom of God is like a seed.)

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

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

²⁶And He said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰And He said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables He spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to His own disciples He explained everything.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

SERMON

“UNDERESTIMATED”

Mark 4:26–34
Pastor Jim Sprengle

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.)

(8:30)

“We Are An Offering”

We lift our voices, We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are Yours,
We are an offering.

All that we have, All that we are,
All that we hope to be, we give to You,
We give to You.

We lift our voices, We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are Yours,
We are an offering, We are an offering.

(11:00)

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

Words and Melody by Robert Lowry
Karon Keup, soloist

RITE OF RECEPTION

(8:30am service)

Stan Chapulis, Adult Confirmation
Riki Neagle, Transfer
Lyle & Lottie Guericke, Transfer

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(We offer prayers for all things and people; 1 Timothy 2:1-2)

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people as they have need.

Give patience to Your Church, to her ministers, and to all of us, Your people, that we trust in Your Word and promise when eyes do not see Your hand at work; and when hearts are tempted to anxiety and fear, grant that we know the fullness of Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Make us to be good soil so that the seed of Your Word planted in us may grow, flourish, and bear the good fruit You desire. Bless the work of all pastors, missionaries, and church workers who serve us in Your name that their ministry to us bear good fruit. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give wisdom and discernment to Your people, that we not give in to temptation nor grow weary of trusting Your Word and serving in willing obedience to Your commands, but delight in fulfilling our baptismal calling wherever we are. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Bless those who teach Your Word, and bless our Sunday School and catechism classes and everywhere people gather to teach and learn Your Word, that the Holy Spirit guide our study, strengthen our faith, and direct us in making the good confession before the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give patience to those who are ill, the suffering, and all who mourn... Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We thank You for the milestones and occasions for celebration in the lives of these brothers and sisters... Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All things are Yours, heavenly Father, and You have promised to supply them to us as we need and when we need them. Help us to pray with confident hearts, trusting that You will provide for us all things needful and deliver us from all things harmful, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Mt 6:9ff; Lk 11:2ff)*

P Lord, in prayer, we approach Your throne of grace with confidence and gladness and pray as You have taught us:

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.**

(8:30 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.**

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

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

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.

DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“Lamb Of God”

Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But You have sent Him from Your side;
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God.

**Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God.
Oh, wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

Your gift of love they crucified.
They laughed and scorned Him as He died.
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. **(chorus)**

I was so lost. I should have died,
But You have brought me to Your side;
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God. **(chorus)**

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

(tune: Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways – EVAN)

We walk by faith and not by sight,
No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe Him near.

We may not touch His hands and side,
Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice
And cry “My Lord and God!”

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
And seek where You are found.

For You, O resurrected Lord,
Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
Beneath the bread and wine.

Lord, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,
With full and endless sight.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, we have approached the mystery of Your presence this day, having heard Your voice in Your Word and having communed upon the blessed body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that we may live within this blessed mystery, trusting not in what our eyes see or the works of our hands or what our minds comprehend, but only in Your Son, Jesus Christ, and in the salvation He has accomplished for us. Keep us in this holy faith and fear all our days until the veil is lifted and we behold You face-to-face; 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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

On what has now been sown
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow’r is Thine alone
To make it spring and grow.
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!

To Thee our wants are known,
From Thee are all our pow’rs;
Accept what is Thine own
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive
And to Thy Word a blessing give.

O grant that each of us
Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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† HELP NEEDED FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you are coming to service, think about offering to be a servant during worship. Running the Camera, Power Pointing, Ushering, Greeting, or reading. Please look at where you can step up.

† 2021 FLOWER CHART AVAILABLE

Sign up early to get your special date! The new flower chart for 2021 has been posted in the hallway by the mailboxes. Please sign up to provide altar flowers in honor of your special date. Thanks, Your Altar Guild.

† LWML GET TOGETHER SATURDAY, JUNE 26

1. From 10:30 to noon in the Ascension Community Room. All ladies in the congregation are invited. It's been a long time since we met, and we'd like to re-group and make some plans for the rest of 2021.
2. Take a look at our LWML bulletin board. Located the end of the SE corridor next to the Community Room.
3. We are collecting some items for "Blessing Bags" for the Homeless. There is a grey basket in the Narthex with a flyer attached telling what toiletries and items we are collecting.

† PRAYER NEEDS?

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

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Carolyn Erdmann, Ray Brown, Elly Brown, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, The Family of Jack Webber, Michele Sprengle, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, John Eilers and Family, 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

Colleen Cordes	6/14	Scott Fabbri	6/14
Carol Hoefler	6/15	Gregory Zahm	6/17
Dustin Schaffer	6/18	Mariah Hart	6/19

BIRTHDAYS

Daniel Reinert	6/14	Jan Oswald	6/16
James Freeman	6/19		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mark and Val Schiely	June 14, 1975
Teresa and Tom Osgood	June 16, 2001
Andy and Morgan Berg	June 17, 2017
Bob and Debbie Rekdahl	June 17, 1972

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 13

8:30am	Worship -New Member Reception
9:45am	Adult Education
11:00am	Worship with Communion

Tuesday, June 15

6:00pm	3:10 Group
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Wednesday, June 16

6:30pm	C-101 Insights to Christianity
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Thursday June 17 – Pastor off for Vacation

Friday, June 18

6:30pm	Noche Familiar
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Saturday, June 19

8:30 to 12:00	Church work party
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NEXT WEEK

Sunday, June 20

8:30am	Worship with Communion
9:45am	Adult Education
11:00am	Worship

Wednesday, June 23

6:30pm	C-101 Insights to Christianity
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Friday, June 25

6:30pm	Noche Familiar
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Saturday, June 26

10:30am to 12:00pm	LWML MEETING
1:00pm to 4:00pm	Soccer Event

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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