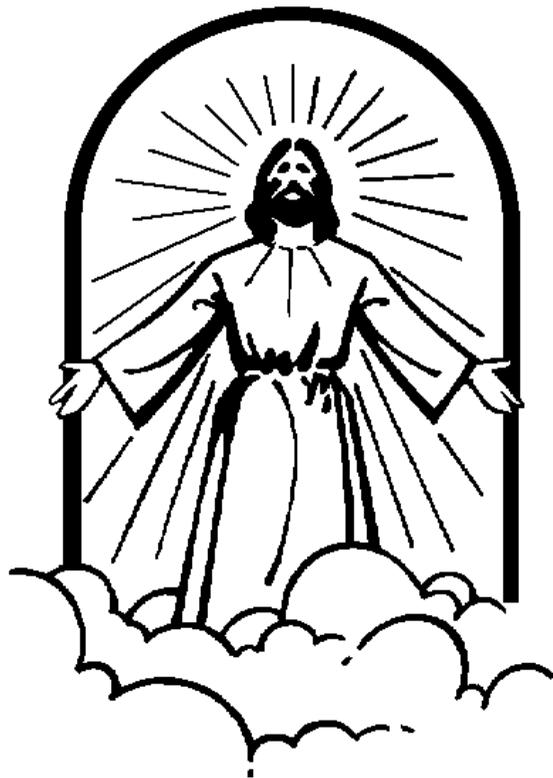


January 28, 2018



Ascension Lutheran Church
A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession
(clclutheran.org)
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650-933-7386
Organist: Peggy Kesterson

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

The Fourth Sunday In Epiphany

“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; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”
(1 Peter 2:9-10)

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 62 (page 136 in The Lutheran Hymnal)

HYMN 16 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word”*

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

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-3

¹ 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*; ² to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, ³ 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.

Responsive Reading from Psalm 119:1ff.

L: Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD!

C: BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO KEEP HIS TESTIMONIES, WHO SEEK HIM WITH THE WHOLE HEART!

L: Oh, that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes!

C: WITH MY WHOLE HEART I HAVE SOUGHT YOU; OH, LET ME NOT WANDER FROM YOUR COMMANDMENTS!

L: Your Word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You!

C: BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD! TEACH ME YOUR STATUTES!

L: I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, as much as in all riches.

C: I WILL MEDITATE ON YOUR PRECEPTS, AND CONTEMPLATE YOUR WAYS.

L: I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your Word.

C: OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY SEE WONDROUS THINGS FROM YOUR LAW.

SECOND LESSON – the Gospel: Luke 4:14-21 *rise*

¹⁴ Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵ And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. ¹⁶ So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the Gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to *the* captives and recovery of sight to *the* blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” ²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Apostle’s Creed (page 15, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 358 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“Lamb Of God, We Fall Before Thee”*

SERMON: 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 6

GOD GIVES US OUR FAITH AND SALVATION

³ But even if our Gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. ... ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 777 (Worship Supplement) *“Amazing Grace – How Sweet The Sound”*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, and THE LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION (page 21, Worship Supplement)

Numbers 6:24-26

HYMN 53 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *“Abide, O Dearest 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 Tyler Louderman. In our BIBLE STUDY we’re discussing the “Joint Statement” drawn up by pastors from the CLC, WELS, and ELS, and related Scriptures. There will be a NORTH AURORA CARE CENTER SERVICE at 3:00 PM, and a BATAVIA REHAB SERVICE at 4:00 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 Glenn Libby.

ASH WEDNESDAY is TWO WEEKS FROM THIS WEDNESDAY, on WEDNESDAY,

FEBRUARY 14. We will have a service at 7:30 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Our offering last Sunday was \$786.00 (needed each week: \$1,157.00); our attendance was 17. Our General Fund balance as of last Sunday was \$1,114.66.

THANK YOU to those who took down and put away our Christmas decorations after church last Sunday.

ILC TOUR CHOIR HERE: The Immanuel Lutheran College Tour Choir is scheduled to give a concert here at Ascension on Tuesday, March 13, at 7:00 PM.

We have enough volunteers for housing the choir members. The choir will be arriving at our church about 4:30 PM on Tuesday. We’ll need to provide supper for them in our fellowship hall. Host families need to provide breakfast the next morning at their homes, and have them back at church for a 9:00 AM departure time on Wednesday, March 14. We’ll need to provide sack lunches for them on the 14th.

SYNODICAL NOMINATIONS: Please read the announcement on the table in the narthex for nominations for synodical offices. (See also the back of the January Lutheran Spokesman.)

NOMINATIONS FOR ILC PRESIDENT: The Board of Regents announces the following nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary: Paul Naumann and Steven Sippert. The term of this call is for two years, extending to the end of Academic Year 2020. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding these candidates are to be received by March 15, 2018 (postmarked by March 1), to: Dr. Daniel Schierenbeck; 23 SE 240 Rd.; Warrensburg, MO 64093; email: danschierenbeck@gmail.com.

THE MIDWEST CHRISTIAN WOMEN’S RETREAT, sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church of Mankato, MN, will be held April 20-22, 2018, at the Riverport Inn & Suites, Winona, MN. This year’s theme is: “That Your Joy may be Full!” Our Joy is Full: When the Gospel is preached and we are in fellowship with God; When the Gospel is preached and we are in fellowship with each other; Even in the midst of tribulation; When we show joy in our service; When we rejoice in Jesus; With the certainty of eternity. Registration is open 2/1/18 - 3/23/18. The retreat fee is \$75. All the hotel costs and reservation information, as well as retreat registration information can be found at www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net.

IN YOUR MAILBOX is the JANUARY CLC MISSIONARY OPPORTUNITIES PRAYER LIST, which tells us about prayer needs and exciting things happening in our foreign missions around the world.

“It is true that nothing but faith saves; our salvation costs us nothing. Nonetheless it has cost God something; it has cost Him so much that His only Son had to become man and redeem us. This redemption was accomplished through the shedding of Christ’s blood, as St. Paul very beautifully tells the Romans (3:23-26).... I must so direct my faith that I never push aside the means and never think of appearing before God without this cost. For it is decreed that God will accept no man unless he comes in this Son.” (Martin Luther)