



“The Fruit of the Spirit”

Galatians 5:22-23

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
“A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone”
Sunday, June 29, 2025

THIRD 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: "WATER THE ROOTS, NOT THE BRANCHES"

AS WE GATHER: If you have ever enjoyed a homegrown tomato or plucked a ripe peach straight from the tree, you know there is no substitute for good fruit. Today, the Holy Spirit is continuing the work begun in your Baptism, bringing forth good fruit. Too often, we imagine bearing good fruit is a result of our own hard work, paying special attention to getting things right. The Spirit takes another approach. Just as the flavor of fresh fruit is a delight to our senses, the Spirit delights our soul with the tantalizing tastes of joy, kindness, gentleness, and love! The Spirit uses God's Word to water and fertilize the roots and, in so doing, leads believers to produce the fruit the Lord always intended.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

"Spirit Of The Living God"

Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me.

Soul of heaven, heart of God, wash over me.
Soul of heaven, heart of God, wash over me.
Cleanse me, teach me, hold me, reach me.
Soul of heaven, heart of God, wash over me.

"Spirit of the Living God", Iverson, Daniel © 1935. Renewed 1963 - Birdwing Music. Stanzas 2 & 3 by Lowell Alexander. CCLI License No. 759893

"Sanctuary"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.

(repeat from beginning)

"Sanctuary", Thompson, John W. / Scruggs, Randy © 1982 Whole Armor Music / Full Armor Publishing
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INVOCATION

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

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 17:22–24, adapt.

- P** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,
- C** and kindle in them the fire of Your love.
- P** Thus says the Lord GOD: “I Myself will take a sprig and plant it on a high and lofty mountain,
- C** that it may bear branches and produce fruit.
- P** And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD;
- C** I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree,
- P** dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish.
- C** I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection.

- P** Almighty Father, we confess that by our inability, insolence, and inaction, we have not made Your ways our ways.
- C** For our failure to walk in the ways of love, joy, and peace, forgive us, Lord.
- P** Lord Jesus, we admit we too often conform our desires to the world around us, adopting its compromised standards for living.
- C** For our failure to value the gifts of patience, kindness, and goodness, forgive us, Lord.
- P** Holy Spirit, our very natures are set against You, Your Gospel proclamation, and the fruit You intend to bring.
- C** For our failure to show the fruits of faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, forgive us, Lord. For Jesus' sake, transform our sinful hearts, and make us a reflection of Your righteousness.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake forgives You all Your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh 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.

C Amen.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Holy Spirit, Who brings forth life from desolation, cultivate in Your believing people hearts that delight in the fruits of righteousness that we might be led to desire that which You call good; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, 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

1 Kings 19:19-21 (ESV)

¹⁹So [Elijah] departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. ²⁰And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" ²¹And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 (ESV)

¹For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. . .

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 9:51-62 (ESV)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, He set His face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And He sent messengers ahead of Him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for Him. ⁵³But the people did not receive Him, because His face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴And when His disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do You want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵But He turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶And they went on to another village. ⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go."

⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” ⁵⁹To another He said, “Follow Me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰And Jesus said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Yet another said, “I will follow You, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

PRAYER/LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED

“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”

LSB 691



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow-ing, May we rip - en
 2 Lad - en branch-es free - ly bear-ing Gifts the Giv - er
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas-ter, Christ our pat - tern
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend-ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow-ing,
 loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
 and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
 har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
 Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
 Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
 Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”, Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024, Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, 1932–2024, Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673, Tune: © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

SERMON
“HEALTHY ROOTS”

Pr. Jim Sprengle
 Galatians 5:1, 13-25

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.)

“Spirit Song”

Oh, let the Son of God enfold you with His Spirit and His love,
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
Oh, let Him have those things that hold you,
And His Spirit, like a dove,
Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Chorus

**Jesus, oh Jesus, Come and fill Your lambs.
Jesus, oh Jesus, Come and fill Your lambs.**

Oh, come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy,
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.
Oh, give Him all your tears and sadness,
Give Him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name. **(chorus)**

“Spirit Song”, Wimber, John © 1979 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing. Used by permission under CCLI License No. 759893.

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.

Gracious Holy Spirit, grow the faith of all those who believe. Bring forth the fruit of holiness and supply them with opportunities to display that fruit for the sake of their neighbor. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Abiding Holy Spirit, be a companion for all who feel lonely and isolated, and preserve them from depression and despair. Send us, Your people, to be visible and tangible witnesses that Your presence is with them always. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ministering Holy Spirit, safeguard and support all those You have called into ministry. Encourage them amid the challenges of their Gospel work that they do not face the trials and triumphs of this mission alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Sanctifying Holy Spirit, strengthen Your church. Give all the baptized passion for Your Word, eagerness for service, and courage to reject the world's faulty wisdom and misplaced priorities. Fan into flame hearts that might be a beacon for those in darkness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Interceding Holy Spirit, plead for all who face sorrow, sickness, or adversity, comforting them with Your tender care...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Holy Spirit, stir up in us the fruit of Your joy as we celebrate Your goodness...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Eternal Holy Spirit, preserve Your church until the day of the return of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CLOSING SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:23-25

- P** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;
- C** **against such things there is no law.**
- P** And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- C** **If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.**

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

(See the last few pages in the back of the bulletin for more detailed information.)

