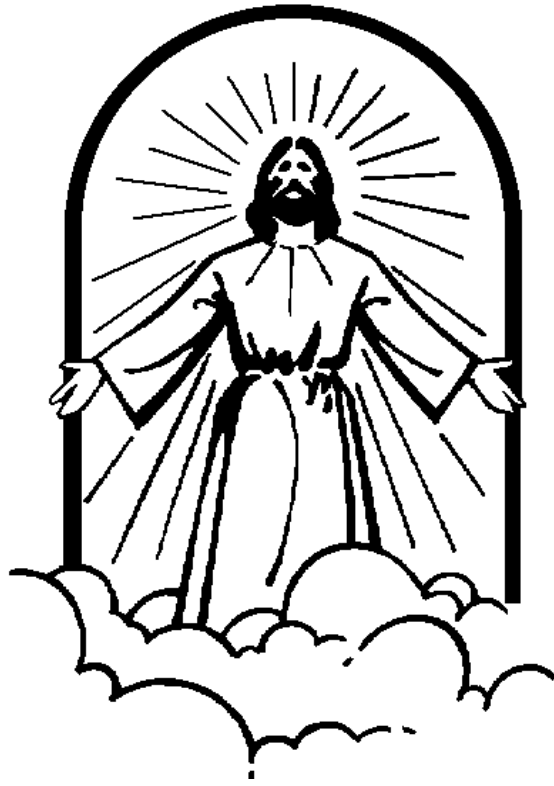


November 19, 2017



*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 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

*“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Corinthians 6:2b)*

**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 67 (page 137 in The Lutheran Hymnal)

**HYMN 42** (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“O Thou Love Unbounded”*

The Order Of The Confessional Service, pages 46-48 (The Lutheran Hymnal)

**FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah 61:1-3, 6, 10-11

<sup>1</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *those who are bound*; <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified. ... <sup>6</sup> But you shall be named the priests of the LORD, they shall call you the servants of our God. You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory you shall boast.” ... <sup>10</sup> “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels. <sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.”

**PSALM OF THE DAY** (*responsively*) – from Psalm 65

**L:** Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion; and to You the vow shall be performed.

**C:** O YOU WHO HEAR PRAYER, TO YOU ALL FLESH WILL COME.

**L:** Iniquities prevail against me;

**C:** AS FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, YOU WILL PROVIDE ATONEMENT FOR THEM.

**L:** Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts.

C: WE SHALL BE SATISFIED WITH THE GOODNESS OF YOUR HOUSE, OF YOUR HOLY TEMPLE.

L: By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation,

C: YOU WHO ARE THE CONFIDENCE OF ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH, AND OF THE FAR-OFF SEAS.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:28-39 *rise*

<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. <sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. <sup>30</sup> Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." <sup>37</sup> Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE NICENE CREED (page 5, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 357 (The Lutheran Hymnal) Jesus, Thou Art Mine Forever ""

SERMON: Matthew 13:44-52

### THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

1. Treasure it
2. Help spread it

<sup>44</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. <sup>45</sup> Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, <sup>46</sup> who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it. <sup>47</sup> Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, <sup>48</sup> which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, <sup>50</sup> and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be

wailing and gnashing of teeth." <sup>51</sup> Jesus said to them, "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." <sup>52</sup> Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 767 (Worship Supplement) "Church Of God, Elect And Glorious"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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 609 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying"

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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.

WE WELCOME INTO MEMBERSHIP JUAN HUERTA and MOLLY KOMON. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to

dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

TODAY our usher is Rick Louderman. After BIBLE STUDY we'll have LUNCH (Thank you, ladies!), then take down and REMOVE the dead TREE by the mower shed.

THURSDAY: THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE at 10:00 AM.

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Greg Suwanski. There will be a NORTH AURORA CARE CENTER SERVICE at 3:00 PM, and a BATAVIA REHAB CENTER SERVICE at 4:00 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Our offering last Sunday was \$794.00 (we need \$1,200.00 each week to meet expenses), and our attendance was 20.