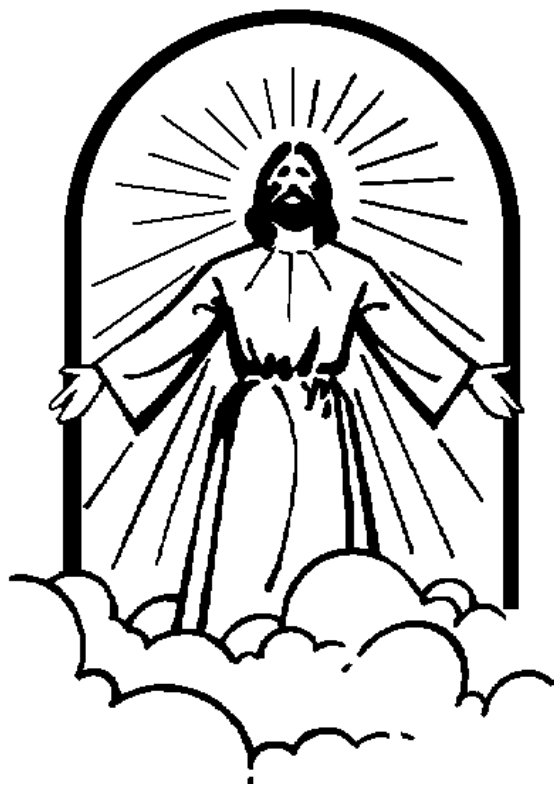


February 4, 2018



Ascension Lutheran Church
A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession
(clclutheran.org)

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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 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

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*

"You are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light." (Ephesians 5:8b)

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 36 (page 132 in The Lutheran Hymnal)

HYMN 3 (The Lutheran Hymnal) *"Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now"*

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

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 49:1-6

¹ "Listen, O coastlands, to Me, and take heed, you peoples from afar! The LORD has called Me from the womb; from the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name. ² And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, and made Me a polished shaft; in His quiver He has hidden Me." ³ And He said to me, "You are My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴ Then I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent My strength for nothing and in vain; yet surely My just reward is with the LORD, and My work with My God." ⁵ And now the LORD says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him (for I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and My God shall be My strength), ⁶ indeed He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth."

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – Psalm 67

M: God be merciful to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us.

C: THAT YOUR WAY MAY BE KNOWN ON EARTH, YOUR SALVATION AMONG ALL NATIONS.

M: Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.

C: OH, LET THE NATIONS BE GLAD AND SING FOR JOY!

M: For You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth.

C: LET THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU, O GOD; LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU.

M: Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us.

C: GOD SHALL BLESS US, AND ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH SHALL FEAR HIM.

SECOND LESSON : Ephesians 5:1-16 *rise*

¹ Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ² And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. ³ But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; ⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. ⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them. ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." ¹⁵ See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

THE NICENE CREED (page 5, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 400 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Take My Life And Let It Be*"

SERMON: Matthew 5:14-16

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; ¹⁵ nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. (NASB)

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 391 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Blessed Are The Sons Of God*"

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 discussing Scriptures related to the "Joint Statement" drawn up by pastors from the CLC, WELS, and ELS.

WEDNESDAY: Your pastor will attend the pastors' study club at Messiah, Milwaukee.

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Rick Louderman. 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 \$495.00 (needed each week: \$1,157.00); our attendance was 16. Our General Fund balance as of last Sunday was \$1,641.00.

ASH WEDNESDAY is ONE WEEK FROM THIS WEDNESDAY, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14. We will have a service at 7:30 PM.

CONGRATULATIONS, Kendra and Chris Hubbard, on the birth of your daughter, Charli Kay Hubbard, this past Tuesday, January 30! "Children are a gift of the Lord." (Psalm 127:3)

ASCENSION'S 2018 SPECIAL SERVICES: Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14): 7:30 PM; Maundy Thursday (March 29): 7:30 PM; Good Friday (March 30): 7:30 PM; Ascension Day (May 10): 7:30 PM; Thanksgiving (Nov. 22): 10:00 AM; First Wednesday of Advent (Dec. 5): 7:30 PM; Christmas Eve (Monday, Dec. 24): 7:30 PM; Christmas Day (Tuesday, Dec. 25): 10:00 AM. (In 2019 we'll have a New Year's Day service at 10:00 AM.) A LIST OF OUR 2018 SPECIAL SERVICES is posted on the BULLETIN BOARD in the NARTHEX.

CLC NEWS: Luther Memorial Lutheran Church of Fond du Lac, WI, has called Pastor Caleb Schaller, associate pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, WI.

MISSION NEWS: Missionary Todd Ohlmann left for India this week where he will meet Missionary Peter Evensen and leaders from our affiliate church bodies in India, Nepal, and Myanmar for the Joint Asia Pastoral Conference. Pastor Tim Daub from Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church in Hecla, South Dakota, will also be joining them. Following the conference, Missionary Ohlmann will visit some of the districts in the BELC, visit the CLCI, and then journey to Myanmar where he will meet up with Missionary Koenig to visit our brethren in the CLC-Myanmar, and the National Lutheran Church of Myanmar. Before returning home he will stop in Nepal to visit our brethren there and participate in the graduation of the first class of students from the Himalayan Bible Institute of Nepal. Please keep Missionaries Ohlmann, Evensen, and Koenig in your prayers over these coming weeks, as well as our brethren overseas. You can read more about Missionary Ohlmann's travels and work at his blog here: <http://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.nl/>