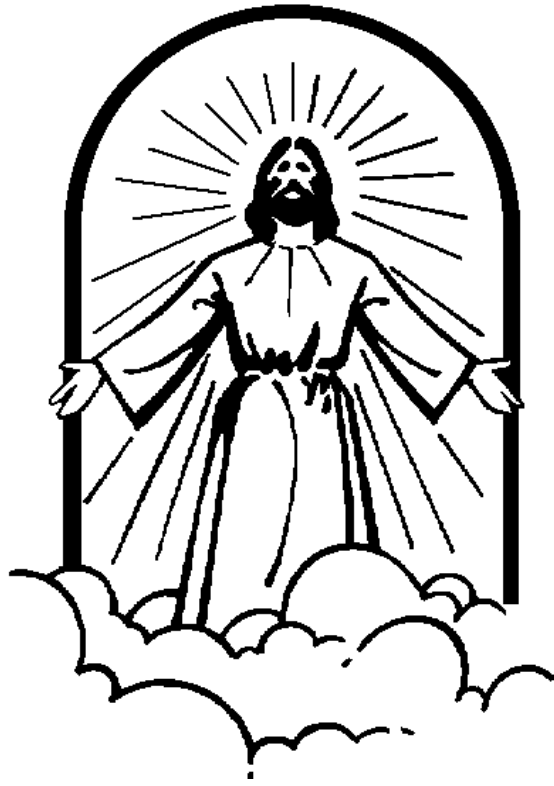


August 20, 2017



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 11th Sunday After Pentecost

“Where sin abounded, grace abounded much more.” (Romans 5:20)

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 25 (page 128 in The Lutheran Hymnal)

HYMN 545 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“The Morning Sun Is Brightly Beaming”*

Service Of Word And Sacrament, setting 2, page 12 (Worship Supplement)

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 28:10-17

¹⁰ Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said: “I *am* the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. ¹⁴ Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I *am* with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you.” ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know *it*.” ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This *is* none other than the house of God, and this *is* the gate of heaven!”

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – from Psalm 118:1ff.

M: Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

C: THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND SONG, AND HE HAS BECOME MY SALVATION.

M: The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.

C: I SHALL NOT DIE, BUT LIVE, AND DECLARE THE WORKS OF THE LORD.

M: I will praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my salvation.

C: THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE.

M: This was the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

C: THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE; WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.

M: You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You.

C: OH, GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD! FOR HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.

SECOND LESSON – the Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13 *rise*

⁹ As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. ¹⁰ Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, *that* behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² When Jesus heard *that*, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ But go and learn what *this* means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

The Nicene Creed (page 5, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 342 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Chief Of Sinners Though I Be*"

SERMON: Romans 5:6-11

REJOICE IN WHAT GOD DOES FOR US THROUGH JESUS!

⁶ For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. ¹¹ And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 371 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Jesus, Thy Blood And Righteousness*"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, and THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT (page 17, Worship Supplement)

O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT – *Nunc Dimittis sung* (page 20, WS) Luke 2:29-32

THANKSGIVING (page 21, Worship Supplement) *sung* Luke 7:50; Psalm 100:2

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

HYMN 32 (alternate tune: #473) (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven*"

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 Glenn Libby. In our BIBLE STUDY we're on Psalm 37:23. We'll also choose some topics from the Tacoma Outreach Menu for upcoming discussions. Our Church Council asks us to stay for a little while after our Bible Study (or after church, if you aren't staying for Bible Study) to do some CLEANING and VACUUMING of the church and fellowship hall. We will be doing this on the FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

FRIDAY: North Aurora Care Center Bible study: 10:00 AM.

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

NEXT SUNDAY North Aurora service: 3:00 PM, Batavia Rehab Center service: 4:00 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday's offering was \$466.00 (needed each week: \$1,200.00); attendance was 20.

CHURCH WORK DAY: We're having an OUTSIDE work day after our Bible Study on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17. We'll remove the old plants around the church sign, remove and burn branches on the property behind the church, etc. PLEASE BRING YOUR GARDEN HOSE(S) so we can attach them together and have water ready by the burn pile(s).

PRAYERS FOR NEPAL – Heavy rainfall has led to massive flooding in hundreds of villages in Nepal. Approximately 100,000 people in 37 of Nepal's 75 districts have been affected, and at least 110 deaths have been reported. Among those affected are about 300 families from among our brothers and sisters in the HCLCN, many of whom have been displaced from their homes. The Board of Missions has authorized an initial \$5,000.00 from the CLC Mission Development Fund (MDF) to assist our fellow Christians with recovery efforts. Please pray for the Lord's protection and provision for those who are suffering in Nepal, and pray that He provides wisdom and resources to those who are working to assist the many who are in need.

MISSIONARY NEWS: This past week, Missionary Todd Ohlmann was in a bicycle accident and fractured the c3 vertebrae in his neck. A fracture to this vertebrae could cause paralysis and even death. Thankfully, the Lord preserved him from either of these. He will need to wear a neck brace and be under some strong movement restrictions for at least a month while they watch the fracture and make sure that it heals. He had a trip to Zambia planned this month, which will be rescheduled. In addition, Missionary Peter Evensen has safely returned to India after his furlough in the US. We thank the LORD for His care and protection of both of our missionaries, and pray for a rapid recovery for Missionary Ohlmann.