



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone"

Sunday, October 3, 2021

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 3, 2021

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!

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 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: “What God Joins Together”

AS WE GATHER: Jesus continues to teach the disciples but is tested by the Pharisees. They want to know what grounds a couple has for divorce. If Jesus gives an answer that defies the teachings of God, perhaps they can discredit Him. However, Jesus goes to the foundation of marriage. The Lord God created man and woman to join together and never separate, because *He* joined them. Marriage in today’s world faces the same questions. Can we get around God’s command to remain committed for life? What grounds do we have for a divorce? These are difficult questions, but we are reminded of God’s unfailing love that undergirds all our relationships. Broken relationships may be a part of this world, but Jesus gives us hope that reconciliation and lasting commitment are possible.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

Today Your mercy calls us to wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, whatever we have been,
However long from mercy our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us and make us clean today.

Today Your gate is open, and all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome and pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, a present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heav’n.

Today our Father calls us; the Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us how often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, it is our Father’s home.

INVOCATION

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

OPENING RESPONSES *Psalm 27:7, 11a, 13–14; 51:15; 70:1*

- P** O LORD, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- C** **Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!**
- P** Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!
- C** **Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path.**
- P** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!
- C** **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
- C** **Gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We admit that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We often ignore Your commands and teaching rather than live by them. Indeed, we deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is not in ourselves but in the merits of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and lead us to renewed lives that reflect Your goodness, mercy, and love.**

Silence for reflection.

- P** With confident joy, I announce to you that God is gracious and merciful and hears our requests. Upon your confession, by the command of our Lord, and as His called and ordained servant, I 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.

Merciful Father, Your patience and loving-kindness toward us have no end. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may always think and do those things that are pleasing in Your sight; 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

Genesis 2:18–25 (ESV)

(The LORD God sets the foundation for marriage in creating the first woman.)

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” ¹⁹Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.

²³ Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 2:9–18 (ESV)

(Jesus knows our temptations because He lived with them.)

⁹ But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰ For it was fitting that He, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ For He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹² saying, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise.” ¹³ And again, “I will put My trust in Him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given Me.” ¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore He had to be made like His brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprenkle

(Jesus teaches about marriage.)

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

² And Pharisees came up and in order to test Him asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³ He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴ They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.” ⁵ And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷ ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” ¹⁰ And in the house the disciples asked Him again about this matter. ¹¹ And He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.” ¹³ And they were bringing children to Him that He might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, He was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to Me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” ¹⁶ And He took them in His arms and blessed them, laying His hands on them.

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

HYMN **“O Father, All Creating”**

O Father, all creating, whose wisdom, love, and pow’r
First bound two lives together in Eden’s primal hour,
Today to these Your children your earliest gifts renew:
A home by You made happy, a love by You kept true.

With good wine, Lord, at Cana the wedding feast You blessed.
Grant also these Your presence, and be their dearest guest.
Their store of earthly gladness transform to heav’nly wine,
And teach them, in the testing, to know the gift divine.

O Spirit of the Father, breathe on them from above,
So searching in Your pureness, so tender in Your love
That, guarded by Your presence and kept from strife and sin,
Their hearts may heed Your guidance and know You dwell within.



Unless You build it, Father, the house is built in vain;
Unless You, Savior, bless it, the joy will turn to pain.
But nothing breaks the union of hearts in You made one;
The love Your Spirit hallows is endless love begun.

SERMON **“A DIFFERENT DIRECTION”** **Mark 10:2–16**
Pastor Jim Sprengle

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.)

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:

We pray for the Church, that God's people live confidently and never neglect the salvation won by Jesus Christ, but joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord have mercy.**

P We pray for the nations of the world, that the presence of Christ be experienced everywhere around the globe and that the Gospel message have free course in every land, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord have mercy.**

P We pray for marriage and families, that the Word of God would guide and encourage all people to hold up this blessed institution, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord have mercy.**

P We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized or shut in, those who are grieving, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill, and all those whose needs are not known to us, *especially...* that Great Physician would bring His blessing to situations of need in all places, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord have mercy.**

P We pray for those who are celebrating this week...let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord have mercy.**

P These things and all else that we should have asked, grant to us with Your blessing for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P As our Lord Jesus has taught us in scripture, we pray with boldness in His name:

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.**

(11:00 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.

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

(Jesus instituted, or established the Lord's Supper for us; 1Cor 11:23-26; Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20)

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

"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 out-poured;
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.

