

Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone" Sunday, July 28, 2024

TENTH 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: "Out of the Destruction . . . Hope"

As We Gather

Sometimes the brightness of the day we are experiencing can affect how we perceive the space in which we are worshiping. A bright, sunny day can lift our spirits; a dark, cloudy day can have the opposite effect. Throughout the pages of Scriptures, God is associated with brightness and light. His setting of the rainbow in the heavens, recorded in the book of Genesis, is a symbol of God's promises to His faithful people. Images mentioned in our hymns also attest to the powerful brightness of God, as in "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright" (*LSB* 874), written by Ambrose of Milan in the fourth century. Whether a day has sunny skies or dull clouds or even rainbows, the very presence of God among us brings an eternal brightness to our time of worship.

Prelude

Welcome

Bless The Lord (10,000 Reasons)

(Chorus)
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before,
O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, It's time to sing Your song again. Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, Let me be singing when the evening comes. **(chorus)**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger, Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. **(chorus)** And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore! (chorus twice)

"10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)" CCLI Song # 6016351 Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 759893

Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Opening Scripture

Psalm 143:1a, 2, 8, 10; 145:8-9

- P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
- Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.
- Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.
- Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!
- The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- The LORD is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made.

Confession and Absolution

- It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarizes it well.
- Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

- P Humble yourselves, then, before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.
- O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.
- P God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.
- C Amen.
- P As you believe, so let it be. 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.
- Amen.

Salutation

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

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, You provide for our needs in miraculous ways. Help us to trust in Your provision for us and for all to whom You send us, through 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.
- And also with you.

+ THE WORD +

Old Testament

Genesis 9:8-17(ESV)

8God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9"Behold, I establish My covenant with you and your offspring after you, 10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. 11 establish My covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13I have set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember My covenant that is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds. I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." 17God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

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

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21 (ESV)

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

Holy Gospel

Mark 6:45-56 (ESV)

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

⁴⁵Immediately [Jesus] made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶And after He had taken leave of them, He went up on the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and He was alone on the land. ⁴⁸And He saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, ⁴⁹but when they saw Him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, 50 for they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." ⁵¹And He got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, 52 for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened. 53When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. ⁵⁴And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized Him 55 and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard He was. ⁵⁶And wherever He came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored Him that they might touch even the fringe of His garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

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

Prayer and Love in Action Requests Gathered

How Wide the Love of Christ

How wide the love of Christ!
 It knows not class or race
 But holds our one humanity
 Within its broad embrace.

tune: O Bless the Lord, My Soul

- 2 How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.
- 3 How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars, And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.
- How deep the love of Christ,
 Descending to a cross!
 He bears within His wounded hands
 All human pain and loss.
- All praise to You, O Christ,
 For love whose depth and height,
 Whose length and breadth fill time and space
 With endless life and light!

How Wide the Love of Christ, Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

Sermon "THE SIGN OF THE COVENANT"

Pr. Jim Sprengle Genesis 9:8-17

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.)

"When Peace, Like A River" (It Is Well)

arr. L. Larson

Handbell Choir

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, You have made us Your own dear children through Holy Baptism. Strengthen us with power by Your Holy Spirit in our inner being, that Your Son may dwell in our hearts through faith and that we would be rooted and grounded in love. Lord, in Your mercy,

- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord, You are able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think. Be glorified in Your Church and in Christ Jesus! Ground us in love. Give us a faith rooted in the promises of Christ and strength to comprehend with all the saints His love that surpasses all knowledge. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, as You preserved Noah and his family and brought forth new life from the ark under the promise of Your covenant, bless now our families also. Make marriages strong and fruitful according to Your will. Let Your Word rule in every home, uniting its members in forgiveness and causing Your Son to dwell in every heart through faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord of might, spare us and future generations from wickedness. Give blessing to our nation and its leaders to rule according to Your good pleasure. Protect the members of our armed forces, police and other public servants. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- Lord Jesus, do not allow our hearts to become hardened by indifference or frustration in this world. Give us understanding and courage to sustain us through this valley of sorrows. Lead us to Your blessed Sacrament with repentance and faith, that eating Your true body and drinking Your blood, we may receive forgiveness of sins and confidence according to Your New Testament. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Merciful Father, we ask for Your healing upon...Even as You sent Your Son to heal and make whole, teach them ever to trust in Your love, for You never leave nor forsake them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord of all grace and blessing, we give You thanks for...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, You name every family in heaven and on earth. We give thanks for our brothers and sisters in Christ who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors. Preserve us in the faith so that Christ might dwell in our hearts richly until that day when we join them around Your throne; for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- 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 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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

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

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

Agnus Dei (Lamb Of God)



LSB633

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

- At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King, Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His piercèd side. Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine, Gives His body for the feast— Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!
- Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!
- 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread; With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!
- Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

A Sather, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing, Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt., Text: Public domain

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

LSB632

- O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be, Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day! My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee, Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928, Text: Public domain

Post Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for having fed us with Your lifegiving food. Strengthen us in hope-filled living, help us to rejoice in Your mercies, and grant us a portion with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

C Amen.

Benediction

- The eternal grace of our Lord

 → Jesus Christ and the steadfast love of God the Father and the blessed communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.

Announcements

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

Sing To The King

Sing to the King Who is coming to reign. Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain. Life and salvation His empire shall bring, And joy to the nations when Jesus is King.

