



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Passion 4 March 6, 2016

A Service of the 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 urges us to be agreed in doctrine and love before taking the Lord's Supper together, we kindly ask those who are not in fellowship with the CLC first meet with the pastor before coming to communion. We want to share in this blessing with you and to do so on the basis of a united faith and understanding of the Sacrament. The pastor would be happy to meet with you to get to know you and to discuss our teachings. You can read more about our practice of "close communion" in the blue trifold pamphlet in the entry way. Thank you for your understanding. *1 Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:18-29*

Preservice Devotion: Prayer for Penitence #52, forepart of TLH p.107

OPENING HYMN

TLH 324:1-5 (red hymnal)

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

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

Congregation (C, spoken) Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:5b-2

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. We 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.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

M In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

C Amen.

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 146:3):

Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

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

Isaiah 12:1-6

¹ And in that day you will say:

“O Lord, I will praise You;
Though You were angry with me,
Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me.

² Behold, God *is* my salvation,
I will trust and not be afraid;
‘For Yah, the Lord, *is* my strength and song;
He also has become my salvation.’ ”

- ³ Therefore with joy you will draw water
From the wells of salvation.
- ⁴ And in that day you will say:
“Praise the Lord, call upon His name;
Declare His deeds among the peoples,
Make mention that His name is exalted.
- ⁵ Sing to the Lord,
For He has done excellent things;
This *is* known in all the earth.
- ⁶ Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion,
For great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst!”

PSALM OF THE DAY *responsively*

Psalms 32

- M Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
C Whose sin is covered.
- M Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity,
C And in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- M When I kept silent, my bones grew old
C Through my groaning all the day long.
- M For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
C My vitality was turned into the drought of summer.
- M I acknowledged my sin to You,
C And my iniquity I have not hidden.
- M I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”
C And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- M For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You
C In a time when You may be found;
- M Surely in a flood of great waters
C They shall not come near him.
- M You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble;
C You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.
- M I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
C I will guide you with My eye.
- M Do not be like the horse or like the mule,
C Which have no understanding,
- M Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle,
C Else they will not come near you.
- M Many sorrows shall be to the wicked;
C But he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.
- M Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous;
C And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

GOSPEL LESSON *rise*

- M Lord, sanctify us by Your truth;
C Your Word is truth. Amen.

Luke 15:1–3,11–32

¹ Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “This Man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³ So He spoke this parable to them, saying: ...

¹¹ Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to *his* father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls *to me*.’ So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”’

²⁰ “And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. ²³ And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’

²⁸ “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to *his* father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

³¹ “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”

M O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

CREED ~ The Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation,
came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven
and sits on the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge
both the living and the dead,
Whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
Who spoke by the Prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
And I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN ~ w/ guitar accompaniment

WS 777 (tan hymnal)

Amazing Grace

SERMON

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

¹⁶ Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

God's Business of Reconciliation Is Personal

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

OFFERTORY

Psalms 51:10-12



C: 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 Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

HYMN

TLH 392 (red hymnal)

Blest Is the Man, Forever Blest

GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

O gracious and most merciful God, we praise your name, for though you were angry with us, your anger has been turned away and you have

reconciled us to yourself through the blood of Your Son. In His name we pray for your Church and for all people according to their needs.

For the Church which has been given the ministry of reconciliation that the central business of all her efforts would be bring sinners to peace with God through the gospel of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who are lost and those who are at enmity with God, that the Holy Spirit would make them to know the message of reconciliation and invite them into the unconditional forgiveness and everlasting care of their heavenly Father, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For pastors and teachers within the Church who stand as ambassadors for Christ, that they would never assert their own agenda but would be faithful to attend to God's heavenly mission as His word so calls and directs them, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For the hearers of God's word, that the word of truth would be received from the mouths of preachers as though God were pleading through them and so win over their hearts and grant them peace with God, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For families and marriages who have grown apart or who have experienced painful discord in their relationships, that God would lead them as He did the prodigal son to find forgiveness, restoration, and rejoicing, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For our president, congress, governor, and state legislature, that God, in mercy, would grant them all honesty and integrity, and that they would hold their office in all justice, keeping to the moral law that God has written within their conscience, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who groan in their sickness, including the diseased, the chronically disabled and the terminally ill, that God would have mercy on them and hear the prayers of their loved ones to deliver them from what ails them according to his will, and as long as the trial endures, sustain them by his Holy Spirit, keeping them in the love of Christ and the hope of his resurrection unto the end, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For those who come today to receive the body and blood of our Lord, that they would draw near with an upright and repentant heart and be so blessed as to have their sins forgiven and forever covered by the blood of Christ, 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



A, B, C's of Self-Examination

A – *Assess your sins by examining yourself in view of the 10 commandments and your station in life.*

M I now invite you to examine your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Have you been faithful as a father, mother, husband, wife, son, daughter, employer or employee, citizen, pastor, member, and servant to those neighbors the Lord has put into your daily life? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you injured anyone by what you have said or done? Have you stolen anything, neglected your duty, been careless, or damaged anything?

(moment of silence for self-examination)

B – *Believe in Jesus by hearing His promised forgiveness in the words of institution and by receiving the bodily presence of Jesus in the bread and wine of holy communion. (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.'

C – *Confess the faith by speaking and singing the praises of God in love and unison with likeminded believers (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1:10; 11:26)*

M The cup of blessing which we bless,

C is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?

M The bread which we break,

C is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

M For we, though many, are one bread and one body;

C for we all partake of that one bread.

M Therefore, let there be no divisions among us,

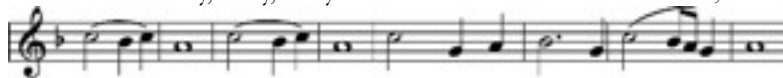
C But let us be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

M For 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.

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth;



Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo-ry; Ho-san - na,



Ho - san - na, Ho-sanna in the high-est. Bless-ed is He,



Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, Ho-san- na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

M O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us. Amen.



DISTRIBUTION



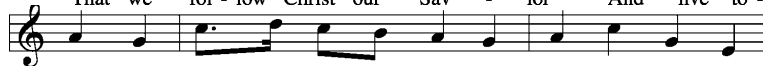
M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord,



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



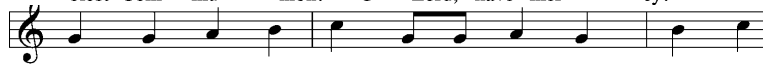
In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

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.

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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). For more information about our church visit our website at 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		