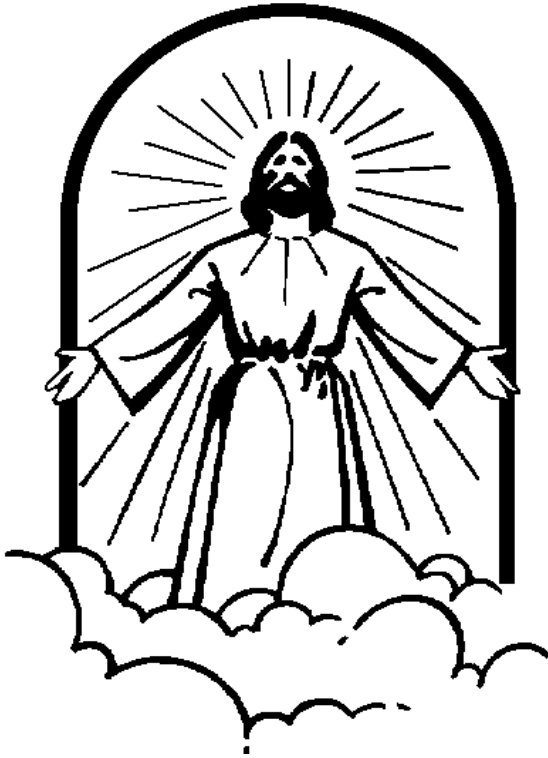


February 26, 2017



Ascension Lutheran Church

*A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession
(clclutheran.org)*

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

Quinquagesima Sunday

“For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.”
(Hebrews 13:14)

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.)

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 146 (page 156 in TLH)

HYMN 44 (TLH) *“Ye Lands, To The Lord Make A Jubilant Noise”*

INVOCATION (page 12, WS)

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.

**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* Luke 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.

FIRST LESSON: Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰ Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it. ^{4:1} But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry. ² So he prayed to the LORD, and said, "Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You *are* a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm. ³ Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for *it is* better for me to die than to live!" ⁴ Then the LORD said, "*Is it* right for you to be angry?" ⁵ So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city. ⁶ And the LORD God prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery. So Jonah was very grateful for the plant. ⁷ But as morning dawned the next day God prepared a worm, and it so damaged the plant that it withered. ⁸ And it happened, when the sun arose, that God prepared a

vehement east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah's head, so that he grew faint. Then he wished death for himself, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ Then God said to Jonah, "Is *it* right for you to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "It is right for me to be angry, even to death!" ¹⁰ But the LORD said, "You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left – and much livestock?"

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – Psalm 111

M: Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.

C: The works of the LORD are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them.

M: His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever.

C: He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

M: He has given food to those who fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant.

C: He has declared to His people the power of His works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

M: The works of His hands are truth and justice; all His precepts are sure.

C: They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

M: He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name.

C: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

SECOND LESSON – the Gospel: Matthew 16:21-25 *rise*

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. ²² Then Peter took Him

aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" ²³ But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." ²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

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!

The Apostles' Creed

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 764 (WS) *“God Of Grace And God Of Glory”*

SERMON: Hebrews 13:12-16, 20-21

HOLD ON TO WHAT WE’VE BEEN GIVEN IN CHRIST!

¹² Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. ¹³ Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. ¹⁴ For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. ¹⁵ Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name. ¹⁶ But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. ... ²⁰ Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, ²¹ make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

OFFERTORY *sung* (page 16, WS)

**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 767 (WS) *“Church Of God, Elect And Glorious”*

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 BENEDICTION (page 21, WS)

P: 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 396 (TLH) “*Oh, For A Faith That Will Not Shrink*”

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WELCOME, VISITORS! You are always welcome. Please leave a record

of your visit in our guest book in the narthex.

TODAY our USHER is Glenn Libby. There is a NORTH AURORA

CARE CENTER SERVICE at 3:00 PM, and a BATAVIA REHAB SERVICE at 4:00 PM.

TUESDAY: CHICAGO BIBLE STUDY at Nathan Odenbach's: 6:00 PM.

THIS WEDNESDAY: ASH WEDNESDAY service at 7:30 PM.

FRIDAY: NORTH AURORA BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM.

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

NEXT SUNDAY our USHER is Greg Suwanski.

LENTEN SERVICES: Ash Wednesday is our only Wednesday evening service during Lent. We will have a MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE and a GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, both at 7:30 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday's offering was \$715.00, and our attendance was 17.

CLC NEWS: St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD, has called Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Vernon, BC. Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX, has returned the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI. Pastor Paul D. Nolting of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has accepted the call to the Tri-parish: Grace Lutheran Church, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran Church, Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, White River, SD. Pastor John Schierenbeck of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL, is retiring from the public ministry in June. The congregation has called Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Trinity Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

CLC YOUTH CAMP, grades 6-9, will run from June 18th-24th. The cost is \$135 per camper. Camp (and Pre-Camp) registration at youthcamp.clclutheran.net begins on Sunday, March 19th, at 2:00 PM. The Pre-Camp program for 5th graders is \$60/camper. More fairly up-to-date information about Pre-Camp is on the website. Email questions to youthcamp.clc@gmail.com.