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

O Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me, My Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway If Thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle, The tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer, And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion, The murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me, To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory There shall Thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, My Master and my friend.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God!**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

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*Thank you to Sheryl Maier for the lovely Altar flowers, in honor of
Jere and other family member's June birthdays,
given to the glory of God.*

† WE NEED COUNTERS - TRAINING PROVIDED!

Counters usually serve one time per month after late worship for about one hour. If you are willing and want to get more information, please contact Karon Keup and she can give you some idea of what this entails. We will have training for those interested on July 6 at 12:15pm, after the late worship, in the Conference Room. Thank you!

† CALLING ALL MEN; WE NEED USHERS

We are in serious need of ushers for both early and late worship. If you can serve 1 to 2 worship services a month, please let Michele or P. Jim know. Training will be provided.

† CLAIM YOUR SPACE-LANDSCAPING HELP!

Only a few spaces left! Check out the poster on the whiteboard in the Narthex and choose a spot to maintain as your own on our Ascension grounds. Ask Laura Potter if you have any questions.

† THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBERS...GET INSPIRED!

Thrivent offers members two \$250 Action Team cards each year—free! These gift cards can support projects like food drives, donations to My Father's House, property upkeep, children's ministry supplies, and more. If you're a Thrivent member and want to learn more, write your information on the sheet in the Narthex or email Stan Chapulis at alcfinance1440@gmail.com.

† MISSION OF CHRIST NETWORK

Rev. Herb Hoefer is serving part-time this June at Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal, a mission congregation in a community of mostly Indian and Pakistani immigrants and refugees. He's partnering with a Mission of Christ Network (MCN) team, using a strong ESL program to build connections and share the Gospel. Please keep him in your prayers. To support his mission financially, visit: missionofchrist.org/mission-partners/herb-hoefer

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Ed Hubbard, Bill Guthrie, Joann Schulz's grandson (Brett), Chenery Whittier's son (Aaryan), Randy Bryant's sister-in-law (Diana), Riki Neagle, Mike Fogarty, Jim Eckart, Gina Kreps, Mae Smith, Bryant Sheppard, Alma Bangs, Virginia Jacob's brother (Robert), Esperanza Gutierrez' sister (Mayra), *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Mel and Lorraine Haggard. *Home Bound.

† PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Brett Monson – Navy, San Diego CA (Grandson of Joann Schulz)

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

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

Kyle Zeller, Army – Camp Riley KS (grandson of Neil and Deb Zeller)

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUN., JUNE 29, 2025

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Bruce Blubaum	John Hazen
Acolytes:	NEEDED	NEEDED
Ushers:	Randy Schroeder Stan Chapulis	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Katherine Houk
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	Wyatt Brown
Greeters:	Sheryl Maier	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Sheryl Maier	Mark Wheeler
Altar Guild:	Both Services: Virginia Jacobs	
Flowers:	Both Services: Sheryl Maier	
Counters:	Both Services: Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier	

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUN., JULY 6, 2025

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	NEEDED
Acolytes:	NEEDED	NEEDED
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis John Aden	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Michele Sprengle
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	Alex Hodges
Greeters:	Margo Bachhuber Elizabeth Alvarado	Heather Gulde
Readers:	Karon Keup	J. E. Knox
Altar Guild:	Both Services: Margo Bachhuber	
Flowers:	Both Services: Pr. Jim and Michele Sprengle	
Counters:	Both Services: Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier	

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., JUNE 29 – SAT., JULY 5

Sunday, June 29	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Adult Ed
	11:00am	Worship
	12:15pm	Bell Practice
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
Monday, June 30	6:00pm	Young Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, July 1	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday, July 2	6:30pm	C-101
Thursday, July 3	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, July 4	Closed	Independence Day

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., JULY 6 – SAT., JULY 12

Sunday, July 6	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Adult Ed
	11:00am	Worship
	12:15pm	Counter Training
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
Monday, July 7	1:00pm	Human Care Board Mtg.
	6:00pm	Young Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, July 8	2:00pm	NO Women's Bible Study
		Returns August 12
	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 9	6:30pm	C-101
Thursday, July 10	6:00pm	Praise Team

LAST WEEK AT ASCENSION

Offerings for Sunday, June 22, 2025	\$6,592.50
Weekly Budgeted Needs	<u>\$8,240.72</u>
Difference	(- \$1,648.22)
Attendance Last Week	
Sunday Worship, June 15	8:30am – 62
	<u>11:00am –53</u>
Total Attendance:	115

MILESTONES – Sunday, June 29 – Saturday, July 5

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Don Tigges	June 30	Kaydence Altizer	July 1
Don Brown	July 1	Michele Sprengle	July 1
John Knoke	July 3	Susan Rotramel	July 3
Millie Edwards	July 4	Maxine Markwart	July 4
Mark Wheeler	July 5		

BIRTHDAYS:

Karen Arronson	June 29	Luis Interian	July 2
Fredia Moore	July 2	David Tatum	July 3
Joshua Mundo	July 4		

WEDDINGS:

Gary and Maxine Markwart	June 29, 1969
Spencer and Rachel Kelley	June 30, 2016
Jerry and Alma Bangs	July 4, 1999

Ascension Lutheran Church

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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