



The LORD
lifts up
those who are
bowed down:
the LORD
loves
the righteous.

Psalms 146:8

Ascension Lutheran Church and School
"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"
December 11, 2022

Third Sunday in Advent December 11, 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.)*

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

✠ PREPARATION ✠

THEME: “Joy Overflowing”

AS WE GATHER: Advent is a most joyful time and a time for great praise of our God. Today is the “joyful Sunday” in Advent. With Mary’s beautiful song, the Magnificat, we exult that God has “done great things” and that “His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation” (LSB, pp. 248–49). With Mary, we rejoice that God “has shown strength with His arm” especially to those who are lowly and humbled. In his paraphrase of the Magnificat, hymnwriter Stephen Starke invites us to “Sing the greatness of the Lord” and “With praise and blessing Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy” (LSB 933:1). There is so much joy in Advent—it simply must be shared!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“Come, O Precious Ransom”

Come, O precious Ransom, come,
Only hope for sinful mortals
Come, O Savior of the world,
Open are to You all portals
Come, Your beauty let us view;
Anxiously we wait for You.

My hosannas and my palms,
Graciously receive I pray You
Evermore, as best I can,
Homage I will gladly pay You,
And in faith I will embrace
Life eternal by Your grace.

Hail! Hosanna! David’s Son!
Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Your kingdom, scepter, crown
Bring us blessing and salvation
That forever we may sing:
Hail! Hosanna to our King!

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Philippians 4:4; Matthew 11:5; Isaiah 35:1; Psalm 146:2

- P** Rejoice in the Lord always;
- C** **again I will say, Rejoice.**
- P** The dead are raised up,
- C** **and the poor have good news preached to them.**
- P** The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
- C** **the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus.**
- P** I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
- C** **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE - JOY

Otherwise known as the Shepherd Candle, this candle reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation He has gifted us. Christians may wonder why the church decided to make this particular candle a different color than the others. Although Christians have presented several reasons for the pinkish nature of the candle, the rosy candle has its roots in something known as *Gaudete* (Latin for "rejoice") Sunday. During this third week of Advent, this Sunday celebrates the passage Philippians 4:4-5, its verses extolling readers to "rejoice" for "indeed the Lord is near." In other words, this week celebrates the joy of Christ's coming to earth. It is also known as the Shepherd Candle to highlight the joy the shepherds experienced when they received the good news about Christ's birth (Luke 2:8-20). During the middle of the night, the darkest time, the shepherds encountered angels. Not only do we consider repentance during Advent, we also consider the importance of joy in the Advent season. During a time where depression is at an all-time high and people seem to be in the most despair, this candle offers a bright light during a dark time.

“My Soul Rejoices”

My soul rejoices, My spirit voices—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
For God my Savior
Has shown me favor—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
With praise and blessing,
Join in confessing
God, who is solely
Mighty and holy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
His mercy surely Shall rest securely
On all who fear Him,
Love and revere Him—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

His arm now baring, His strength declaring—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
The proud He scatters,
Their rule He shatters—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
Oppression halted; The meek exalted.
Full are the hungry;
Empty, the wealthy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
Here is the token
All that was spoken
To Abr’ham’s offspring
God is fulfilling—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **Merciful Father, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have failed to trust in You fully, and we have disobeyed Your command to love others as we love ourselves. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ.**

P God is gracious and forgiving. To each of us, our Lord says, “Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

† THE WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:1-6; 10 (ESV)

(The desert shall rejoice and blossom.)

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

EPISTLE

James 5:7–11 (ESV)

(An encouragement for Christians to wait for the Lord with patience)

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

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

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

(Jesus speaks about John the Baptist.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eleventh chapter.

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

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by His disciples ³ and said to Him, “Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.” ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is He of whom it is written, “Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.” ¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

PRAYER / LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED

HYMN

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.

The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets Your people free!

SERMON

“WHY REJOICE”

Matthew 11:2–15
Pr. Jim Sprengle

CREED

The Third Article with Luther's Explanation

P The Third Sunday in Advent is a joy-filled Sunday in which we can thank God for His gracious plan for our salvation and for the Holy Spirit, who guides our lives of faith and joins us together in the community of the Church. We speak the words of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed with joyful confidence:

C **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.**

P What does this mean?

C **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

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)

“Somebody Build A Manger”
Words and Music by Joel Raney
Ascension Choir

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P With Advent joy, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people, according to their need.

Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Save and defend Your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the Holy Sacraments, making them perfect in love and in all good works, and establishing in them the faith once delivered to the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Grant Your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold office in Your Church that, by their devoted service, faith may abound and Your kingdom increase. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Send the light of Your truth into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home and in distant lands. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and order our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to the nations of the world that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Bless the schools of the Church and all colleges, universities, and centers of research and those who teach and work in them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Sanctify our homes with Your presence, and bless them with joy. Keep our children in the covenant of their Baptism, and enable their parents to bring them up in lives of faith and devotion. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. We pray for...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We give You thanks for the blessings being celebrated this week...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C** **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold 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.**

(8:30am service, please turn to page 14 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.
- 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 HYMNS

“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
“Come and taste the blessed feast.”

Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.

Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
Makes my wounded spirit whole.

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine.
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first lov-ed me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath.
And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in Heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, heavenly Father, ruler of all things, You have promised to return in Your appointed time to right all wrongs and defeat the power of sin, death, and Satan. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this Holy Sacrament, we may joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your blessings for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound”

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

DISMISSAL

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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*Thank you for the lovely Altar flowers from Wilma and Angel Aguilar
in honor of their anniversary.*

† CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO SHUT-INS

Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, December 18 at 1:00pm in the narthex as we gather to share Christmas carols with our shut-ins. We hope that you can join us in this wonderful time of sharing the love of Jesus with those who cannot get out to enjoy the season. Our time ends with singing at Fairlawn at 4:00pm.

† SING WITH THE CHOIR?

“Joy To The World, The Lord Is Come!” If you would like to sing with the choir in celebrating the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve, please plan on attending rehearsals December 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 7:00pm.

† TRUMPET RECITAL!

Following the 3:30 Midweek Advent service on December 21, Karlee Wood (Granddaughter of Rich and Karen Zahursky, and trumpet student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music), will present a trumpet recital at 5:00pm. All are invited to come and be inspired, then stay with us for the potluck dinner that follows at 6:00pm. The evening ends with another Midweek Advent service at 7:00pm.

† ADOPT A STOCKING FOR MY FATHER'S HOUSE

We have adopted 6 men and 15 women to gift with filled stockings. If you wish to take on a person. There are a few left! Just take the stocking name from the white board in the Narthex, and gather the items needed! Please return to the Church before Wed, Dec 21.

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Miki Etzel	Dec. 11	Brad Hall	Dec. 12
Larry Hart	Dec. 16	Sean Ritchie	Dec. 17

BIRTHDAYS

Cody Brown	Dec. 11	Sue Lewis	Dec. 11
Israel Zuriaga	Dec. 12	Jeff Latter	Dec. 13
Colleen Cordes	Dec. 16		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

John and Darlene Knoke Dec. 14, 1969

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, DEC. 11

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	John Hazen
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl	Erik Kreps Evan Kreps Matthias McInaney Johnnie Driessner John Hazen
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	Rebecca Williamson
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood	Bonnie Webber
Greeters:	Heather Gulde Sue Lewis	
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Bonnie Webber
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Karen Zahursky
Flowers:	Both Services	Wilma Aguilar
Counters:	Both Services	Bob and Elaina Ritchie

ASSISTING IN SERVICE WED., DEC. 14

	3:30pm	7:00pm
Elder:	NEEDED	Randy Bryant
Ushers:	Ryan Deathreraige	John Knoke
Greeters:	Norma Dillon	Bonnie Webber
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Karen Zahursky
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie and Rebecca

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, DEC. 18

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Bob Ritchie
Acolytes:		Jaden Mundo
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl Randy Schroeder Jim Eckart	Jonathan Mundo Jaden Mundo
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	J. E. Knox
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	Rosemary Knox
Greeters:	Norma Dillon Jean Dillon	Esperanza Gutierrez Margaret Hubbard
Readers:	Jim Eckart	Michele Sprengle
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Jan Oswald
Flowers:	Both Services	Karen Zahursky
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie and Rebecca

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., DEC. 11 - SAT., DEC. 17

Sunday, Dec. 11	8:30am	Worship
ADVENT 3	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship w/ comm.
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday Dec. 13	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday Dec. 14	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	3:30pm	Advent Worship 3
	6:00pm	Dinner – Mexican Fiesta
	7:00pm	Advent Worship 3
Thursday, Dec. 15	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Dec. 16	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., DEC. 18 - SAT., DEC. 24

Sunday, Dec. 18	8:30am	Worship w/ comm.
ADVENT 4	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday Dec. 20	6:00pm	3:10 Group at Sprengle's
Wednesday Dec. 21	11:00am	CareConnect
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	3:30pm	Advent Worship 4
	6:00pm	Dinner – Comfort Food
	7:00pm	Advent Worship 4
Thursday, Dec. 22		NEWSLETTER DUE
	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Dec. 23	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation
Saturday, Dec. 24	7:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Gina Kreps, Bill and Sylvia Guthrie, Kevin McInaney, Judy Blubaum, Robert (Virginia Jacob's Brother), Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, Carlyn Staudt, Karla Deal, George and Carlee Metteer, Rev. Travis Leslie, Emily Kohnke (member of the 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-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 — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

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

† **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

It is the season to remember our policy on canceling services due to weather. If a snow and ice day affects a scheduled service, always call the church office to listen to the updated message before driving to church that day. We will also update the website and send out a Constant Contact email, but for those without Internet access, call the church office.

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 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.

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