

March 5, 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

Invocavit: The First Sunday In Lent

“In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.” (1 John 4:9)

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 98 (page 144 in TLH)

HYMN 155 (alt. tune) (TLH) *“Sweet The Moments, Rich In Blessing”*

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 1 – Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest

When Jesus had spoken these words, and when they had sung a hymn, He went to the Mount of Olives as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. They went over the brook Kidron, and they came to a garden named Gethsemane. Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have been raised I will go before you to Galilee."

But Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble." Jesus

said to him, “Assuredly I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” But Peter spoke more vehemently: “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples.

When He came to the place, Jesus said to His disciples: “Sit here while I go and pray over there. Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, James and John, and He was withdrawn from the others about a stone’s throw. And He began to be sorrowful, troubled, and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.” And He went a little farther, and He knelt down. He fell to the ground on His face, and prayed. He said: “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Let this cup pass from Me; if it is Your will. Not My will, but Yours be done.” Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony He prayed more fervently; and His sweat became like great drops of blood, falling down to the ground. When He rose up from prayer, He came to His disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch with Me one hour? Rise, watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing and ready, but the flesh is weak.” He went away again a second time and prayed, saying the same words, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.” And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. So He left them and went away again and prayed the third time, saying the same words once more. Then He came to His disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough. Behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise up, let us be going. He who betrays Me is at hand.”

Now Judas, one of the twelve, who betrayed Jesus, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. He received a detachment of troops and officers from the chief priests and the scribes and elders of the people, and came there with torches, weapons, swords and clubs. And while Jesus was still speaking, this great multitude came, and the one called Judas went before them. Now Judas had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the one; take Him, and lead Him away safely.”

Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, “Whom are you seeking?” They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am He.” Then, when He said to them, “I am He,” they went backward and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, “Whom are you seeking?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He; therefore if you seek Me, let these go their way,” that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, “Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none.”

Judas drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. He went up to Him, and said to Him, “Hail, Master!” and kissed Him. And Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come? Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

When those who were around Jesus saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. And suddenly Simon Peter drew out his sword, and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. But Jesus answered and said, “Permit even this!” And He touched his ear and healed him. Then He said to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath; for all who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? But how then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?”

In that hour Jesus said to the chief priests and captains of the temple and elders who came to Him, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you in the temple, teaching, and you did not lay hands on Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.” All this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then the disciples forsook Him and fled. Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body; and the young men laid hold of him. And he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

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 96

M: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

C: Sing to the Lord, bless His name; proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

M: Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.

C: For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

M: For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

C: Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

M: Give to the Lord, O families of the peoples, give to the Lord glory and strength.

C: Give to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts.

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 762 (WS) *“This Is He”*

SERMON: Isaiah 53:1-3, 5

BELIEVE IN JESUS, AND BE SAVED!

1. Jesus lived a perfect life for you

2. Jesus gave His life for you

¹ Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire Him. ³ He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ...

⁵ But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

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)

Psalm 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 166 (TLH) *“Savior, When In Dust To Thee”*

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 179 (TLH) *“On My Heart Imprint Thine Image”*

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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 Tyler Louderman.

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

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 is DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ("Spring forward"). Our USHER is Glenn Libby. The NORTH AURORA CARE CENTER SERVICE is at 3:00 PM, and the BATAVIA REHAB SERVICE is at 4:00 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday's offering was \$581.00, and our attendance was 19.

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

CLC NEWS: Claire Abbas, Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton WI, has two calls: Messiah Lutheran Church, Hales Corners, WI, to teach pre-school-K, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, to teach K-8 as they are re-opening their school. St. Stephen Lutheran School, Mountain View, CA, has called Becky McKenney as a second teacher. Grace Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN, which plans to open a new school in the fall of 2017, has called Josh Ohlmann of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. The congregation has also called Debra Mayhew to teach in the preschool.

"Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take

it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats." (Exodus 12:3-5)

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'" (John 1:29)

John wishes to say: "Your lamb was taken from men, as Moses commanded in the Law of God (Ex. 12:3-5). But this is God's Lamb. The Easter lamb is a Lamb from God, not a lamb selected from the [flock]. The lamb of the Law was a shepherd's lamb or a man's lamb." John wants to say: "This is the true Lamb, which takes away the sin of the people. With your other lambs, sacrificed on the Passover festival, you did try to remove your sin; but you never succeeded. In this Lamb, born of a virgin you will. It is not a natural lamb ... referred to in the Law, and yet It is a lamb." For God prescribed that it was to be a Lamb that should be sacrificed ... on the cross for our sins. In other respects He was a man like all other human beings; but God made Him a Lamb which should bear the sins of all the world.

This is an extraordinarily free and comforting sermon on Christ, our Savior. Neither our thoughts nor our words can do the subject full justice, but in the life beyond it will redound to our eternal joy and bliss that the Son of God abased Himself so and burdened Himself with my sins. Yes, He assumes not only my sins but also those of the whole world, from Adam down to the very last mortal. These sins He takes upon Himself; for these He is willing to suffer and die that our sins may be expunged and we may attain eternal life and blessedness.... Anyone who wishes to be saved must know that all his sins have been placed on the back of this Lamb! Therefore John points this Lamb out to his disciples, saying: "Do you want to know where the sins of the world are placed for forgiveness? ... If you really want to find a place where the sins of the world are exterminated and deleted, then cast your gaze upon the cross. The Lord placed all our sins on the back of this Lamb." (Martin Luther)