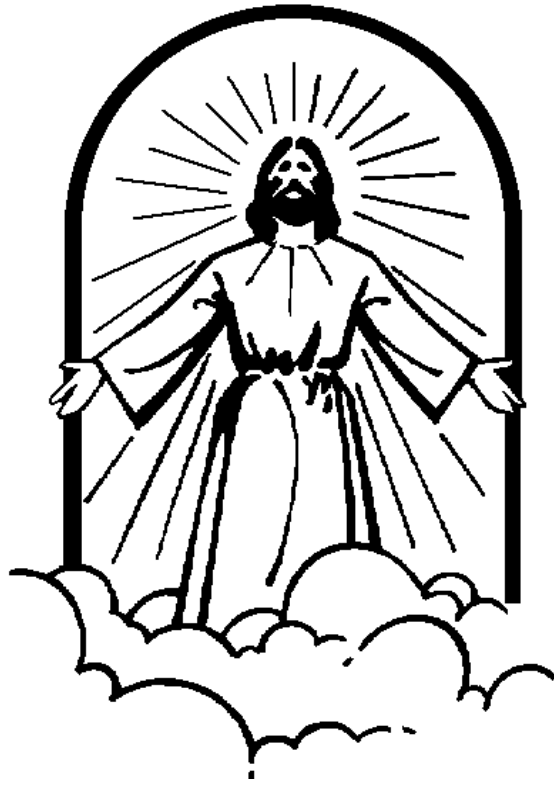


September 17, 2017



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 15th Sunday After Pentecost

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6)

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 98 (page 144 in The Lutheran Hymnal)

HYMN 728 (Worship Supplement) *“Christ Is Living”*

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

FIRST LESSON: Job 19:25-27

²⁵ For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; ²⁶ and after my skin is destroyed, this *I know*, that in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷ Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. *How* my heart yearns within me!

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – from Psalm 25

M: Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths.

C: LEAD ME IN YOUR TRUTH AND TEACH ME, FOR YOU ARE THE GOD OF MY SALVATION; ON YOU I WAIT ALL THE DAY.

M: Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your loving- kindnesses, for they have been from of old.

C: DO NOT REMEMBER THE SINS OF MY YOUTH, NOR MY TRANSGRESSIONS;

M: according to Your mercy remember me, for Your goodness sake, O LORD.

C: GOOD AND UPRIGHT IS THE LORD, THEREFORE HE TEACHES SINNERS IN THE WAY.

M: The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way.

C: ALL THE PATHS OF THE LORD ARE MERCY AND TRUTH.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 2:4-10 *rise*

⁴Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”

⁷Therefore, to you who believe, *He is* precious; but to those who are disobedient, “The stone which the

builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,”⁸ and “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.” They stumble, being disobedient to the Word, to which they also were appointed.⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;¹⁰ who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

The Nicene Creed (page 5, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 761 (Worship Supplement) “*In You Is Gladness*”

SERMON: John 14:1-12 *rise*

WE HAVE ETERNAL LIFE BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

¹ “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And where I go you know, and the way you know.” ⁵ Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. ⁷ If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.” ⁸ Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. ¹¹ Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. ¹² Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.”

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 355 (The Lutheran Hymnal) “*Thou Art The Way, To Thee Alone*”

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 613 (The Lutheran Hymnal) “*Jerusalem The Golden*”

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 37:32.

Afterwards we have LUNCH, then our CHURCH WORK DAY.

THURSDAY: No adult instruction class at North Aurora Care Center this week.

FRIDAY: No North Aurora Care Center Bible study this week.

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

NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Rick Louderman. No North Aurora service or Batavia Rehab Center service next Sunday.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday’s offering was \$671.00 (needed each week: \$1,200.00); attendance was 18.

CLC NEWS: Pastor Mark Weis of Grace Lutheran Church, Cape Coral, FL, has accepted the call to St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD.

In the midst of paradise stands the tree of life. From this, Adam [and Eve were] driven away so that [they] would not eat of it but instead would die according to God’s judgment on account of the sin [they] committed. But the cross of Christ is the noble tree of life on which hangs the noble fruits that bring us eternal life. “No forest produces such foliage, blossoms, sprouts.” Whoever consoles himself with the precious merit of Jesus Christ shall live, even though he die. “And whoever lives and believes in Him shall never die” (John 11:26). Because of their sins, Adam [and Eve and their] children were locked out of paradise, but through the key of the holy cross, it will be opened once again to all repentant Christians. The cross of Christ is the key of paradise,” says John of Damascus. To this, the fathers of the Church relate the key of the house of David, which can open so that no one can shut [Isaiah 22:22]. Let all evil spirits be defied, who would like to lock heaven to us, which the Lord Jesus opened by His cross and death. (Valerius Herberger)