



# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 a.m. March 1, 2026

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR: Page 203

### Thoughts as we gather:

*The Word of the Gospel Opens the Eyes of Faith and Fixes Them on Christ Jesus*

The Lord called Abram (Abraham) to leave his home and go to a land that God would show him. He also promised to make of Abram “a great nation,” to bless him and make his name great as a blessing to “all the families of the earth” (Gen. 12:2–3). “Abram went, as the Lord had told him” (Gen. 12:4), and in Canaan “he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord” (Gen. 12:8). He “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” (Rom. 4:3). Here the grace of God is manifested, that He “justifies the ungodly” (Rom. 4:5), not by works of the Law, but through faith in His promises. He removes all of our sins and lawless deeds through Jesus Christ, the offspring of Abraham in whom all the Lord’s promises are realized. This forgiveness of sins is the Word of the Gospel, the voice of the Holy Spirit, which “gives life to the dead” (Rom. 4:17). It opens the eyes of faith to behold Christ Jesus, the Son of Man lifted up on the cross, “that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life” (John 3:14–15).

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

### 936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His  
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go. His prom - ise on  
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His  
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -

vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin.  
oath re - call - ing To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:  
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High.  
lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death

Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a  
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing. That those He de -  
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing. Rich mer - cy and  
And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our

might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!  
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.  
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.  
foot - steps on the path Of peace. in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955  
Tune: Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774-1842  
Text: © 1992 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276  
Tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*Kneel/Stand*

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 105:4–7; antiphon: v. 8*

He remembers His covenant forever,  
the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.

**Seek the LORD and His strength;  
seek His presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that He has done,  
His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,

**O offspring of Abraham, His servant,  
children of Jacob, His chosen ones!**

He is the LORD our God;  
His judgments are in all the earth.

**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.**

He remembers His covenant forever,  
the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.

### KYRIE

*LSB 204*



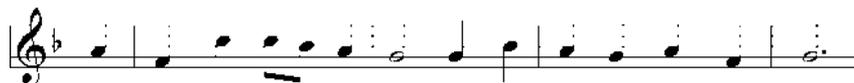
**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Genesis 12:1-9*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalm 121; antiphon: v. 8*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved;

He who keeps you will not slumber.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

<sup>5</sup>The LORD is your keeper;

the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

<sup>6</sup>**The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will keep you from all evil;

He will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.**

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but trusts Him who justifies the ungodly, His faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup>just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;

<sup>8</sup>blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

<sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### ALLELUIA AND VERSE (LENT)

**C**[ **O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,  
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to Him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**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 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.

*Sit*

### 571 God Loved the World So That He Gave



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## SERMON

## OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For faith to fix our eyes on the Son of Man and to turn from the things of the flesh, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all pastors, that they would patiently teach the faith to all who question the way of salvation, in this and every generation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all fathers, who are given the calling to hand down the faith, that their hearts would be filled with the words of Christ; and that they would show forth His mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For Donald, our president; \_\_\_\_\_, our governor; the Congress of the United States; the legislature of this state; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that we would preserve our liberty and use its gift wisely in the pursuit of justice and for the welfare of all people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the people of God in their sorrows and sicknesses, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that Christ would sustain them in their afflictions, comfort them in the hour of death and raise up the dead according to His gracious promise, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For faith to hear the word of Jesus; to trust in His death on the cross; and to receive His body and blood for forgiveness, life and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For faith, that like Abraham we may delight in the Lord's promise kept in Christ; and for the Holy Spirit, that we may witness to His name and carry His Gospel to every place and people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

*Sit*

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

## PREFACE

*LSB 208*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

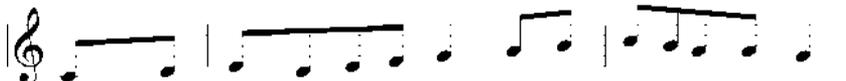
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*Sit*

DISTRIBUTION

## 622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for  
 2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel  
 3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y  
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y  
 hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence  
 hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent  
 Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion  
 they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,  
 e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.  
 and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to  
 And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry  
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by  
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.  
 and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,  
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.  
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

- 5 Though reason cannot understand,  
 Yet faith this truth embraces:  
 Your body, Lord, is even now  
 At once in many places.  
 I leave to You how this can be;  
 Your Word alone suffices me;  
 I trust its truth unailing.

