

Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone" September 04, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 04, 2022

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 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 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.)

 $(\mathbf{P} = \text{Pastor}, \mathbf{G} = \text{Congregation}, \mathbf{A} = \text{Reader/Assisting})$

+ PREPARATION +

THEME: Choose Life!

AS WE GATHER: The first issue that naturally comes to mind to many Christians when hearing the phrase "Choose life!" is that of abortion, which chooses death, not life. And indeed, never should our witness to God's gift of life be silenced! Beyond that, however, are all the other choices we make in our struggles between God's good and gracious will for all and the universal disability of sin that constantly attempts to lead us away from God and His call to life. Today, God's Word gives us the assurance that because our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has chosen to take our suffering and death into Himself by His cross, all who are baptized into His saving death are given the power of faith to love God and pursue His ways of life according to His good and gracious Law and Gospel. Blessed is the man whose "delight is in the law of the LORD" (Psalm 1:2).

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

"Living For Jesus"

Living for Jesus, a life that is true. Striving to please Him in all that I do. Yielding allegiance glad hearted and free. This is the pathway of blessing for me.

> O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to Thee. For Thou in Thy atonement, Didst give Thyself for me. I own no other master, My heart shall be Thy throne. My life I give henceforth to live, O Christ for Thee alone.

Living for Jesus who died in my place, Bearing on Calvary, my sin and disgrace. Such love constrains me, to answer His call, Follow His leading and give Him my all. **(chorus)**

Living for Jesus, wherever I am. Doing each duty in His holy name. Willing to suffer affliction or loss. Deeming each trial, a part of my cross. **(chorus)**

Living for Jesus thro' earth's little while, My dearest treasure, the light of His smile, Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem, Bringing the weary to find rest in Him. (chorus)

INVOCATION

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 124:8; Isaiah 2:3, 5*

- **P** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- **G** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD,
- C that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deuteronomy 30:14

Since God graciously calls all people to come to Him to receive His love and life through repentance of sin and faith in His gift of forgiveness, let us confess our sin, take refuge in His mercy, and seek His grace for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

In silent prayer, we come before our merciful Lord for His healing forgiveness.

- Most merciful God, we come before You at Your gracious invitation. We repent of our sins in thought, word, and deed, both what we have done against Your Law and what we have failed to do in faithfulness to Your Law. We have not loved You with our whole being. We have failed to love our neighbors. We plead through the deliverance of Your Son's suffering and death, forgive us our sins, and give us the will to choose life in His name. Amen.
- The word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it." In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit. You are free. Choose life!
- C Amen.

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord our God, by Your Word and Spirit You create for Yourself a people after Your own heart. Impart to us a clean heart filled with Your love that we may constantly desire to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

С

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

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (ESV)

(The choice of life and death)

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to Him, for He is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

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

(The LORD knows the way of the righteous)

¹ Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; ² but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night. ³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. ⁴ The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. ⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶ for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-35 (ESV)

(The cost of discipleship)

- The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied Him, and He turned and said to them, ²⁶ "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be My disciple.³⁴ "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵ It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

С

Praise to You, O Christ.

PRAYER / LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED

HYMN

"Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said"

(tune - Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word)

"Take up your cross," the Savior said, "If you would my disciple be; Forsake the past, and come this day, And humbly follow after me."

Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, Nor let your foolish heart rebel; For you the Lord endured the cross To save your soul from death and hell.

Take up your cross and follow Christ, Nor think till death to lay it down; For only those who bear the cross May hope to wear a golden crown.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, And calmly ev'ry danger brave: It guides you to abundant life And leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.

SERMON

"LISTEN"

Deuteronomy 30:15–20 Pr. 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.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- All praise, honor, and worship be to You, O God our Father, for by Your Law You have revealed to the world Your salvation from all sin and death and given to all new hearts and renewed minds through the repentance of our sins and faith in Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Help us to follow in His way to joyfully choose His life by means of His truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Grant that Your glorious Word and will of divine Law and Gospel be preached to the conversion, life, and joy of all throughout the world. Give all who preach, minister, and serve in Your Holy Church boldness and clarity of mind and spirit to rightfully proclaim Your whole Law and Your glorious Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

- By Your Word and Spirit cause all who hear to have true repentance of their sins and true faith to grow in love toward You and their neighbors, and to purposely choose Your way of life daily in all their ways and deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Guide our nation and our elected leaders in the ways of justice, peace, and the promotion of lives pleasing to You. Preserve and bless all who serve in the armed forces of our nation as well as those who work to preserve peace, safety, and health in our community. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Comfort and bring healing to all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity...Give strength and the will to persevere to all who suffer any persecution for the faith. Help all to whom death draws near with the peace of a confident faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord, we give You thanks for abundant and eternal life and for the blessings You bestow in this life, especially upon those who celebrate this week...Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

(11:00am service, please turn to page 13 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.
- **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.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Be Unto Your Name"

We are a moment, You are forever, Lord of the ages, God before time, We are a vapor, You are eternal, Love everlasting, reigning on high.

