



“Who, me?”

Mark 6:14–29

Ascension Lutheran Church

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost ~ July 11, 2021

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 11, 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!

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 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 comulgar 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: “Appearances Are Deceiving”

AS WE GATHER

In today’s Gospel, it looks like the end of the story when John the Baptist is executed. But he was but the forerunner for Jesus, the promised Messiah. Appearances were certainly deceiving! Sometimes Satan uses appearances to deceive us, but the Epistle reminds us that God had predestined us to be with Him forever—even before He began creation! Although others might not recognize it, the Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our inheritance. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God. Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

(chorus)

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

Perfect submission, all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and blest.
Watching and waiting, looking above. Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. **(chorus)**

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P Lift up your eyes to the Lord!
C **For He is filled with mercy.**

P Plead with Him for what you need.
C **For He is filled with power.**

P Be content with His ways.
C **For His grace is sufficient.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 85:1–13*

P This morning, we will use Psalm 85 as we confess our sins and hear God's forgiveness for Jesus' sake. This psalm has two parts. The first is the plea of the psalmist to God, and the second is his announcement of God's promised salvation.

P LORD, You were favorable to Your land;
C **You restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

P You forgave the iniquity of Your people;
C **You covered all their sin.**

P You withdrew all Your wrath;
C **You turned from Your hot anger.**

P Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
C **and put away Your indignation toward us!**

P Will You be angry with us forever?
C **Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?**

P Will You not revive us again,
C **that Your people may rejoice in You?**

P Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,
C **and grant us Your salvation.**

(A moment of silence to reflect upon our sin.)

P Let us pray:
C **We confess, Lord our God, that we have listened to the voices of Satan, the world, and our own desires. We have not loved You with all that we are and have, and we have not considered our neighbors' needs as important as our own. We can only throw ourselves on the mercy of Your gracious court and ask for forgiveness, that we may amend our sinful ways.**

P Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
C **but let them not turn back to folly.**

P Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,
C **that glory may dwell in our land.**

P Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
C **righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

P Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
C **and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

P Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
C **and our land will yield its increase.**

P Righteousness will go before Him
C **and make His footsteps a way.**

P The steadfast love and faithfulness of our God are endless. For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for all our sins, God declares us to be His own children and has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 ✠

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:3–14 (ESV)

(God made our salvation certain before the creation of the world.)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love ⁵ He predestined us for adoption to Himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, ⁶ to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, ⁸ which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory. ¹³ In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprenkle

(Herodias gets John the Baptist’s head.)

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

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

¹⁴ King Herod heard of it, for Jesus’ name had become known. Some said, “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in Him.”
¹⁵ But others said, “He is Elijah.” And others said, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.”
¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.”
¹⁷ For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because he had married her.
¹⁸ For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”
¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not,
²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.
²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee.
²² For when Herodias’s daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you.”
²³ And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom.”
²⁴ And she went out and said to her mother, “For what should I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the Baptist.”
²⁵ And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”
²⁶ And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her.
²⁷ And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison
²⁸ and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother.
²⁹ When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

PRAYER REQUESTS GATHERED BY AN ELDER

HYMN

“How Firm A Foundation”

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
 Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
 What more can He say than to you He hath said
 Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, O, be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give Thee aid!
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, Shall be your supply.
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.

SERMON

“WHO, ME?”

Mark 6:14–29
Pastor Jim Sprengle

WE SING OUR FAITH – THE *TE DEUM* (“We Praise You, O God”)

“God, We Praise You”

(tune: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing)

God, we praise you! God, we bless you! God, we name you sovereign Lord!
Mighty King whom angels worship, Father, by your church adored:
all creation shows your glory, heaven and earth draw near your throne
Singing ‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts, and God alone!’

True apostles, faithful prophets, saints who set their world ablaze,
martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, join one growing song of praise,
while your church on earth confesses one majestic Trinity:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God, our hope eternally.

Jesus Christ, the King of glory, everlasting Son of God,
Humble was your virgin mother, hard the lonely path you trod:
By your cross is sin defeated, hell confronted face to face,
Heaven opened to believers, sinners justified by grace.

Christ, at God’s right hand victorious, You will judge the world you made;
Lord, in mercy help your servants for whose freedom you have paid:
Raise us up from dust to glory, guard us from all sin today;
King enthroned above all praises, save your people, God, we pray.

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.)

(11:00)

“Simple Song” (from *MASS*)

L. Bernstein and S. Schwartz

Barbara Greco, soloist

(“laudē” = “praise”, “honor”)

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laudē
Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laudē
Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things,
For God is the simplest of all, for God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord.
I will sing His praises while I live All of my days.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, blessed is the man who praises Him.
Lauda, Lauda, Laudē and walks in His ways.

