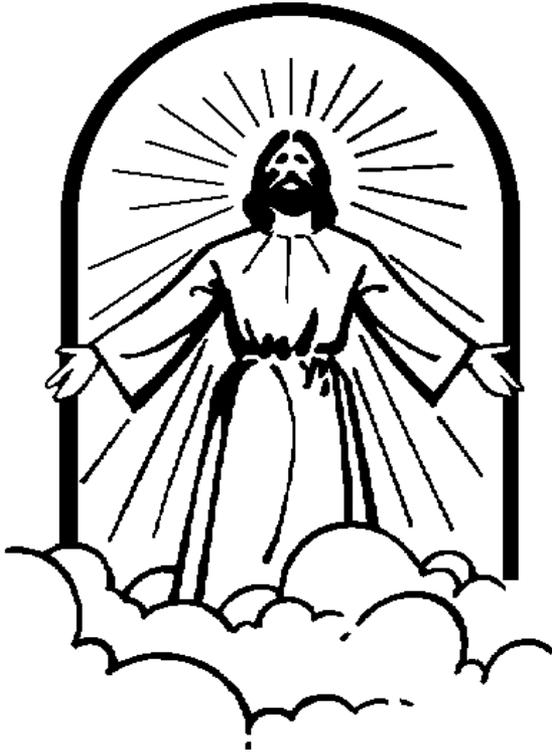


March 19, 2017



Ascension Lutheran Church

A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

(clclutheran.org)

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

Oculi: The Third Sunday In Lent

“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

Setting from Worship Supplement, page 12, Service of Word and Sacrament, setting 2. The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH) (hymns 1-660) is the RED book. Worship Supplement (WS) (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book. (If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed.)

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*

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 32 (pp. 130-131 in TLH)

HYMN 23 (TLH) *“Hallelujah! Let Praises Ring”*

INVOCATION (page 12, WS)

Matthew 28:19

M: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not

deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: Amen.

Kyrie sung (page 13, WS)

Mark 10:47

**C: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

Glory to God In the Highest – *Gloria In Excelsis* Lk. 2:14; Rev. 5:8-14

**Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high;
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (page 14, WS)

M: Let us pray ...

...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PASSION HISTORY, part 3 – Jesus Before Pilate

Immediately in the morning, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together. They took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. They led Jesus into their council, saying, "If You are the Christ, tell us." But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will by no means believe; and if I also ask you, you will by no means answer Me or let Me go. Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God." Then they all said, "Are You then the Son of God?" And He said to them, "You rightly say that I am." And they said, "What further testimony do we need? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

Then the whole multitude of them arose, bound Jesus, and led Him away from Caiaphas to the Praetorium and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor; and it was early morning.

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that Jesus had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed; and went and hanged himself. And falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.

But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." And they took counsel and bought with them the Potter's Field to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced; and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."

Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. Pilate then went out to them, and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him, and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." And

they began to accuse Him, saying, “We found this Fellow perverting the nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King.”

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, and called Jesus. Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, saying, “Are You the king of the Jews?” Jesus answered him, “Are you speaking for yourself on this, or did others tell you this about Me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”

Pilate therefore said to Him, “Are You a king then?” Jesus answered and said to him, “You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?”

And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no fault in this Man.”

And the chief priests accused Him of many things, but while He was being accused, He answered nothing. Then Pilate asked Him again, saying, “Do You answer nothing? Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?” But He answered him not one word, so that Pilate, the governor, marveled greatly.

M: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Alleluia (sung) (page 14, WS)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written

that we may believe

that Jesus is the Christ,

the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – from Psalm 86

M: Bow down Your ear, O LORD, hear me; for I am poor and needy.

C: Preserve my life, for I am holy; You are my God; save Your servant who trusts in You!

M: Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I cry to You all day long.

C: Cause the soul of Your servant to rejoice, for to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

M: For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

C: In the day of my trouble I will call upon You, for You will answer me.

M: Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; nor are there any works like Your works.

C: All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name.

C: For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

M: Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.

C: I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Your name forevermore.

The NICENE Creed (page 5, WS)

**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 at 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 156 (TLH) “*Not All The Blood Of Beasts*”

SERMON: Isaiah 53:7-8

THE LAMB OF GOD HAS TAKEN OUR SINS AWAY!

- 1. He was wrongly condemned to die**
- 2. He was willing to die**
- 3. He died for our sins**

⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of My people, to whom the stroke *was due?* (NASB)

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

OFFERTORY *sung* (page 16, WS)

Psalms 51:10-12

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence.
Take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.
Uphold with Your Spirit free.**

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 363 (TLH) *“To Our Redeemer’s Glorious Name”*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT (page 17, WS)



M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...

(the appropriate Preface is read)

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – *Sanctus* (sung) (p. 18, WS) Is. 6:3; Mt. 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.**

**Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION Mt. 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, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei* sung (page 19, WS)

John 1:29

**O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord,
Whose blood, once shed, true life restored,
Impart Your joy, our faith increase.
Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your peace.**

DISTRIBUTION

M: Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

M: Take and drink. This is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT – *Nunc Dimittis* sung
(page 20, WS) Luke 2:29-32

**O Lord, now let You servant depart in heavn'ly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.
All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

M: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

THANKSGIVING (page 21, WS) sung Luke 7:50; Psalm 100:2

**My heart has now become Your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Your praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally.
Lord, may Your body and Your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

THE BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN 147 (TLH) “*O Christ, Thou Lamb Of God*”

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WELCOME, VISITORS! We're very happy that you are here today! Please leave a record of your visit in our guest book in the entryway.

TODAY our USHER is Glenn Libby.

FRIDAY: NORTH AURORA CARE CENTER BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM.

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

NEXT SUNDAY our USHER is Greg Suwanski. The NORTH AURORA CARE CENTER SERVICE is at 3:00 PM, and the BATAVIA REHAB SERVICE is at 4:00 PM.

OUR QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING is on APRIL 2.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday: offering: \$521.00; attendance: 16.

EASTER BRUNCH: On EASTER SUNDAY immediately following our service we will have a BRUNCH. Please SIGN UP to help provide FOOD on the SHEET on the LITTLE TABLE in the ENTRYWAY.

CLC NEWS: Claire Abbas of Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI, has returned two calls: Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI, and Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY. Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Vernon, BC, Canada, has returned the call to St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer

of Trinity Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has returned the call to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL.

The deeper we enter the Lententide, the more intense becomes the struggle between sin and righteousness, whether it be granted to us to see it revealed in our Lord's suffering for us, or in the searchlight upon ourselves. The nearer we draw to the Cross, the more distinct sin becomes in its awful guilt and consequences. "Who is on the Lord's side?" There is no neutrality, no middle ground in the allegiances to the service of Christ, and it must be repeated, there cannot be a divided, nor an unpossessed heart! The Kingdom of Light and the kingdom of evil, of God and of the devil, are sharply contrasted. Each has its distinctive marks. Each has its powers. Each makes its appeal and each claims its followers. Slowly and deliberately, in order that every word may sink into the soul, our Lord says, "He-that-is-not-with-Me-is-against-Me"! Think of the double and low standards of morality so prevalent in our modern age, the winking at wrong, the absorption in trivial things, the indifference in Religion, and that self-satisfying, conventional religion which so many have fashioned for themselves. And then think of Christ, who loved and gave, bringing forth the fruit of the Spirit in all goodness and righteousness and truth. Turn your eyes toward the Lord, for He shall pluck your feet out of the net. According to this promise, the child of God pleads with his heavenly Father, that He would look upon his every need and stretch forth the right hand of His Majesty and be his defense against all enemies. (Paul Strodach)