



“In those days
and at that time
I will make a
**RIGHTEOUS
BRANCH**
sprout from
David’s line.”

Jeremiah 33:15, NIV

Ascension Lutheran Church and School
“A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone”
November 28, 2021 ~First Sunday in Advent

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 28, 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: “Days More Important Than Others”

AS WE GATHER: Some days in our lives stand out in our memories. The birth of a child, a long-awaited graduation, a particular vacation, or a family gathering are all days of joy that become part of the stories of our lives. A terrible illness, the death of someone dear, the loss of a job—these days, too, stand out as moments seared in our memories of pain that never seems to go away entirely. Some days stand out more than others. Today’s readings declare the days when Jesus came into our midst to bring joy, restoration, and hope. Our salvation was won on Good Friday and Easter Sunday and the day is still coming when Christ will return and all creation will be restored. Jesus fills our days—good or bad, joyful or sorrowful—with His gracious presence from now until He returns on that great Last Day.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

(tune: All Glory, Laud, and Honor)

O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You, My hope my heart’s delight!
Oh kindle Lord most holy, Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly All that may please You best.

Love caused Your incarnation, Love brought You down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty.
Oh love beyond all telling, That led You to embrace,
In love all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race.

He comes to judge the nations, A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations, And blessed hope to those
Who love the Lord’s appearing, O glorious Sun now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering, And guide us safely home.

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Jeremiah 33:14–15; Luke 21:27, 33, adapt.*

P The LORD says, “I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah.”

C **We thank You, O Lord!**

P The LORD says, “My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up.”

C **We adore You, O Lord!**

P The LORD says, “You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

C **We praise You, O Lord!**

P The LORD says, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away.”

C **We worship You, O Lord!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

P On the four Sundays in Advent, we light a new candle each week. We mark the four candles with these four words: hope, peace, joy, and love.

Jesus Christ is the hope of the nations.

C **We wait for the Lord, and in His Word do we hope.**

(sung)

“Light One Candle”

Natalie Sleeth

Light one candle for **hope**,
One bright candle for **hope**,
He brings **hope** to ev’ry heart,
He comes! He comes!
(repeat)

P Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, **hope**, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 25:6–7

P Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

A time of silence is observed.

P We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

C **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

P Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
C **according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

(sung: tune - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)

Forgive us, Lord, for times when hope was lost,
And moments when we never thought to trust,
For times when we despair and forget
That You are where all joy and truth have met.
Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins
And help us hope and trust You without end.

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

C **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Ancient of Days, bring to all our days the hope and peace won for us by Jesus on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, that we may live by Your mercy until that day when Christ comes again to judge the living and the dead; 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.

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

Jeremiah 33:14–16 (ESV)

(The LORD will turn mourning to joy.)

¹⁴“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13 (ESV)

(Paul reminds us that God can cause us to abound in love for one another as we await the coming of the Lord.)

⁹ For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? ¹¹ Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-28; 34–36 (ESV)

(The kingdom of God is near.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

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

²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ³⁴ “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(11:00)

“Prepare The Way”

Michael Barrett
Ascension Choir

*Sing we now the promise! Christ is coming soon!
Sing we out in gladness! Christ is coming soon!
Make a joyful noise. Lift high your heart and voice.
Sing we now Hosanna! Christ is coming soon!*

*Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Prepare ye the way.*

*Let every valley be exalted. Let every mighty mountain be brought low.
The crooked be made straight. The rugged places plain.
Let all the world prepare the way! Prepare the way!*

*Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Prepare ye the way, the way.
Prepare ye the way!*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P As we prepare our hearts and minds for Christ’s coming, we turn to the Lord in prayer.

A brief time of silence may be observed.

P O Wisdom from on high, guide Your Church throughout the world to be a demonstration of hope. Move the leaders, pastors, teachers, and all the people of our Synod to yearn for that coming day when Jesus will reign forever in justice and righteousness, and all creation will be restored. We pray,

C **hear us, coming Lord.**

P O Desire of nations, bless the leaders of nations, our president and Congress, our governors and local leaders. Move all leaders to cease envy and boastfulness, injustice and corruption. Guide our leaders to be honorable people who do not neglect the poor and who strive toward the flourishing of all human beings. Bless those who serve in our armed forces and lift up refugees and all victims of war. Bring peace between us and our enemies and let Your peace reign over this broken world. We pray,

C **hear us, coming Lord.**

P O Key of David, let Your joy, forgiveness, and peace flow freely in and among the families of this congregation. Empower parents and grandparents to love their children and children to love their parents. Watch over all who travel and comfort families who are separated by many miles. Guide families to be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. We pray,

C **hear us, coming Lord.**

P O Dayspring from on high, come to the aid of all who are in need. As You humbly entered this world as a vulnerable baby, help all of us to enter humbly the lives of those who are grieving, sick, facing surgery, or dying, to offer comfort and hope. We especially pray for...We pray,

C **hear us, coming Lord.**

P O Love incarnate, You bless us richly in many ways, though we are undeserving. We give You thanks and rejoice with those who are celebrating this week...We pray,

C **hear us, coming Lord.**

P You, O Lord, know the thoughts of our hearts and hear those prayers that come to You in sighs too deep for words. All our prayer we entrust to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.**

(8:30 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.

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

"O Living Bread from Heaven"

O living Bread from Heaven, How well You feed Your guest!
The gifts that You have given Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows.