“I Come, O Savior, to Your Table”

I come, O Savior, to Your table, For weak and weary is my soul;
You, Bread of Life, alone are able To satisfy and make me whole.
Lord, may Your body and Your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

What greater gift can I inherit? It is faith's bonded solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace.
Lord, may Your body and Your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

Your body crucified, O Savior, your blood which once for me was shed,
These are my life and strength forever, by them my hungry soul is fed.
Lord, may Your body and Your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have renewed us by the body and blood of Christ. Empower and energize us to serve our neighbors in faith toward You and fervent love toward all people; 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.
Numbers 6:24–26

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (See your bulletin for more details)

HYMN

“Before The Throne Of God Above”

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

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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† LWML SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 10

Get ready for LWML Sunday and see what we've been up to! We would appreciate your help in both baking and/or making something to donate to our "Bake and Craft Christmas-Corner Fundraiser" that will take place between services on Sunday, Oct. 10. (Please drop off your pre-priced, non-perishable baked items between 10:00am and noon on Saturday, Oct. 9, or bring your baked goods on Sunday morning before service.) Proceeds will benefit missions. Look for the large Mite Box setup on our display table where you may donate directly to LWML Mites. If you have questions, please contact Mae Smith at 503-912-3373. Thank you for your support!

† THANKS TO OUR SOLV VOLUNTEERS

Special thanks to Brandy and Bonnie Webber, Sheryl Maier, Debbie and Bob Rekdahl, Karin Richardson, Merci McInaney, and Cindy Reinert who volunteered for the SOLVE City-wide clean up on Saturday the 25th. Thank from your Mission Board co-chairs.

† CONCERT OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Trinity Lutheran Church, 16000 South Henrici Road, Oregon City, is hosting "A Concert of Praise and Thanksgiving" featuring instrumentalists, praise band, soloists and congregational participation on Saturday, October 16th beginning at 3:00pm. Please join us for an afternoon of Praise and Thanksgiving.

† THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

The Bryant and Laxton families would like to thank everyone involved in supporting the family with prayer, kindness, and assisting with the memorial service for their mother, Ordena Laxton. We feel blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring family in Christ at Ascension.

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS - None**BIRTHDAYS**

Jon Hart	10/3	Andrew Lavadores	10/3
Keith Erdmann	10/4	Linda Fogarty	10/4
Diana Laxton	10/7	Lila Theye	10/8

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Marcia and Randy Bryant 10/7/1977

† PRAYER NEEDS?

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

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The family of Lewis Eilers, Mae Smith, Brian Laxton, Miki Natonick, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Karon Keup, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Bill Ritchie, Esperanza Gutierrez, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Rich Zahursky, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubbaum, Judy Blubbaum, 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 — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (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 TODAY

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Herb Hoefler (WA)	Bob Ritchie (WA)
Acolytes:	Josie Latter	
Ushers:	Jim Eckart Randy Schroeder Marcus Young	Marcus Young John Knoke
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	Michele Sprengle (sound)
PowerPoint:	Rebecca Williamson	Michele Sprengle
Greeters:	Elizabeth Alvarado Karla Deal	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Jim Eckart	Virginia Jacobs
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Karen Zahursky

Counters: Both Services Bonnie W. and Rebecca W.
Flowers: Both Services

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Tony Aguilar (WA)
Acolytes:	Whitney Latter	
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Marcus Young	Matthias McInaney Jonnie Driessner Eric Kreps Evan Kreps
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	Michele Sprengle (sound)
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood	Michele Sprengle
Greeters:	Sue Lewis Heather Goulde	Margaret Hubbard
Readers:	Travis Osgood	Karon Keup
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Jan Oswald
Flowers:	Both Services	Karon Keup
Counters:	Both Services	Bob and Elaina Ritchie

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK – Sunday, Oct. 3 – Saturday, Oct. 9

Sunday, Oct. 3	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
Tuesday, Oct. 5	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday, Oct. 6	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Oct. 7	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Oct. 8	6:30pm	Noche Familiar

NEXT WEEK – Sunday, Oct. 10 – Saturday, Oct. 16

Sunday, Oct. 10	LWML Sunday-Worship centered around the Mission of LWML. Special fundraising Bake and Craft sale throughout the morning!	
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Monday, Oct. 11	10:30am	Stewardship Board Meeting
Tuesday, Oct. 12	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, Oct. 13	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Oct. 14	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Oct. 15	6:30pm	Noche Familiar-Family Night
Saturday, Oct. 16	6:30am	Church Work Party

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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