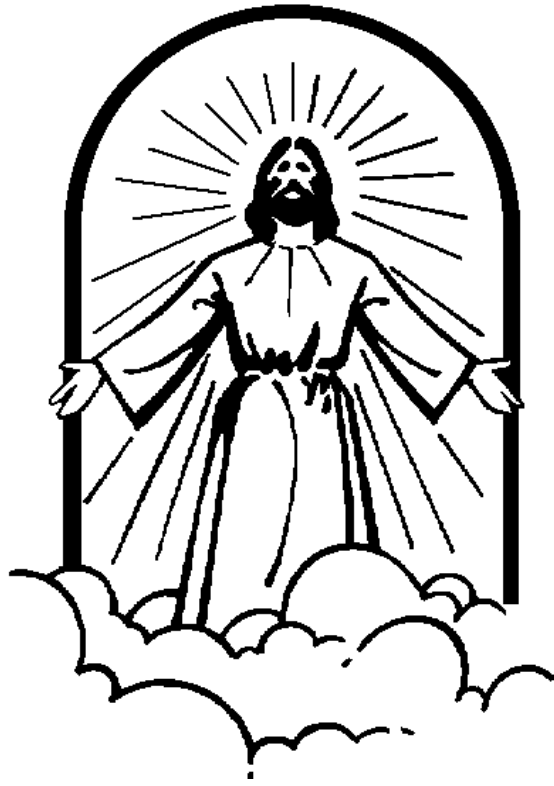


May 21, 2017



Ascension Lutheran Church
A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

(clclutheran.org)
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Ascension Lutheran is a family of Christians intent on sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and His victory over death

The Fifth Sunday After Easter

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”
(Matthew 7:7)

VISITORS: It is a blessing to have you join us for worship today. We want you to be aware that because God’s Word urges us to be instructed and agreed in faith before taking the Lord’s Supper together, we kindly ask those who are not in fellowship with the CLC to first meet with the pastor before coming to Communion. We want to share in this blessing with you and do so on the basis of a united understanding of Christ and His teachings. If you would like more information, the pastor would be happy to meet with you. You can read more about our practice of “Close Communion” in the blue trifold pamphlet in the entryway. Thank you for your understanding. *1 Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:18-29*

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 86 (page 140 in TLH)

HYMN 537 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“Every Morning Mercies New”*

Service Of Word & Sacrament, setting 2, p. 12 (Worship Supplement)

FIRST LESSON: 1 John 3:19-24

¹⁹ And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. ²⁰ For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. ²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. ²³ And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. ²⁴ Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – from Psalm 28

M: To You I will cry, O LORD my Rock: Do not be silent to me,

C: LEST, IF YOU ARE SILENT TO ME, I BECOME LIKE THOSE WHO GO DOWN TO THE PIT.

M: Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You,

C: WHEN I LIFT UP MY HANDS TOWARD YOUR HOLY SANCTUARY.

M: Blessed be the LORD, because He has heard the voice of my supplications!

C: THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SHIELD;

M: my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped;

C: THEREFORE MY HEART GREATLY REJOICES, AND WITH MY SONG I WILL PRAISE HIM.

M: The LORD is their strength,

C: AND HE IS THE SAVING REFUGE OF HIS ANOINTED.

M: Save Your people, and bless Your inheritance;

C: SHEPHERD THEM ALSO, AND BEAR THEM UP FOREVER.

SECOND LESSON – the Gospel: Luke 24:36-49 rise

¹ And He told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.’” ⁶ And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to His elect, who cry to Him day and night? Will He delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, He will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?” (ESV)

THE NICENE CREED (page 5, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 4 (The Lutheran Hymnal) “God Himself Is Present”

SERMON: Genesis 18:17-33

PRAY!

1. Pray by faith in Jesus
2. Pray with humility
3. Pray with persistence
4. Pray with faith in God’s goodness

¹⁷ And the LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, ¹⁸ since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹ For I have known him....” ²⁰ And the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, ²¹ I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know.” ²² Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. ²³ And Abraham came near and said, “Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare *it* for the fifty righteous that were in it? ²⁵ Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?” ²⁶ So the LORD said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.” ²⁷ Then Abraham answered and said, “Indeed now, I who *am but* dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: ²⁸ Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for *lack of five*?” So He said, “If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy *it*.” ²⁹ And he spoke to Him yet again and said, “Suppose there should be forty found there?” So He said, “I will not do *it* for the sake of forty.” ³⁰ Then he said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?” So He said, “I will not do *it* if I find thirty there.” ³¹ And he said, “Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?” So He said, “I will not destroy *it* for the sake of twenty.” ³² Then he said, “Let not the Lord be

angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy *it* for the sake of ten.” ³³ So the LORD went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 459 (The Lutheran Hymnal) “Come, My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT (page 17, WS)

O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT – *Nunc Dimittis sung* (page 20, WS)

Luke 2:29-32

THANKSGIVING (page 21, WS) *sung*

Luke 7:50; Psalm 100:2

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

HYMN 46 (The Lutheran Hymnal) “On What Has Now Been Sown”

WELCOME, VISITORS! We’re very happy that you are here today! You are always welcome.

Please leave a record of your visit in our guest book in the narthex.

TODAY our USHER is Tyler Louderman. In our BIBLE STUDY we continue with the book of Revelation.

SUNDAY: WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:00 AM; SUNDAY SCHOOL and BIBLE STUDY: 11:15 AM.

THIS THURSDAY is our ASCENSION DAY SERVICE at 7:30 PM.

FRIDAY: NORTH AURORA BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM.

NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Glenn Libby. The North Aurora Care Center service is at 3:00 PM, and the Batavia Rehab service is at 4:00 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday’s offering: \$611.00; attendance: 16.

CLC NEWS: Teacher David Bernthal of Luther Memorial School, Fond du Lac, WI, has returned the call to be teacher/principal at Grace Lutheran School, Sleepy Eye, MN. Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has called Carly Meyer of Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI, to teach grades 3-4 at its school. Teacher Paul Tiefel III of Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to be teacher/principal at St. Stephen Lutheran School, Mt. View, CA.

MISSION FESTIVAL: ILC professor Paul Naumann will be our guest speaker for our Mission Festival service on SUNDAY, JUNE 25. Professor Naumann will also speak to us about outreach during our Bible Study.