(Chorus)

Come, let us sing a song, A song declaring that we belong to Jesus; He is all we need. Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; Sing to the King.

For His returning we watch and we pray;
We will be ready the dawn of that day.
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed,
'Cause Satan is vanguished and Jesus is King. (Chorus twice)

Sing To The King, CCLI Song# 4010902 by Billy J. Foote | Charles Silvester Horne, © 2003 sixsteps Music; Used with permission under CCLI License # 759893.

Dismissal

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

Acknowledgments

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 28, 2024

† NEW DONNA SNOW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

The Stripes That Healed, based on *Isaiah 53:5: "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed"*. Join us in the Community Room for this 4-session study held on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm beginning August 13. The study is available in the church office or call and one will be placed in your church mailbox!

† SCHOOL SUPPLIES FUNDRAISER!

The Human Care Board is raising funds and donations to give school supplies to children in our community and My Father's House for the 2024-2025 school year. Our goal is to give 200 students school supplies this year. The donations will take place as free will offerings after church from July 7 to August 4. Here are some important dates when we will need your help:

- July 31: Wednesday at 2pm in the Community Room Prepare bags with supplies
- August 10: Saturday from 1-3pm at the north parking lot Hand out bags to the public

Please talk to Pastor Jim to support this much needed outreach.

† FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY AND ALL CHURCH WORSHIP

Invite your friends and family and join us Sunday, August 25 at 10:30am for our annual all church worship. A potluck lunch will follow in the Community Room. The church will provide the main course, drinks and dinnerware for all. The congregation is invited to supply their favorite sides and desserts! Remember just **ONE** service that day!

HOSPITALITY NEEDS HELPERS ON THE DAY OF THE PICNIC:

Contact the church office if you can help: Call (503) 665-8821 or email office@alcportland.org

FOOD NEEDS: Check out the list in the narthex to sign up for items to bring. If you cannot contribute, please do not let that keep you from coming.

† THE CHOSEN SEASON 4

We plan to watch on August 10 and 24 beginning at 10:30am.

† 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:

The Family of Carolyn Barendse, Karla Deal, The family of Bob Rekdahl, Jan Galberth, Jim Eckart, Gina Kreps, Herb and Carol Hoefer, Mike Fogarty, 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

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

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Navy – Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii (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 (grandson of Neil and Deb Zeller)

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

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUN., JULY 28, 2024

8:30am 11:00am

Elder: Randy Schroeder Bob Ritchie
Acolytes: NEEDED NEEDED
Ushers: Jim Eckart Marcus Young

Jshers: Jim Eckart Marcus Young
Mike Adams Matthias McInaney

ns Mattnias Mcinane Eric Kreps

Audio/Visual: Stan Chapulis Neil Zeller
Laura Potter

PowerPoint: Michele Sprengle Rebecca Williamson

Greeters: Sheryl Maier Riki Neagle

Nancy Thomas

Readers: Jim Eckart Bonnie Webber

Altar Guild: Both Services: Karen Zahursky

Flowers: Both Services: **NEEDED**

Counters: Both Services: Bonnie Webber and

Rebecca Williamson

Sunday School 9:45am: Hana Brandt and Gina Kreps

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT, SUN., AUGUST 4, 2024

8:30am 11:00am
Bruce Blubaum Herb Hoefer

Elder: Bruce Blubaum Herb Hoefer
Acolytes: NEEDED NEEDED
Ushers: Stan Chapulis Paul Walter
John Aden Neil Zeller

NEEDED NEEDED

Audio/Visual:Teresa OsgoodJohnnie DriessnerPowerPoint:Taylor OsgoodRebecca WilliamsonGreeters:Margo BachhuberWendy Hazen

Elizabeth Alvarado

Readers: Susan Rotramel NEEDED

Altar Guild: Both Services: Jan Oswald Both Services: Karla Deal

Counters: Both Services: Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier **Sunday School** 9:45am: Carrie Graham and Michele Sprengle

† MILESTONES - SUNDAY, JULY 28 - SATURDAY, AUG. 3

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Keilah Woods July 28 Trever Fogarty Aug. 1

Travis Osgood Aug. 1

BIRTHDAYS:

Josue Aguilar July 30 Erika Teyema July 30 Teresa Osgood Aug. 2 Will Teyema Aug. 2

WEDDINGS:

Don and Clydette Hilliard
Eric and Celia Kreps
Don and Norma Dillon

July 31, 1976
Aug. 1, 1998
Aug. 2, 1970

EVENTS THIS WEEK - SUN., JULY 28- SAT., AUG. 3

Sunday, July 28	8:30am 9:45am 11:00am	Worship Adult Ed and Sunday School Worship with Communion
	12:15pm	Bell Practice
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship w/ Communion
Wednesday, July 31	11:30am	Watercolor Painting Class
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	2:00pm	School Supply Preparation
Thursday, Aug. 1	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, Aug. 2	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
- -	7:00pm	Youth Group

EVENTS NEXT WEEK - SUN., AUGUST 4 - SAT., AUG. 10

Sunday, Aug. 4	8:30am 9:45am 11:00am	Worship with Communion Adult Ed and Sunday School Worship
	12:15pm	Bell Practice
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
Monday, Aug. 5	1:00pm	Human Care Board
Tuesday, Aug. 6	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday, Aug. 7	11:30am	Watercolor Painting Class
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
Thursday, Aug. 8	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, Aug. 9	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Youth Group



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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