

Ascension Lutheran Church and School  
*“A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone”*  
January 15, 2022

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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: “A MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION”

**AS WE GATHER:** When Jesus asked His two potential disciples what they were seeking, it was a most important question. People look for power and importance for themselves, relief from certain circumstances, and a host of other agenda items. But our Lord came with one overarching goal: He was needed as light for this dark world (as Isaiah wrote) and the only one who could take away the sin of the world (as John the Baptist announced). After seeking Christ’s help in our sinful condition, we hear that other great question, “Who do you say that I am?”—and when each of us answers it, then, as Paul told the Church in Corinth, we have all the spiritual gifts we need to ask the people around us, “What are you seeking?”

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

#### “ALL GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH”

All glory be to God on high  
And thanks for all His favor;  
No harm can touch or terrify  
A child of God forever.

God shows His good and gracious will  
And grants His peace, the world to fill—  
All strife at last has ended.

We praise and laud and worship You;  
We give You thanks forever,  
O Father, for Your rule is true  
And just and changes never.  
With boundless pow’r, Your mighty reign  
Fulfills whatever You ordain.  
Lord, grant us ev’ry blessing!

O Jesus Christ, the only Son  
Begotten of the Father,  
Your saving death has made us one  
With God and with each other.  
O Lamb of God, to You on high  
In our distress we sinners cry,  
Have mercy on us, amen!

O Holy Spirit, our delight  
And source of consolation,  
Protect us from the devil's might  
Through Jesus, our salvation,  
Who by His death upon a tree  
Has rescued us from misery:  
To this we hold forever.

## INVOCATION

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

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 40:1, 3a; Isaiah 49:6*

- P** I waited patiently for the LORD; He inclined to me and heard my cry.  
**C** He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
- P** It is too light a thing that You should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob. . .  
**C** I will make You as a light for the nations.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

**C** We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## ✠ THE WORD ✠

### SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, our only source of forgiveness and peace, give us strength to confess our sins and faith to rely on Your mercy in time and for eternity; 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.

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 49:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands,  
and give attention, you peoples from afar.  
The LORD called Me from the womb,  
from the body of My mother He named My name.

<sup>2</sup>He made My mouth like a sharp sword;  
in the shadow of His hand He hid Me;  
He made Me a polished arrow;  
in His quiver He hid Me away.  
<sup>3</sup>And He said to Me, “You are My Servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”  
<sup>4</sup>But I said, “I have labored in vain;  
I have spent My strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely My right is with the LORD,  
and My recompense with My God.”  
<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says,  
He who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant,  
to bring Jacob back to Him;  
and that Israel might be gathered to Him—  
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,  
and My God has become My strength.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 1:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in Him in all speech and all knowledge—<sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## LAMBS' LESSON

*Pr Herb Hoefler*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup>The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”  
<sup>30</sup>This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because He was before me.’<sup>31</sup>I myself did not know Him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel.”<sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him.”<sup>33</sup>I myself did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’<sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”<sup>35</sup>The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples,<sup>36</sup>and he looked at Jesus as He walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!”<sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.<sup>38</sup>Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to Him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are You staying?”<sup>39</sup>He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.<sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.<sup>41</sup>He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ).<sup>42</sup>He brought him to Jesus.

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

**PRAYER / LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED****“CHRIST, THE WORD OF GOD INCARNATE”**

Christ, the Word of God incarnate,  
Lord and Son of Abraham;  
Christ, the radiance of the Father,  
Perfect God, the great I AM;

Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished,  
Light and life You bring to all;  
Light our path with Your own presence,  
Grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, the living bread from heaven,  
Food for body, food for soul;  
Christ, the manna daily given,  
Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.  
Feed us with the food of heaven,  
Foretaste of the feast to be;  
Quench our thirst with living water  
Springing up eternally.

Christ, our good and faithful shepherd,  
Watching all Your lambs and sheep;  
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold,  
Never-failing vigil keep.  
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us,  
Find us, lift us, bear us home;  
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us;  
Let us hear Your voice alone.

**SERMON**

**“WHAT ARE YOU SEEKING?”**

**John 1:38**

**Pastor Herb Hoefler**

**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.)

**(8:30)**

**“We Were Baptized In Christ Jesus”**

**John Ylvisaker**

**Ascension Choir**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Confident that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake and that our heavenly Father is ready to hear our prayers, let us go to Him on behalf of ourselves, those near and dear to us, and the Church around the world.