I will lift up my eyes To the hills from whence comes my help.
I will lift up my voice to the Lord Singing Lauda, Laudē.
For the Lord is my shade, Is the shade upon my right hand,
And the sun shall not smite me by day Nor the moon by night.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Lauda, Lauda, Laudē,
And walks in His ways. Lauda, Lauda, Laudē,
Lauda, Lauda di da di day. All of my days.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us go to God in prayer for the Church around the world, the nations of this earth, and all who call to Him in their various needs.

Our Father in heaven, uphold and strengthen all families on the earth. Guide parents to teach their children all that You have done and promised. Grant Your blessing wherever Your people gather around Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P When the world seems to be winning and Your holy name is used without thought, put a strong confession on the lips of church leaders everywhere. Grant that they are used so that the reality of Your power and grace shine forth to dispel fear and to bring many to faith in our Savior. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Extend Your kingdom, O Lord, through mission efforts around the world. Open voices to speak Your word of judgment and grace, and open ears to hear Your invitation to turn and be saved. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Hear the prayers of the poor, so that their daily needs of food, clothing, and shelter be available to them. Bless all who grow and distribute crops, all who seek to alleviate pain and suffering, and all who fund and build decent housing. Give them the healing, comfort, and hope that fits Your gracious plans for them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** You have graciously forgiven us for Jesus' sake; open doors of opportunity for this congregation to be a welcoming place for people burdened with their past. Grant us to tell them what You have to say to them—words of forgiveness, peace, and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for the ill, the suffering, and all who mourn...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for those who are celebrating...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your power, mercy, and grace.
- C** **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Our Lord Jesus, who intercedes for us at the Father's right hand, has taught us to pray:
- C** **Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

(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.**

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.

**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)

"What Is This Bread?"

What is this bread? Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take, Was crushed to pay for our release.
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.

What is this wine? The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace brings His embrace Of life and love until I sing!
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

So who am I, That I should live and He should die
Under the rod? My God, my God, Why have You not forsaken me?
Oh, taste and see—The Lord is free.

Yet is God here? Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear.
In mouth and soul He makes us whole--Christ, truly present in this meal.
Oh, taste and see---The Lord is real.

Is this for me? I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe that I receive His very body and His blood.
O taste and see—the Lord is good.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, we thank You that in this Sacrament You have spoken Your final word of salvation and peace, graciously bestowed on us for Your Son's sake. Accompany us each day, ruling our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we be enabled to show in our living Your word of grace and mercy; 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

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

HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound! That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear, The hour I first believed.

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares I have already come.
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 11, 2021

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Sue Wentela	7/11	Haylee Harris	7/12
David Oswald	7/15	Katie Nelson	7/17
Ginny Whitney	7/17		

BIRTHDAYS

Leone Walton	7/11	Danny Graham	7/14
Gregory Zahm	7/16		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mike and Linda Fogarty	Jul 12, 1980
Keith and Carolyn Erdmann	Jul 17, 1965

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2021

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Herb Hoefer (WA)	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Randy Schroeder	Matthias McInaney
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood Laura Potter (Helping)	None
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood Laura Potter (Helping)	Riki Neagle
Greeters:	Sue Lewis Heather Goulde	Rebecca Williamson
Readers:	Travis Osgood	Marty Blankenberg
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Cindy Reinert
Counters:	Both Services	J. E. and Rosemary Knox
Flowers:	Both Services	None

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Tony Aguilar (WA)
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Needed	Jonathan Mundo Joshua Mundo
Audio/Visual:		Wyatt Brown
PowerPoint:	Wanda Cassetty Laura Potter (Helping)	Jessica Brown
Greeters:	Norma Dillon	Carrie Graham
Readers:	Randy Schroeder	J. E. Knox
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald
Flowers:	Both Services	Lewis Anniversary

† PRAYER NEEDS?

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

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Ray Brown, Elly Brown, Mike Hatley, Karon Keup, Bonnie Webber, Carolyn Erdmann, Julie Williamson, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Sylvia Guthrie, Michele Sprengle, 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).

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 11

8:30am Worship

9:45am Adult Education

11:00am Worship with Communion

Tuesday, July 13

6:00pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 14

6:30pm C-101 Insights to Christianity

7:00pm Online Bible Study

Friday, July 16

6:30pm Noche Familiar

Saturday, July 17

8:30am Church Work Party

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, July 18

8:30am Worship with Communion

9:45am Adult Education

11:00am Worship

Tuesday, July 20

6:00pm 3:10 Group

Wednesday, July 21

6:30pm C-101 Insights to Christianity

7:00pm Online Bible Study

Friday, July 23

6:30pm Noche Familiar

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

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