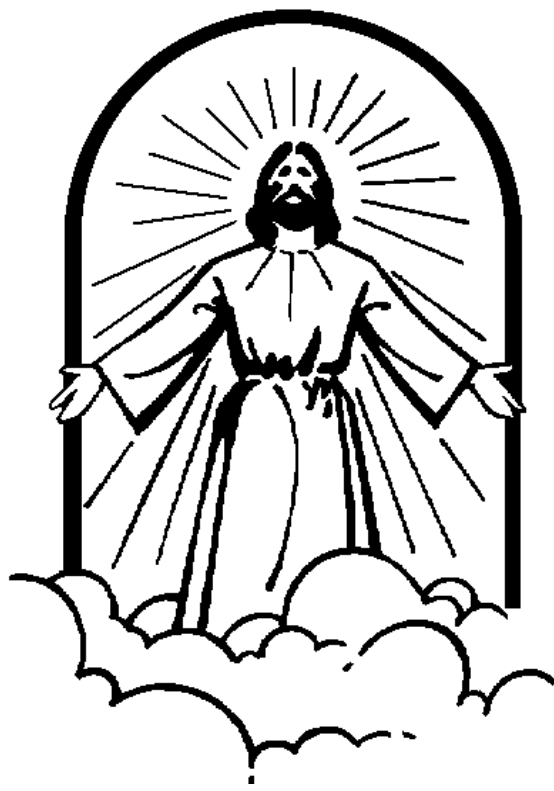


September 3, 2017



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 13th Sunday After Pentecost

“My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction; for whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights. Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gains understanding.” (Proverbs 3:11-13)

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 46 (page 134 in The Lutheran Hymnal)

HYMN 243 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices”*

A Service Of The Word (page 22, Worship Supplement)

FIRST LESSON: Hebrews 12:1-13

¹ Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. ⁴ You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. ⁵ And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; ⁶ for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.” ⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? ⁸ But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹² Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – from Psalm 119:64ff.

M: The earth, O LORD, is full of Your mercy; teach me Your statutes.

C: YOU HAVE DEALT WELL WITH YOUR SERVANT, O LORD, ACCORDING TO

YOUR WORD.

M: Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe Your commandments.

C: BEFORE I WAS AFFLICTED I WENT ASTRAY, BUT NOW I KEEP YOUR WORD.

M: You are good, and do good; teach me Your statutes.

C: IT IS GOOD FOR ME THAT I HAVE BEEN AFFLICTED, THAT I MAY LEARN YOUR STATUTES.

M: Your hands have made me and fashioned me; give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

C: I KNOW, O LORD, THAT YOUR JUDGMENTS ARE RIGHT, AND THAT IN FAITHFULNESS YOU HAVE AFFLICTED ME.

M: Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to Your word to Your servant.

C: LET YOUR TENDER MERCIES COME TO ME, THAT I MAY LIVE; FOR YOUR LAW IS MY DELIGHT.

SECOND LESSON – the Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28 rise

²¹ Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." ²³ But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." ²⁴ But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" ²⁶ But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." ²⁷ And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

The Nicene Creed (page 5, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 444 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You*"

SERMON: James 1:2-8 rise

FINDING JOY DURING TRIALS

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does. (NIV)

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 424 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*My God, My Father, Make Me Strong*"

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 428 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus*"

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 Greg Suwanski. In our BIBLE STUDY we're on Psalm 37:23.

WEDNESDAY: Pastors' study club at Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church in Middleton, WI.

THURSDAY: Adult instruction class at North Aurora Care Center: 1:00 PM.

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Tyler Louderman. North Aurora service: 3:00 PM, Batavia Rehab Center service: 4:00 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday's offering was \$1,875.00 (needed each week: \$1,200.00); attendance was 17.

SEPTEMBER 12-14: Pastor Kesterson will be attending the GREATER LAKES PASTORAL CONFERENCE at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI.

SEPTEMBER 16: LUTHER MEMORIAL, Fond du Lac, WI is dedicating their fully-remodeled church and school: lunch 11:30 AM; service: 1:00 PM; cake reception and a presentation following the service; tours given before and after the dedication service. If you are able to come, please RSVP at FDLlutheran.com by September 9.

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).

CLC NEWS: St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD, has called Pastor Mark Weis of Grace Lutheran Church, Cape Coral, FL. Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has returned the call to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN.