



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields,
for they are already white for harvest!

John 4:34-42

Mission Festival

October 18, 2015

A Service of Word and Sacrament

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)

VISITORS: Because Scripture tells us that those who share in the “one bread” are “one body” and then warns against condoning “divisions” in the fellowship, we kindly ask those who are not in fellowship with the CLC first meet with the pastor before communing at the altar. We want to share in this blessing with you and to do so on the basis of a united faith. The pastor would be happy to meet with you to explain this practice. You can read more about our practice of “close communion” in the blue trifold pamphlet in the entry way. We thank you for your understanding.

1 Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:18-29

Preservice Devotion: *Psalm 119:12-16 Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes. With my lips I have declared All the judgments of Your mouth. I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches. I will meditate on Your precepts, And contemplate Your ways. I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.*

OPENING HYMN

TLH 227 (red hymnal)

Come, Holy Ghost, in Love

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

1 John 1

M God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

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.

M Let us pray.

C Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us.

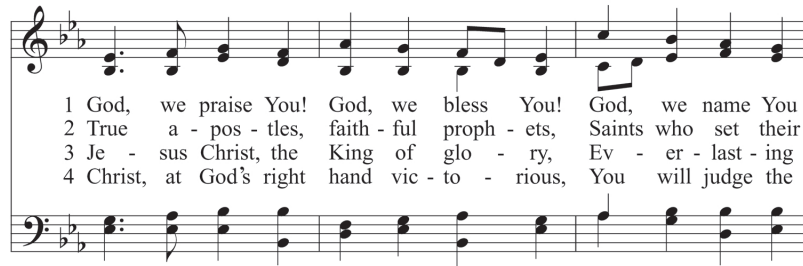
Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

M Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for our only, but also for the sins of the whole world. You are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

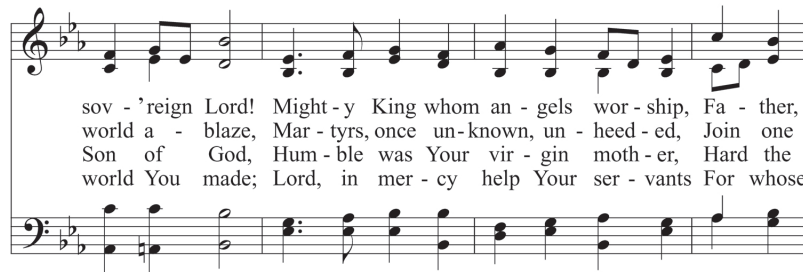
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GOD, WE PRAISE YOU

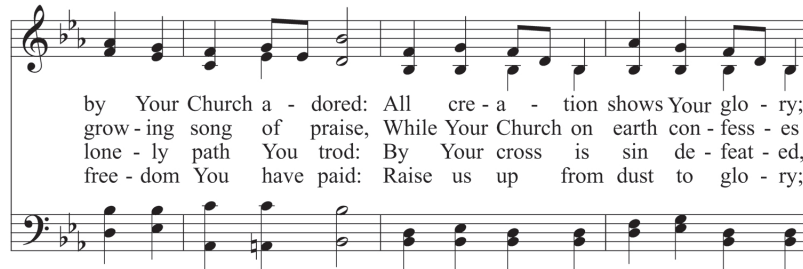
Te Deum



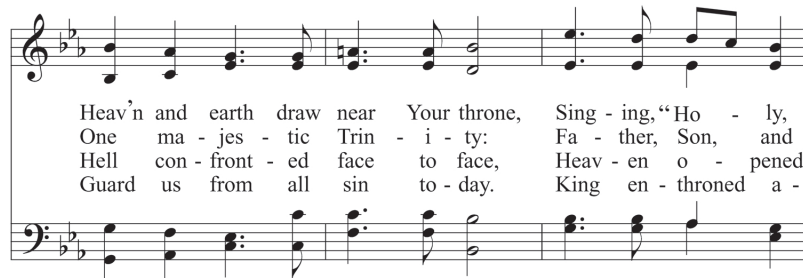
1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You
 2 True a - pos - tles, faith - ful proph - ets, Saints who set their
 3 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, Ev - er - last - ing
 4 Christ, at God's right hand vic - to - rious, You will judge the



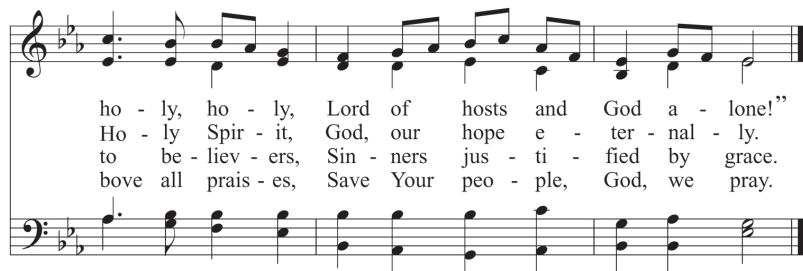
sov - 'reign Lord! Might - y King whom an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther,
 world a - blaze, Mar - tyrs, once un - known, un - heed - ed, Join one
 Son of God, Hum - ble was Your vir - gin moth - er, Hard the
 world You made; Lord, in mer - cy help Your ser - vants For whose



by Your Church a - dored: All cre - a - tion shows Your glo - ry;
 grow - ing song of praise, While Your Church on earth con - fess - es
 lone - ly path You trod: By Your cross is sin de - feat - ed,
 free - dom You have paid: Raise us up from dust to glo - ry;



Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Sing - ing, "Ho - ly,
 One ma - jes - tic Trin - i - ty: Fa - ther, Son, and
 Hell con - front - ed face to face, Heav - en o - pened
 Guard us from all sin to - day. King en - throned a -



ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!"
 Ho - ly Spir - it, God, our hope e - ter - nal - ly.
 to be - liev - ers, Sin - ners jus - ti - fied by grace.
 bove all prais - es, Save Your peo - ple, God, we pray.

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

C **Amen**

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 2:1–10

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN *rise if able* "We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost" (TLH 231)

1 We now im - plore God the Ho - ly Ghost
2 Shine in our hearts, O most pre - cious Light,
For the true faith which we need the most,
That we Je - sus Christ may know a - right,
That in our last mo - ments he may be - friend us
Cling - ing to our Sav - ior, whose blood has bought us,
And, as home - ward we jour - ney, at - tend us. Lord, have mer - cy!
Who a - gain to our home - land has brought us. Lord, have mer - cy!

GOSPEL LESSON

M In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

John 4:34–42

³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! ³⁶And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.”

Christ Witnesses to the Samaritans

³⁹And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I *ever* did.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of His own word.

⁴²Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard *Him* and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CREED ~ The Apostles’ Creed

**C I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From there He will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

TLH 381 (red hymnal)

I Know My Faith is Founded

SERMON

**The Impossible Becomes Possible:
Jesus Touches Our lives**

I. Redemption comes from heaven for us and all
and application to our foreign mission field.

Luke 1:37 “For with God nothing will be impossible.”

II. We are brought into the kingdom by God

*Luke 18:27 “The things which are impossible with men
are possible with God.”*

III. We live in Christ; there is no other way

*Mark 9:23 “If You can believe,
all things are possible to him who believes.”*

Preaching today: Missionary David Koenig

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your
hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen. *Philippians 4:7*

RESPONSE

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word” (LSB 655)

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly,
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (r. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
 Music: J. Klag, Geistliche Lieder, 1543

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GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us call upon our Merciful Father as we pray for the whole Church of God and for all people according to His will,

For the Church of God which labors here on earth, that the Lord would grant us strength in these last days and empower us to testify of His saving grace in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For the Church of God as it proclaims the gospel of our Lord, that the message of guilt possessed by all and guilt taken away for all in Christ would never be altered or polluted with human teachings or works, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For the called ministers of the Word, pastors, teachers, and missionaries, that the Lord would teach them to pray often and keep them from discouragement by bringing them closer to God's Word and promise, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For every follower of Christ, that the Lord would grant us a spirit of power and courage in the gospel to tell others of the great things God has done and keep us ever ready to give a defense, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who have not yet heard the gospel, that God would reach them in his everlasting love, teach them about Jesus, and lead them to know His suffering for their sins and the power of His resurrection, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who have strayed from their first love in Christ, that they would be brought to hear the Word anew and that the Spirit would bring them to repent and return to the welcoming forgiveness of their heavenly Father, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who gather to hear the Word and who desire to keep it, that they would be comforted always by their Savior and would grow in the grace and knowledge of God to bring forth fruits in their vocations, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For governments here and abroad as they are appointed by God that they would not be a hindrance or stand in opposition to the work of God's kingdom, but would promote peace, justice, and freedom to worship in their realm, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who suffer, who are burdened with illness, hunger, sorrow, or death [especially _____], that Christ would bear their burden with them by offering himself and his promises to them, and if it is his will, lift the burden from them, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who gather to eat and drink of their Lord's body and blood, that they would do so to their eternal benefit, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

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!