- 6 Lord, I believe what You have said;  
Help me when doubts assail me.  
Remember that I am but dust,  
And let my faith not fail me.  
Your supper in this vale of tears  
Refreshes me and stills my fears  
And is my priceless treasure.
- 7 Grant that we worthily receive  
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,  
And, truly grieving for our sins,  
May prove by our behavior  
That we are thankful for Your grace  
And day by day may run our race,  
In holiness increasing.
- 8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,  
Be praised throughout all ages!  
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place  
The world against it rages.  
Grant that this sacrament may be  
A blessèd comfort unto me  
When living and when dying.

Text: Samuel Kinner, 1603–68; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841–1931, alt.  
Tune: Peter Sohren, c. 1630–c. 1692, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

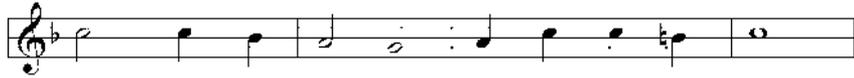
## 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,  
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;  
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;  
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,  
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole.  
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest,  
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.  
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.  
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## 555 Salvation unto Us Has Come



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and  
2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could  
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had  
4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, Sin held its sway un -



fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They  
ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For  
giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And  
ceas - ing; The task was use - less and in vain, Our



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus  
man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those  
by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a  
guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the  
pure de - sires The spir - it of the  
mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred  
poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.  
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.  
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.  
guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.

- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled  
Or we must die despairing,  
Christ came and has God's anger stilled,  
Our human nature sharing.  
He has for us the Law obeyed  
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed  
Which over us impended.
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made  
And brought to us salvation,  
Each Christian therefore may be glad  
And build on this foundation.  
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,  
Your death is now my life indeed,  
For You have paid my ransom.
- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see  
Your Word cannot be broken;  
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!"  
No falsehood have You spoken.  
Baptized into Your precious name,  
My faith cannot be put to shame,  
And I shall never perish.
- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin  
And makes us conscience-stricken;  
But then the Gospel enters in  
The sinful soul to quicken.  
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;  
The Law no peace can ever give,  
No comfort and no blessing.

9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone  
And rests in Him unceasing;  
And by its fruits true faith is known,  
With love and hope increasing.  
For faith alone can justify;  
Works serve our neighbor and supply  
The proof that faith is living.

△ 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise  
To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
The God who saved us by His grace;  
All glory to His merit.  
O triune God in heav'n above,  
You have revealed Your saving love;  
Your blessed name we hallow.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Tune: Etlisch Cristlich liden, 1524, Wittenberg  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday  
of  
Lent**

**SERVING SERVICE TODAY:**

**ELDER**

Rick Ferrell

**HEAD USHER**

Bruce Benson

**SUNDAY READINGS**

The readings for Sunday, March 8, 2026 are:

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95:1-9 (antiphon: v. 6)

Romans 5:1-8

John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)

**March 1 – Second Sunday in Lent**

**John 3:16** – “**For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**” This is perhaps the most well-known and beloved verse in the New Testament, for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life, including our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ.

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

<b>Sun. (03/01)</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study Evangelism Committee Meeting
<b>Mon. (03/02)</b>	4:00 p.m.	Youth Confirmation Class
<b>Wed. (03/04)</b>	11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Bible Study Lenten Mid-Week Service Adult Confirmation Class
<b>Sat. (03/07)</b>	9:00 a.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
<b>Sun. (03/08)</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study

### ATTENDANCE:

02/22/2026	9:00 a.m.	70
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### OFFERING:

Needed weekly:	\$ 4,501.00	Needed YTD	\$ 36,008.00
Rec'vd. 02/22/2026	\$ 5,359.22	Rec'vd YTD	\$ <u>38,475.14</u>
Over Weekly	\$ 858.22	Over YTD	\$ 2,467.14

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We welcome you and invite you to join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall after service. Be sure to check in with Debbie in the Narthex before service. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.*

### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

*YOUTH*—Confirmation Class will be held on Monday, March 2, at 4:00 p.m.

*ADULT*— Confirmation Class will be held on Wednesday, March 4, at 6:00 p.m.

### **EVANGELISM**

There will be an Evangelism meeting today. We will meet after Bible Study around 11:30 a.m. All are welcome. Please contact Eunice Harris for information.

### **LADIES' BIBLE STUDY**

We're having Ladies' Bible Study with a video series called Unshakeable by Donna Snow. I hope you can make it this Saturday, March 7th at 9:00 a.m. All women are welcome! Eunice is bringing breakfast.

### **PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT MISSIONS**

Today in your Church mailbox you will find a special "Love Offering" envelope for PSD Missions. If you wish to donate, just put your donation in the special envelope and place it in the regular offering tray. We will be collecting donations for the whole month of March. Checks should be made payable to Ascension. All funds collected will then be sent to the District for missions. Thanks for your support.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Mark your calendars, March 15th the Pacific Southwest District President will be at Ascension. President Mike Gibson and his wife Kathy will be joining us for the day. Come meet and greet our extended family members.

### **SPRING FORWARD**

Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD one hour on Saturday night, March 7th before going to bed as Daylight Savings Times begins at 2:00 a.m.



# UPCOMING Events

**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Easter Pancake Breakfast – immediately after service in the Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** – Ladies Gathering “Garden of Friends”

**Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>** – Men’s Gathering “Bicycling Along”

**Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>** – Annual Summer BBQ at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>** - Parish Nurse event “Fall into Cleanliness”

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** – Oktoberfest Potluck at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** – Advent by Candlelight - immediately after service at approximately 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Congregational Christmas Party- at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Prayer and Praises” is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at [www.ascensionav.org](http://www.ascensionav.org). Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

**ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:**

Angela Alder	Mary Beuerle	Charles Blake
Tricia Blake	Devin Coole	Judy Cutler
Durfee Family	Jennifer Millgate	Beverly Moglich
Gaylon Pastella	Mildred Sears	Kevin Smith
Gwen Strasburg	Rory Tighe	Mike Adams
Bob Albert	Brendan Anderson	Dave Anderson
Giovanni Arradia	Red & MaryAnn Beck	Marilyn Belka
Vivian Bingnam	Grayson Blomberg	Sue Boers
Karrie Burke	Kyle Burton	Gabrielle Butcher
Marcia Byron	Mari Caroland	Dan Catherwood
Lane Ceballos	Maddie Cervantes	Carolyn Chaney
David Chavez	Cathy Connors	Robert Coole
Scott Crawley	William Creek	Kathy Davis
Nick & Julie DeRose	Matt DeWitt	Mary Diaz
Christine Dunne	Kelley Dunne	John & Ann Duran
Egger Family	Don Eliason	Heidi Evans
Lynn Fairgrief	Charity Frash	Christian Frash
Don Garcia	Chrissie Gates	Faigie Gawn
Grace Glass	Government	Raquel Gudino
Roger Hall	Pastor Harris	Kelly Havens
Jace Haynes	Jeanne Hecksel	Harry Heike
Kareem Jacobs	Emma Kraus	Randy Lam
Addison Lange	Debbie Lange	Melody LeGray
Anthony Lopez	Kelly Marscheider	Tom & Joan Mason
David McDonald	Linda Merkle	Dave Meyer
Military	Grace Miskimen	Adam Nieto
David Parker	Glenn & Nancy Pastella	Richard & Alice Pastella
Seung-Hee Pastella	Tim & Marguerite Pastella	Mel & Mary Quicke
Michele Rawlins	Dave Riffel	Bill Robertson
Ronnie	Noreen Selle	Bea Shelby
Short Family	Curtis & Cyndy Todd	Joshua Todd
Richard Torres	Brandon Vess	Donna Wagers
Curtis Wise	Cynthia Yancho	

**THANKSGIVING:**

Rhianna Arradia