November 12, 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

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

"Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases." (Psalm 103:1-3)

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 19 (page 126, TLH)

HYMN 281 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "The Savior Calls; Let Every Ear"

A Service Of Word & Sacrament, setting 2 (p. 12, Worship Supplement)

FIRST LESSON: Proverbs 3:1-8

¹ My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep My commandments; ² for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. ³ Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴ So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man. ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil. ⁸ It will be healing to your body and refreshment to your bones. (NASB)

Responsive Reading of Psalm 30

- M: I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up, and have not let my foes rejoice over me.
- C: O LORD MY GOD, I CRIED OUT TO YOU, AND YOU HEALED ME.
- M: O LORD, You brought my soul up from the grave; You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.
- C: SING PRAISE TO THE LORD, YOU SAINTS OF HIS, AND GIVE THANKS AT THE REMEMBRANCE OF HIS HOLY NAME.
- M: For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
- C: NOW IN MY PROSPERITY I SAID, "I SHALL NEVER BE MOVED."
- M: LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand strong; You hid Your face, and I was troubled.
- C: I CRIED OUT TO YOU, O LORD; AND TO THE LORD I MADE SUPPLICATION:
- M: "What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth?

- C: HEAR, O LORD, AND HAVE MERCY ON ME; LORD, BE MY HELPER!"
- M: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,
- C: TO THE END THAT MY GLORY MAY SING PRAISE TO YOU AND NOT BE SILENT. O LORD MY GOD, I WILL GIVE THANKS TO YOU FOREVER.

SECOND LESSON: James 1:2-5, 12 rise

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ... ¹² Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him. (NIV)

The Apostle's Creed (page 15, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 456 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "Approach, My Soul, The Mercy Seat"

SERMON: John 5:2-9a

DO YOU WANT TO GET BETTER?

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

walk." ⁹ And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked.

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 457 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, and THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION (page 21, Worship Supplement) Numbers 6:24-26

HYMN 784 (Worship Supplement) "Lord, Take My Hand And Lead Me"

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. We have a VERY SHORT VOTERS MEETING after church. In our BIBLE STUDY we're discussing talking to those who have objections about God and the Bible. Weather permitting, after our Bible Study we will REMOVE THE DEAD TREE by the mower shed.

TUESDAY: CHICAGO BIBLE STUDY at the home of Nate and Beth Ude, 3343 N. Leavitt St. #3, 6:00 PM.

<u>WEDNESDAY</u>: PASTORS' STUDY CLUB, Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, Wisconsin.

FRIDAY: North Aurora Care Center Bible study: 10:00 AM.

<u>SUNDAY</u>: WORSHIP SERVICE: 10 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 SERVICE at 4:00 PM.

ON THANKSGIVING DAY we will have a WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM.

<u>ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH</u>: Our offering last Sunday was \$654.00 (needed each week:

\$1,200.00).

THE CLC OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT is in your MAILBOX.