



“I am your brother, Joseph...

GOD SENT ME

before you to preserve life.”

Genesis 45:4-5

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

“A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone”

February 20, 2022

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 20, 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: “In Joseph’s Shoes”

AS WE GATHER: “What shoes shall I wear today?” You may have asked yourself that question before heading to worship this morning. Most of us have many pairs of shoes from which to choose. But there is one kind of “shoes” each of us is to be wearing. As Paul counsels the Ephesians: “Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace” (Ephesians 6:14–15). Choosing the right kind of shoes makes the day go better. Hearing the Gospel proclaimed throughout our worship and directing the days of our week in response to that Gospel makes our lives a blessing.

PRELUDE *Thank you to Donna Settje for sharing
her musical gifts with us this morning.*

WELCOME

HYMN **“O Bless the Lord, My Soul”**

O, bless the Lord, my soul, Let all within me join
And help my tongue to praise His name Whose mercies are divine.

For God forgives our sins, And God relieves our pain
The Lord, Who heals our sicknesses, Renews our strength again.

He crowns our life with love When ransomed from the grave;
He Who redeemed my soul from hell Has sovereign power to save.

The Lord provides our food And gives the sufferers rest.
The Lord has judgment for the proud And justice for th’oppressed.

His mighty works and ways By Moses He made known,
But gave the world His truth and grace By His beloved Son.

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 30:10; 43:3; Proverbs 4:18;
Isaiah 2:5b*

P Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!

C **O LORD, be my helper.**

P Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;

C **let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!**

P The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,

C **which shines brighter and brighter until full day.
Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 Thessalonians 5:23–24

P Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our gracious heavenly Father.

C **Eternal God, we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We are given to sinful thoughts, sinful words, and sinful deeds. We have transgressed Your law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We deserve Your punishment, now and for eternity. In Your mercy, forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You through the merits of Jesus, our Lord.**

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

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 taught us to love our enemies and to be merciful as You are merciful. By Your Holy Spirit, grant us the gifts of love and peace without which we cannot live before You; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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

Genesis 45:3–15 (ESV)

(Joseph forgives his brothers.)

⁴ So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰ You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.’ ¹² And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

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

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:21–26 (ESV)

(Paul teaches regarding the resurrection of the dead.)

²¹ For as by a man came death, by a Man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at His coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

Pastor Jim Sprenkle

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:27–38 (ESV)

(Jesus teaches about loving enemies.)

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

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

²⁷ “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. ³² “If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. ³⁵ But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶ Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;

³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

(tune: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds)

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.

Forgive we now each other’s faults as we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well In Christian holiness.

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 **“LIVING IN GOD’S PLAN”** **Genesis 45:3–15**
Pastor 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)

(8:30)

“This I Know!”

Words and music by Cindy Berry

Ascension Choir

*Who can comprehend the mind of God? Who can understand His ways?
Nothing in life seems certain On the journey through earthly days.*

*I have questions that go unanswered; There are things I do not understand.
But my Father knows what is best for me, According to His plan.*

*This I know, I have a Savior, Jesus Christ, who died for me.
This I know, He died at Calv'ry to pay sin's debt that I might be free.
Then He arose in glorious splendor to take His rightful place.
And someday soon I'll see His face, this I know!*

*This I know, that in my Savior I have an anchor firm and sure.
This I know, His love and mercy Will forevermore endure.
Soon I'll enter heaven's glory And walk on streets of purest gold.
And on that day I will behold Him, this I know!*

*So I will trust in the Lord, I will not be shaken,
He will fight the battle for me.
His is the glory and the power forever, His is the victory.*

*This I know, I have a Savior, Jesus Christ, who died for me.
This I know, He died at Calv'ry To pay sin's debt that I might be free.
Then He arose in glorious splendor To take His rightful place.
Someday soon I'll see His face, For He saved me by His grace.
Yes, the Father loves me so, This I know!*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:
- O Lord, Your servant Joseph endured hardship and struggle, yet believed it would come to good. Give us such tested faith, and bring all things to completion according to Your purposes in Christ, the new Adam, who has brought hope to the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lead all pastors, missionaries, and church workers in faithful service to Your people with compassion and love. Bless every place where we hear Your Word and serve our neighbor in Christ's name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Help all parents who have brought their children to Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism also to bring them to Him faithfully in the Divine Service, that He may continue to take them in His arms and bless them through His Word. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let Your love have its way with us, Lord. Lead us to expect no self-interested reward, but to love our enemies and serve those in need. Put an end to all bitterness and strife. Let forgiveness reign between each of us, even as Christ's blood covers our sins before Your heavenly throne. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Comfort all who suffer or mourn, deliver the sick according to Your will, and sustain by Your grace those troubled in body or soul *especially*...Grant Your children patience and courage to endure every time of trial with hope in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We give You thanks and rejoice with those who are celebrating this week...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord God, heavenly Father, You will bring all things to completion according to Your order and time. When Christ comes and all the dead are raised, number us, we pray, among the saints in glory, clothing the perishable with the imperishable and bringing us into eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

