



# honest repentance

LENTEN MIDWEEK TWO

Ascension Lutheran Church

*"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"*

LENT 2 MIDWEEK ~ March 1, 2023



## SECOND MIDWEEK IN LENT

March 1, 2023

**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 comulgar 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: Honest Repentance**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME**

#### **HYMN**

##### **Jesus, Lead Thou On**

- 1 Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won;  
And although the way be cheerless,  
We will follow calm and fearless.  
Guide us by Thy hand  
To our fatherland.
- 2 If the way be drear,  
If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o’ertake us;  
Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For through many\_a woe  
To our home we go.
- 3 When we seek relief  
From a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring.  
Show us that bright shore  
Where we weep no more.
- 4 Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won.  
Heav’nly leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand  
In our fatherland.

Text: tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.; Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60  
Text: Public domain

## Invocation

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

## Collect

- P** Let us pray.
- O Lord, the precious blood of Jesus washes away our sins and restores our spirits. Grant to us all the renewal and refreshing of the Holy Spirit, that we may with joy know the blood of our Savior has cleansed us from sin, has paid the price of our redemption, and nourishes us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Confession

- 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. 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.**

## Absolution

- 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.

## + READINGS +

### Psalm 32:1–7



**L** A reading from Psalm, chapter 32.

<sup>1</sup>Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,\*  
whose sin is | covered.

<sup>2</sup>Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- |  
iquity,\*  
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

<sup>3</sup>For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away\*  
through my groaning | all day long.

<sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me;\*  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.

<sup>5</sup>I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my in- | iquity,\*  
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”  
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore let everyone who is godly  
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;\*  
surely in the rush of great waters,  
they shall not | reach him.

<sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from | trouble;\*  
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### READING

Genesis 1:1—2:3 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. The Six Days of Creation <sup>3</sup>And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness.

<sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. <sup>6</sup>And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup>And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. <sup>9</sup>And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. <sup>14</sup>And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup>And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. <sup>20</sup>And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. <sup>24</sup>And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. <sup>25</sup>And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

<sup>27</sup>So God created man in His own image,  
in the image of God He created him;  
male and female He created them.

<sup>28</sup>And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." <sup>29</sup>And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup>And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished His work that He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all His work that He had done in creation.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HYMN

### See This Wonder in the Making

- 1 See this wonder in the making:  
God Himself this child is taking  
As a lamb safe in His keeping,  
His to be, awake or sleeping.
- 2 Miracle each time it happens  
As the door to heaven opens  
And the Father beams, "Belovèd,  
Heir of gifts a king would covet!"



- 3 Far more tender than a mother,  
Far more caring than a father,  
God, into Your arms we place him/her/them,  
With Your love and peace embrace him/her/them.
- 4 Here we bring a child of nature;  
Home we take a newborn creature,  
Now God's precious son or daughter,  
Born again by Word and water.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

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## SERMON

## “LAW”

## Genesis 1:1-2:3

*Pastor Jim Sprengle*

### Tithes and Offerings

Please place your offering in the basket provided. *(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** O Lord, hear my prayer.

**C** And let my cry come to You.

**P** Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Faithful Lord, You sent Your Son to restore Your house to be a house of prayer for all nations. Give us courage to approach Your throne in prayer and to invite all nations to be Your people; Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Mighty God, raise up faithful pastors, missionaries, teachers, and other church leaders. Stir up the hearts of Your faithful people to serve You with gladness and humility. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Father in heaven, we thank You for the mercy You show us in the cross of Him who comes in Your name to save us: Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant that our journey through this season of Lent refresh our souls and draw us close to You as You gather us together in Your eternal presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** God of grace, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers for all the sick and grant them the help of Your power. If it is Your will, grant their sickness may be turned into health. Above all, may their sickness become an occasion for greater faith in You and confidence in the goodness You bring our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

### 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.

### Benediction

**P** The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit be and remain with you always.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN

### My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain
- ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.
- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Text: Public domain

### Dismissal

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

### Acknowledgments

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# Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233  
Church: 503-665-8821 • Web Site: [www.alcportland.org](http://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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