(Chorus)

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain, Highest praises, honor and glory Be unto Your name, Be unto Your name. We are the broken, You are the healer, Jesus, Redeemer, mighty to save, You are the love song we'll sing forever, Bowing before You, blessing Your name. **(Chorus x2)**

"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?

(Refrain)

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.

O God, the author of all life, we praise and thank You that Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, chose death in our place. By the power of His resurrection, He has made us to be His own, imparting to us His holiness, righteousness, and love. Go with us to bear witness to Your gracious will and Your gift of life for the whole world; through our Lord of life, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

- 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

"Christ The Eternal Lord"

(tune: Crown Him With Many Crowns)

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim, Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name; With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne, Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth, And by His death salvation won For ev'ry child of earth; Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad, That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day, Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way; That light of truth You give To servants as to friends, Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief journey ends.

DISMISSAL

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

† TAKE A GOSPEL BRACELET, GIVE A GOSPEL BRACELET!

There are bracelets available at the welcome desk! Take as many as you will give out! Think of giving some out with an invitation to ALC!

† PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Can you spare a few hours to help out? Property Management needs helpers for various projects. If you are willing, let Laura Potter know. Immediate needs include replacing a light fixture in the east stairwell and pressure washing the exterior of the church.

† BOTTOMS UP FUNDRAISER

Thanks again for all the helpers and buyers! We are happy to announce that the sale brought in +/- \$1500.00. We still have items left to sell or give away, so check with Karla Deal to find out more.

† LOVE IN ACTION (a ministry of the Human Care Board)

After several meetings and some new members, the Human Care Board is excited to announce Love in Action! If you know anyone who might need assistance with small maintenance issues, yard work, cleaning, rides, or other help, please write the request on the back of a Prayer Request Sheet in you pew rack. Hand it in just like a prayer request and Pr Jim will follow up. Know someone getting surgery? Someone who needs a few meals during an illness? A family who needs a food box? Love in Action will do their best to help. Talk to Pr Jim if you have any questions.

† INTERESTED IN CRAFTING?

A "Crafting Get-Together" will begin on Wednesdays at 2:00pm in the Community Room. The first get-together will be on Wednesday Sept. 14. Bring your own crafts and projects or do something for the Outreach Board. Please email or contact Pr Jim if you have any questions or have an idea for a craft project.

ASSISTING IN SERVICE THIS SUNDAY SEPT. 4, 2022

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		Jaden Mundo
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis	John Knoke
	Jim Eckart	Marcus Young
	Randy Schroeder	
	NEEDED	
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Debbie Rekdahl
PowerPoint:	Michele Sprengle	Jessica Brown
Greeters:	Elizabeth Alvarado	Riki Neagle
	Karla Deal	Carrie Graham
Readers:	Karla Deal	Carlyn Staudt
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Jessica Brown
Flowers:	Both Services	
Counters:	Both Services	Karon Keup and

Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY SEPT. II, 2022

Elder: Acolytes:	8:30am Randy Bryant	11:00am Herb Hoefer
Ushers:	Bob Rekdahl Stan Chapulis	Johnnie Driessner Marcus Young Evan Kreps Eric Kreps
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	Laura Potter
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Wanda Cassetty	Julie Williamson
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Julie Williamson
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Karla Deal
Flowers:	Both Services	
Counters:	Both Services	Bob and Elaina Ritchie

EVENTS THIS WEEK - Sunday, Sept. 4 - Saturday, Sept. 10

Sunday, Sept. 4	8:30am	Worship w/ Communion
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Sept. 6	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 7	11:00am	CareConnect
Thursday, Sept. 8	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Sept. 9	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, Sept. 10	10:30am	Chosen 2 Study

EVENTS NEXT WEEK - Sunday, Sept. 11 - Saturday, Sept. 17

Sunday, Sept. 11	8:30am 9:45am 11:00am 6:00pm	Worship Education Hour Worship w/ Communion Online Worship Posted
Monday Sept. 12	11:00am	Stewardship Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 13	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 15	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Sept. 16	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, Sept. 17	10:30am	Church Cleanup

† PRAYER NEEDS?

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

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Gina Kreps, Judy Blubaum, Emily Kohnke (Webber Family), Alondra (a friend of Gina Kreps), Rich Zahursky, MaryLou May, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Andrew May, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), Mike Fogarty, Members and friends with Covid, The people of Ukraine, *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Dale Porath. *Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Little Rock, Arkansas (sister-inlaw 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 — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

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

† MILESTONES					
BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:					
Barb Greco	9/9	Jim Eckart	9/10		
BIRTHDAYS:					
Kaye Beaulieu	9/10	Dustin Schaffer	9/10		
Bill Guthrie	9/11	Peggy Hall	9/11		
Wedding Annivers	aries				
Wayne and Debbie Noonan Sept. 7, 1979					

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.

STAFF

Rev. Jim Sprengle, Pastor pastor@alcportland.org

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Michele Sprengle, Office Administrator office@alcportland.org

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