(11:00am service, please turn to page 13 for the Benediction)

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

We believe in the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion. Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

(Grape juice is available in the center of the trays for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- 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

“Eat This Bread”

**Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to Him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Trust in Him and you will not thirst.**

This is His body given for you;
This is His blood that was shed for you. **(Refrain)**

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
You show His death until He comes again. **(Refrain)**

Eat His flesh and drink His blood,
And Christ will raise you up on the Last Day. **(Refrain)**

Anyone who eats
This bread will live forever. **(Refrain)**

If we believe and eat this bread,
we will have eternal life. **(Refrain)**

“Bind Us Together”

**Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together,
Bind us together with love.**

There is only one God,
There is only one King
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing: **(chorus)**

Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by His precious Son;
Given the grace to be clean,
For Jesus the victory has won. **(chorus)**

You are the family of God,
You are the promise divine;
You are God's chosen desire,
You are the glorious new wine. **(chorus)**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Blessed are You, almighty God, for by You we have been fed and nourished with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to treasure the epiphany of our Lord and see in Him the fullness of Your divine presence. Grant us Your abiding peace each day of our lives as we await Your eternal kingdom. In the name of Jesus, our hope and comfort, we pray.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

HYMN

“Lift High The Cross”

**Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore
His sacred name.**

Come, Christians, follow
Where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious,
Christ, the Son of God. **(refrain)**

All newborn soldiers
Of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal
Of Him Who died. **(refrain)**

O Lord, once lifted
On the glorious tree,
Raise us, and let Your
Cross the magnet be. **(refrain)**

So shall our song
Of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified
For victory! **(refrain)**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 20, 2022

† GOSPEL MISSION BRACELET HELP NEEDED

Stop by the Community Room or office on weekdays to get supplies to put together bags of items to assemble Gospel Bracelets for the upcoming Lenten get-togethers. It is a wonderful way to pass on the story of salvation.

† THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY SEASON I

Join in this amazing opportunity, everyone is invited! Classes are the second and fourth Saturday of the month beginning on March 12 from 10:30am to noon.

9 Sessions in total: March 12, 26; April 9, 23; May 14, 28; June 11, 25; July 9

Sessions will include discussion and Bible study, followed by an episode of the series to reflect upon for the following weeks Bible study session.

Books must be ordered in advance for \$13.50. If you would like a copy, please let us know soon!

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Alma Bangs	2/22	Bruce Blubaum	2/24
Stan Chapulis	2/24	Gabe Woods	2/24

BIRTHDAYS

Angel Aguilar	2/23	Evan Kreps	2/24
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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

None

ASSISTING IN SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	John Hazen
Acolytes:		Jaden Mundo
Ushers:	Marcus Young Bob Rekdahl Jim Eckart	Jonathan Mundo Joshua Mundo
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter (Sound)	Wyatt Brown
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	Jessica Brown
Greeters:	Norma Dillon Jean Dillon	Esperanza Gutiérrez
Readers:	Jim Eckart	Michele Sprengle
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Karla Deal
Flowers:	Both Services	Jamie Bailey
Counters:	Both Services	Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	Bruce Blubaum
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Marcus Young Jim Eckart	Matthias McInaney Bob Freeman James Freeman Wyatt Brown
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	Laura Potter (Sound)
PowerPoint:	Wanda Cassetty	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Karla Deal	Christina Freeman
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Randy Schroeder
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Flowers:	Both Services	
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK – Sunday, Feb. 20 – Saturday, Feb. 26

Sunday, Feb. 20	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Monday, Feb. 21	NEWSLETTER Items Due	
Wednesday, Feb. 23	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Feb. 24	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Feb. 25	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation

NEXT WEEK – Sunday, Feb. 27 – Saturday, Mar. 5

Sunday, Feb. 27	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Mar. 1	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday, Mar. 2	11:00am	CareConnect
	3:30pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Mar. 3	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Mar. 4	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation

† PRAYER NEEDS?

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

† **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).

† **PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:**

The family of Ray Brown, Bob Rekdahl, MaryLou May, Miki Etzel, Fred Greco, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Esperanza Gutierrez, Rich Zahursky, Joyce (friend of Randy Bryant), Judy Blubaum, Members and friends with Covid, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath. *Home Bound.

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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