My Lord, You here have led me Within Your holiest place,
And here Yourself have fed me With treasures of Your grace;
For You have freely given What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from Heaven, That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; This food can death destroy.
And You have freely granted The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit The favor You have shown,
And all my soul and spirit Bow down before Your throne.

Lord grant me then, thus strengthened With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.

"Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending"

(tune: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence)

Lo, He comes with clouds descending,
Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, Christ the
Lord returns to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him
Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall their true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of His Passion
Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
Claim the kingdom for Thine own.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Lord God, we thank You for the gift of Christ's body and blood, wherein our sins are forgiven, our days are blessed, and You make us into Your 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 *1 Thessalonians 3:12–13; Numbers 6:24–26*

P May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

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

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

HYMN (8:30)

“The King Shall Come”

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

(11:00)

“Living For Jesus”

*(sung by Don Tigges in thankfulness
for his birthday and life in Christ)*

(solo)

*Living for Jesus, a life that is true.
Striving to please Him in all that I do.
Yielding allegiance glad hearted and free.
This is the pathway of blessing for me.*

(chorus - all)

**O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to Thee.
For Thou in Thy atonement, Didst give Thyself for me.
I own no other master, My heart shall be Thy throne.
My life I give henceforth to live, O Christ for Thee alone.**

*Living for Jesus who died in my place,
Bearing on Calvary, my sin and disgrace.
Such love constrains me, to answer His call,
Follow His leading and give Him my all. **(chorus-all)***

*Living for Jesus, wherever I am.
Doing each duty in His holy name.
Willing to suffer affliction or loss.
Deeming each trial, a part of my cross. (chorus-all)*

*Living for Jesus thro' earth's little while,
My dearest treasure, the light of His smile,
Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem,
Bringing the weary to find rest in Him. (chorus-all)*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
G 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 NOVEMBER 28, 2021

† WREATH PICK-UP SATURDAY, DEC. 4

1:00 to 3:00pm in the south (office) parking lot.

† YOU'RE INVITED TO DON BIRTHDAY!

Don Tigges' family invites you to join in the celebration of his 93rd birthday after the 11am service today in the Community Room. All are welcome!

† LWML GET TOGETHER!

Who: ALL ladies in the Congregation are Invited to come.

When: Saturday, December 11th from 10 am to 11:30-ish am.

Where Ascension Lutheran Church; Community Room.

What: Casual gathering for ALC ladies and friends!

Why: To fellowship with one another, share stories and find out how each of us is doing.

Bring your favorite cookie or other recipe to share (and maybe some samples too). We'll sing carols, get an update on our Mites, and maybe even make a few plans for the New Year! Bring a new Christmas Card with you if you have one. If you have questions or need a ride, Contact Mae Smith at 503-912-3373.

† MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BILL RITCHIE

Bill's memorial will be at 1:00pm on December 18.

† NEW FLOWER CHART FOR 2022 IS POSTED!

SIGN-UP TO BEAUTIFY OUR WORSHIP! The new flower chart is posted in the hallway across from the mailboxes on the bulletin board. Choose a date you would like to bring flowers, and if it is for something special note that in the space! Simple as that. You will be contacted by the Altar Guild the week of your donation to get all the details!

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests e-mail: office@alcportland.org

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Randy Bryant	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Marcus Young	Evan Kreps Erik Kreps Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Jenny Schuldheisz (sound)	Laura Potter
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	John Hazen
Greeters:	Wanda Cassetty	Rebecca Williamson
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Rebecca Williamson
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Karla Deal
Flowers:	Both Services	Gertrud Bublies
Counters:	Both Services	Rebecca Williamson Bonnie Webber

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Herb Hoefler	Bob Ritchie (WA)
Acolytes:	Whitney Latter	
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Marcus Young	John Knoke Richard Robertson
Audio/Visual:	Michele Sprengle	John Hazen (sound)
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	John Hazen
Greeters:	Margo Bachhuber Elizabeth Alvarado	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Rebecca Williamson	Virginia Jacobs
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Flowers:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The Family of Bill Ritchie, The Family of Lottie Guericke, Bob Rekdahl, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Karon Keup, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Esperanza Gutierrez, Marty Blankenburg, Elaina Ritchie, Richard Robertson, Rich Zahursky, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, 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 — 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 — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK – Sunday, Nov. 28 – Saturday, Dec. 4

Sunday, Nov. 28 (Advent 1)	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Wednesday, Dec. 1 (Midweek 1 Advent)	11:00am	CareConnect
	3:30pm	Midweek Advent 1 Service
	7:00pm	Midweek Advent 1 Service
	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Dec. 2	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Dec. 3	6:30pm	Noche Familiar-Family Night
	7:00pm	Confirmation

NEXT WEEK – Sunday, Dec. 5 – Saturday, Dec. 11

Sunday, Dec. 5	8:30am	Worship with Communion
(Advent 2)	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Wednesday, Dec. 8	3:30pm	Midweek Advent 2 Service
(Midweek 1 Advent)	7:00pm	Midweek Advent 2 Service
	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Dec. 9	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Dec. 10	6:30pm	Noche Familiar-Family Night
	7:00pm	Confirmation

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Ava Wentela	11/30	Natalie Wentela	11/30
Dale Porath	12/1		

BIRTHDAYS

Felix Harris	12/3	Emely Mukul Aguilar	12/3
Avi Ritchie	12/4		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: Dave and Jan Oswald Nov. 29, 1975

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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