



WELCOME TO  
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

## Christian Education Sunday

May 3, 2015

Each year our congregation hosts a Christian Education Sunday. Christian Education is about an individual Christian's growth in the collective body of Christ, personal walk in Christ, and knowledge of the faith delivered once for all to the saints. It is something that touches us first in the waters of baptism, is concentrated in catechism classes, and continues on throughout our whole lives as Christians. As we hear the gospel, we are always growing in Christ. For this reason "Christ gave some to be pastors and teachers, that the saints might be equipped for service as they come to the unity of the faith and grow together into the full stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-13).

Blessings on your worship today and remember that we offer continuing education in the faith each Sunday with Adult Bible Study and Children's Sunday School as well as in individual studies with the pastor. If you are a visitor and would like to learn more, leave your email with the pastor after the service.

### Focus of the Day: Christian Wellness

## A Service of the Word

TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book  
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

Preservice Devotion: Psalm 95, forepart of TLH p.143

### OPENING HYMN

**TLH 210** (red hymnal)

*The Strife is O're, the Battle Done*

### INVOCATION

*Matthew 28:19*

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congreg. (C) Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

M Let us then draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment, for we have not loved You above all things and we**

**have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

M Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the right to become children of God and bestows on them His Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*John 1:12; Philippians 1:6*

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

M Lord have mercy upon us.

**C Christ have mercy upon us.**

M Lord have mercy upon us.

**C Amen.**

GLORIA CHRISTI ~ Glory to Christ

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy,  
this alone can sin destroy!  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
newborn souls in you to be.  
Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

M The Lord be with you.

*Luke 1:28*

**C And also with you.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray, ... one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

### Genesis 2:7-24

<sup>7</sup> And the Lord God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. <sup>9</sup> And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life *was* also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup> Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four riverheads. <sup>11</sup> The name of the first *is* Pishon; it *is* the one which skirts the whole land of Havilah, where *there is* gold. <sup>12</sup> And the gold of that land *is* good. Bdellium and the onyx stone *are* there. <sup>13</sup> The name of the second river *is* Gihon; it *is* the one which goes around the whole land of Cush. <sup>14</sup> The name of the third river *is* Hiddekel; it *is* the one which goes toward the east of Assyria. The fourth river *is* the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

<sup>18</sup> And the Lord God said, “*It is* not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.” <sup>19</sup> Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name. <sup>20</sup> So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

<sup>21</sup> And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. <sup>22</sup> Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup> And Adam said:

“This *is* now bone of my bones  
And flesh of my flesh;  
She shall be called Woman,  
Because she was taken out of Man.”

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

#### PSALM OF THE DAY

from Psalm 139

M O Lord, You have searched me and known me.

**C You know my sitting down and my rising up;**

M Where can I go from Your Spirit?

**C Or where can I flee from Your presence?**

M If I ascend into heaven, You are there;

**C If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.**

M If I take the wings of the morning,

**C And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

M Even there Your hand shall lead me,

**C And Your right hand shall hold me.**

M If I say, “Surely the darkness shall fall on me,”

**C Even the night shall be light about me;**

M Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You,

**C But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.**



and children, land, animals, and all my property and all I need to support this body and life. He protects me from all danger. He guards and defends me from every evil.

God does all this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven, not because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it. For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

HYMN

WS 748 (tan hymnal)

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

SERMON

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup> He who calls you *is* faithful, who also will do *it*.

**WHOLLY HOLY**

1. In Spirit
2. In Soul
3. In Body
4. In Whole

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4:7*

OFFERTORY

*Psalm 51:10-12*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

HYMN

WS 786 (tan hymnal)

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

## GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen!**

#### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C Amen.**

#### CLOSING HYMN

**WS 744** (tan hymnal)

*How Great Thou Art*

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**Welcome!** We wish a warm welcome to our guests this morning. It is our mission to share the good news that God gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him has eternal life (John 3:16-17). May that good news go with you. Feel free to sign our guest book in the entry way. For more information about our church see the visitor comment cards and brochures in the entry way or visit our website at [AscensionBatavia.org](http://AscensionBatavia.org). We hope to see you again!

#### **Participating in this Service of the Word**

Music: S. Libby                      Lead Usher: G. Libby  
Minister: Pastor D. Pfeiffer