For the leaders of the Church around the world who, like Isaiah, may question their ministry amid continued opposition, that God would remind them of His presence and move them to renewed vigor as they shine the light of Christ on the dark places of this globe, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who lack decent clothing, secure shelter, and adequate nourishment, that God would surround them with caring people to meet their physical needs and share with them the forgiveness of sins won for them by Christ, the Lamb of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who call out to God for relief from illness, pain, or difficult circumstances...that God would hear their prayers and graciously answer them in His almighty wisdom and love, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who are celebrating this week...that the Lord bless and preserve them in the year to come and give them thankful hearts for His gracious gifts, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Into Your hands, Lord our God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## 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 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.**

## **PAX DOMINI**

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

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

### **“DRAW NEAR AND TAKE THE BODY OF THE LORD”**

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

### **“MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE”**

My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart;  
My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread,  
Be Thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.

### “GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING”

Go, My children, with My blessing,  
Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river  
I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing—  
You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving,  
Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you;  
Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Joyful and free.

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# JANUARY 15, 2022

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## † 2023 FLOWER CHART

The 2023 Flower Chart is up and waiting for you to sign up for your special day. Check out what is left and get your date early!

## SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 12

Human Care is collecting soups, chili and socks for SnowCap. Please bring your items to church by February 12.

## VOTERS ASSEMBLY JAN. 22

After late service

## PASTOR AND MICHELE VACATION NEWS

Pastor and Michele will be away from Wednesday Jan. 11 to Wednesday Jan. 18. The office schedule is as follows, if you have any needs, please call during these hours:

Wednesday,

Monday Jan. 16 – Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson (9am to 11:30am)

Tuesday Jan. 17 – Peggy Hall – (10:00am to 1:00pm)

Wednesday Jan. 18 – Closed

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## ASSISTING IN SERVICE JAN. 15

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	<b>8:30am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
<b>Elder:</b>	Herb Hoefler	Bob Ritchie
<b>Acolytes:</b>		Jaden Mundo
<b>Ushers:</b>	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl Randy Schroeder Needed	Jonathan Mundo Joshua Mundo
<b>Audio/Visual:</b>	Laura Potter	J.E. Knox
<b>PowerPoint:</b>	Debbie Rekdahl	Rosemary Knox
<b>Greeters:</b>	Norma Dillon Jean Dillon	Esperanza Gutierrez Margaret Hubbard
<b>Readers:</b>	Peggy Hall	Carlyn Staudt
<b>Altar Circle:</b>	Both Services	Margo Bachhuber
<b>Flowers:</b>	Both Services	
<b>Counters:</b>	Both Services	Bonnie Webber Rebecca Williamson

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**ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, JAN. 22**

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	<b>8:30am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
<b>Elder:</b>	Dave Oswald	Randy Bryant
<b>Acolytes:</b>		
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jim Eckart Bob Rekdahl	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young James Freeman Bob Freeman
<b>Audio/Visual:</b>	Stan Chapulis	John Hazen
<b>PowerPoint:</b>	Wanda Cassetty	Rebecca Williamson
<b>Greeters:</b>	Sue Lewis Heather Gulde	Christina Freeman
<b>Readers:</b>	Carol Hoefler	Jim Eckart
<b>Altar Circle:</b>	Both Services	Karen Zahursky
<b>Flowers:</b>	Both Services	
<b>Counters:</b>	Both Services	Karon Keup/Sheryl Maier

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**† MILESTONES**

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**BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS**

Kayla Driessner	Jan. 15	Peyton Fogarty	Jan. 21
Amy Haase	Jan. 21		

**BIRTHDAYS**

Peyton Fogarty	Jan. 15	Virginia Hunt	Jan. 17
Ethan Fogarty	Jan. 18	George Maier	Jan. 19
Joe Cassetty	Jan. 20	Norka Soledad	Jan. 20

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

Rev. Dan and Kathy Parshall	Jan. 21, 2012
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**† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:**

Gina Kreps, Bill and Sylvia Guthrie, Kevin McInaney, Jessica Brown, Judy Blubaum, Robert (Virginia Jacob's Brother), Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, Carlyn Staudt, Karla Deal, Emily Kohnke (member of the Webber Family), Rich Zahursky, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Mike Fogarty, Members and friends with Covid\*Barbara Schrader, \*Larry Hart, \*Dale Porath. \*Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Retired after 23 years of service

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).

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EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., JAN. 15 - SAT., JAN. 21

<b>Sunday, Jan. 15</b>	8:30am	Worship w/ Comm.
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
<b>Tuesday Jan. 17</b>	6:00pm	<b>NO</b> 3:10 Group
<b>Wednesday Jan. 18</b>	11:00am	<b>NO</b> CareConnect
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
<b>Thursday, Jan. 19</b>	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday, Jan. 20</b>	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation

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EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., JAN. 22 - SAT., JAN. 28

<b>Sunday, Jan. 22</b>	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship w/ Comm.
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
<b>Monday Jan. 23</b>		<b>Newsletter Items Due</b>
<b>Wednesday Jan. 25</b>	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
<b>Thursday, Jan. 26</b>	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday, Jan. 27</b>	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Confirmation

