



God's Gifts Equip Us for Ministry

Ascension Lutheran Church and School
“A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone”
January 23, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 23, 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 comulgán 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: “Gathered, Hearing, Gifted”

AS WE GATHER: Not everyone will listen to the Word of God as it is shared. By God’s grace we receive faith in His Son Jesus. In our Gospel reading, Jesus stirs up controversy by claiming to be the Messiah, which was difficult for His hometown to believe. In the Old Testament reading, the people gathered as Ezra read the Word, and upon hearing it, brought them to repentance. St. Paul in the Epistle lesson shares the gifts God provides to all in the body of Christ, which makes us one body with many gifts!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word
We are gathered all to hear You.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear You,
By Your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love You solely.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till Your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.

△ (stand)

Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,
Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word,
Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Romans 7:12, 22–24

- P** The law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.
- C** **For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,**
- P** but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.
- C** **Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?**

CONFESION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.
- C** **We confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds, and also by the good that we have failed to do. Our love for You and for our neighbors has been weak. By Your Law, You reveal the judgment we rightly deserve. Because Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, has fulfilled Your Law on our behalf, we beg Your forgiveness and grace to restore us to life with You in the fellowship of all believers. Amen.**

- P** Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! In the stead and by the command of our Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

RESPONSE

“Thank You, Lord”

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

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.

Lord God, Your Word clearly shows Your love for the world in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Give to us both heartfelt repentance and faith that we may rejoice together and praise Your goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you all.
C And also with you.

† THE WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nehemiah 8:2–3 (ESV)

(Ezra reads the Law.)

² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

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

(One Body with many members)

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as He chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be?

²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues.²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?
³¹ But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:16–21 (ESV)

(Jesus rejected at Nazareth.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶ And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as was His custom, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and He stood up to read.¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given

to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord ‘s favor.”²⁰ And He rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him.²¹ And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN **“Where Charity And Love Prevail”**

Where charity and love prevail
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ’s love
By love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
Now love Him in return.

Let strife among us be unknown;
Let all contention cease;
Be God’s the glory that we seek;
Be ours His holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.

SERMON **“ALL TOGETHER NOW”**

1 Corinthians 12:12-20; 27-31a

Pr. Jim Sprengle

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. 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.)

(11:00) “Let Light Shine Out of Darkness”

John A. Behnke

Ascension Choir

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Lord God, we give You thanks that You have gathered us together from our solitary lives to be a united family in the forgiveness of our sins. We thank You for Your wonderful grace and mercy, which You have revealed to us and to the whole world in Your Son, Jesus Christ. As we have faithfully heard Your mighty Word this day, cause our hearts to rejoice and respond in glad praise to You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

P Grant unity and blessing to Your whole Church on earth. Give her grace and power to faithfully proclaim Your perfect Law and glorious Gospel. Bless all preachers of Your Word and those who serve You and the world in their various vocations. Grant that many be drawn by Your Spirit to join us in the fellowship of all the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As Your Son came to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, so bring comfort and healing to all who are sick or have any other adversity, *especially...* Grant Your help and blessing to all who minister to them in any need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We remember and rejoice with those who are celebrating this week...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P 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, we give thanks for Your mighty Word, and so we pray in Jesus' name and as He has taught us:

C **Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in
Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against
us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the
glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

(8:30 service, please turn to page 11 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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“One Bread, One Body”

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. **(refrain)**

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. **(refrain)**

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. (**refrain**)

“How Deep The Father’s Love For Us”

How deep the Father’s love for us, How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers.

It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom!

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Thanks, and praise to You, O God, for Your kindness in the face of our greatest need. Help us to reflect Your great love, living in the forgiveness of sins and proclaiming the liberty of Your everlasting kingdom to all; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION *Psalm 19:14; Numbers 6:24–26*

P Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight,

C **O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

P Our gracious Redeemer now sends us out, with His Word in our hearts and our lips, that we may declare His grace to the world He came to save.

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.)

SONG

“Thy Word”

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.**

When I feel afraid, Think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near;
Please be near me to the end. **(chorus)**

I will not forget Your love for me and yet,
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide, and hold me to Your side,
And I will love You to the end. **(chorus)**

You're the light unto my path.

DISMISSAL

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

JANUARY 23, 2022

SUNDAY JANUARY 30

The Voter's Assembly will be after the 11am service.

† NETWORK DISCOVERY SESSIONS ARE COMING!

- † 2 Saturdays—January 29 and February 5
- † From 9:30am until no later than 3:00pm
- † Refreshments and lunch are provided
- † Discovery tools and assessments will teach you to evaluate your spiritual gifts, personality, and passions for ministry
- † Maybe you have already taken Network! You can take it again.

Contact Pr. Jim if you want to attend, as books need to be ordered (\$8.99 plus shipping if you wish to donate the cost.)

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Olive Sylvia	1/24	Fredia Moore	1/27
Sheryl Maier	1/29		

BIRTHDAYS

Marty Blankenburg	1/24	Bob Freeman	1/24
Luke Teyema	1/25	Bruce Blubaum	1/26

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Ed and Margaret Hubbard Jan. 27, 1968

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests e-mail:
office@alcportland.org

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Members and friends with Covid, The Family of Bill Ritchie, Bob Rekdahl, Fred Greco, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Karon Keup, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Esperanza Gutierrez, Rich Zahursky, 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 — 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 — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

ASSISTING IN SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	Herb Hoefer
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Marcus Young Jim Eckart	Matthias McInaney Bob Freeman James Freeman Wyatt Brown
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	Laura Potter
PowerPoint:	Michele Sprengle	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Karla Deal	Christian Freeman
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Julie Williamson
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Margo Bachhuber
Flowers:	Both Services	Margo Bachhuber
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Bruce Blubaum
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Marcus Young Bob Rekdahl	John Knoke Johnnie Driessner
Audio/Visual:	Michele Sprengle	Rebecca Williamson (Sound)
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Sue Lewis Heather Gulde	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Bonnie Webber	Carol Hoefer
Altar Circle:	Both Services	MaryLou May
Flowers:	Both Services	No Volunteer
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK – Sunday, Jan. 23 – Saturday, Jan. 29

Sunday, Jan. 23	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday Jan. 25		Newsletter Items Due
Wednesday, Jan. 26	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Jan. 27	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Jan. 28	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation
Saturday, Jan. 29	9:30am	Network Part 1

NEXT WEEK – Sunday, Jan. 30 – Saturday, Feb. 6

Sunday, Jan. 30	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Wednesday, Feb. 2	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Feb. 3	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Feb. 4	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation
Saturday, Feb. 5	9:30am	Network Part 2

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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