A Service of the Sacrament



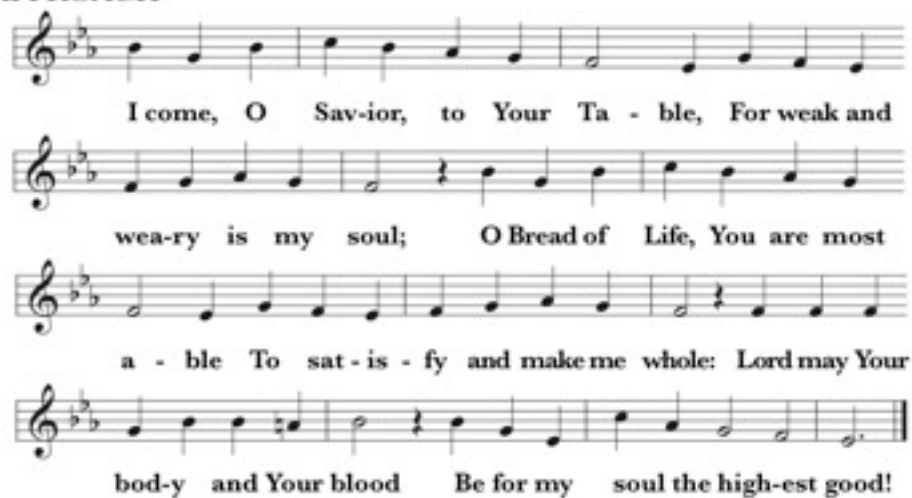
SELF-EXAMINATION: Heart, Cross, Bread and Wine, Door

M Let us give thanks,

It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Together with all the host of heaven we give all glory, honor, and worship to You alone, who with Your Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

APPROACH



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matt. 26, Mk 14, Lk 22, 1 Cor. 11

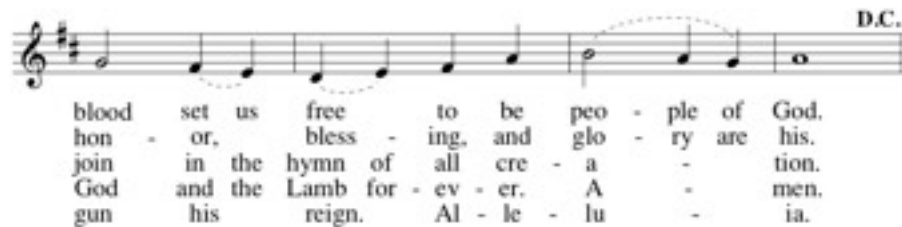
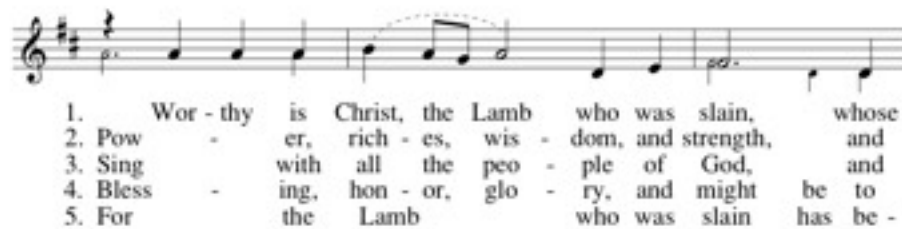
M Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and, when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, 'Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, 'Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'

M As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

"This is the Feast of Victory," based on Revelation 5



Text: Based on Revelation 5, © 1979, Lutheran Book of Worship
Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE, irregular; Richard Hillert, b.1923, © 1975, 1988, Richard Hillert

M O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
C **Have mercy on us.**



DISTRIBUTION

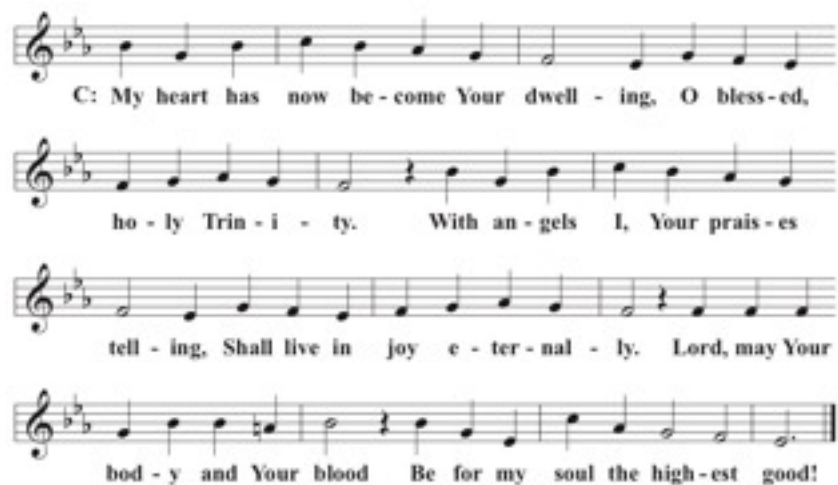


Silent prayer
(for example: TLH p.118)

M Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

THANKSGIVING

TLH 315:15



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

TLH 502 (red hymnal)

Saints of God, the Dawn is Brightening

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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 visit our website at AscensionBatavia.org. We hope to see you again!