A scenic landscape featuring rolling green hills under a soft, hazy sky. In the foreground, a field of vibrant pink flowers, likely azaleas, is in bloom. The hills in the background are covered in dense green vegetation, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

*Then shall your light
and your righteousness
go before you*

Isaiah 58:8

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

22130 Ottawa Rd. Apple Valley, CA. 92308
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1645, Apple Valley, CA 92307
Phone: (760) 247-7392, FAX: (760) 247-9014
Pastor@ascensionav.org; office@ascensionav.org
Website: www.ascensionav.org
Rev. James Harris, Pastor

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

9:00 a.m. February 8, 2026

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE: Page 184

Thoughts as we gather:

The Righteousness of Christ

Jesus warns that *“unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven”* (Matt. 5:20), but He also calls His imperfect people *“the salt of the earth”* and *“the light of the world”* (Matt. 5:13, 14). That’s because the Lord Jesus came not to abolish the Law or the prophets, *“but to fulfill them”* (Matt. 5:17) in perfect faith and love. Since He does and teaches all of God’s commandments, He is *“called great in the kingdom of heaven”* (Matt. 5:19). God manifests His *“demonstration of the Spirit and of power”* in *“Jesus Christ and Him crucified”* (1 Cor. 2:2–4), and through the preaching of the Gospel He gives His *“secret and hidden wisdom”* (1 Cor. 2:7). Christ gives this perfect righteousness to His people, and it leads them to true fasting, which is *“to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free”* (Is. 58:6) and *“to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house”* (Is. 58:7).

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See. from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine. That were a

Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most. I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
Text and 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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 119:9–16; antiphon: v. 12

Blessèd are You, O LORD;
teach me Your statutes!

How can a young man keep his way pure?

By guarding it according to Your word.

With my whole heart I seek You;

let me not wander from Your commandments!

I have stored up Your word in my heart,

that I might not sin against You.

Blessèd are You, O LORD;

teach me Your statutes!

With my lips I declare

all the just decrees of Your mouth.

In the way of Your testimonies I delight

as much as in all riches.

I will meditate on Your precepts

and fix my eyes on Your ways.

I will delight in Your statutes;

I will not forget Your word.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

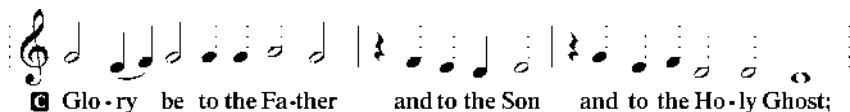
and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

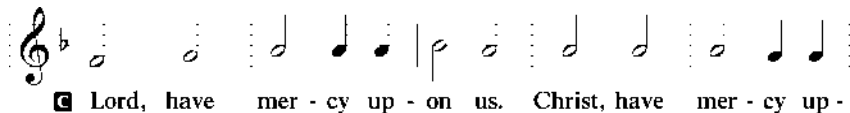
Blessèd are You, O LORD;

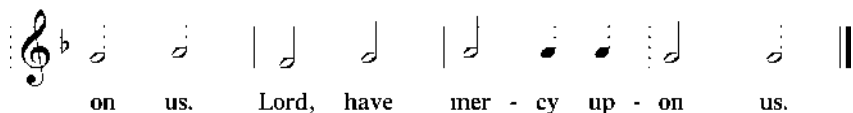
teach me Your statutes!



KYRIE

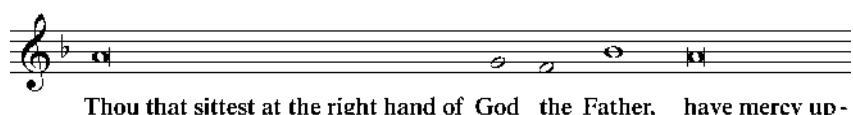
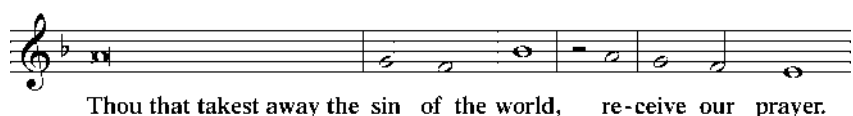
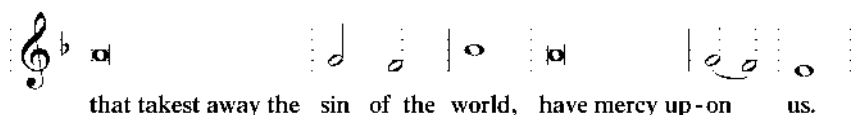
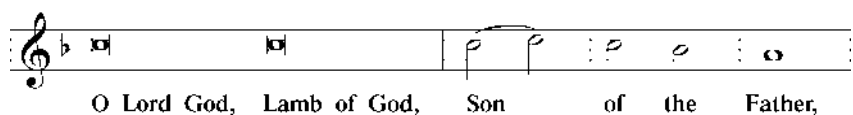
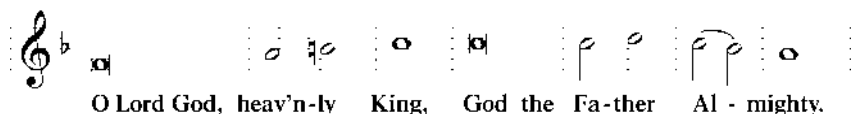
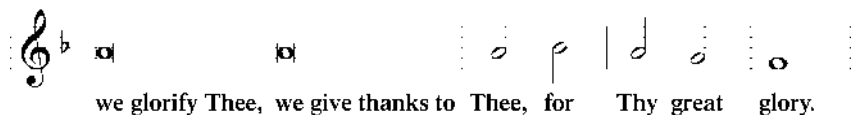
LSB 186

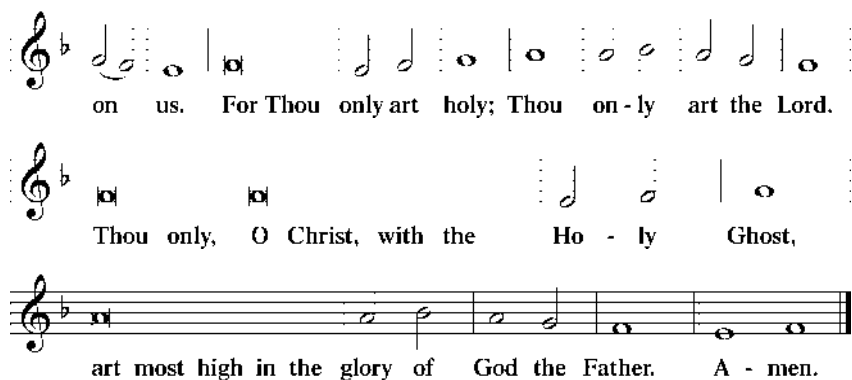




GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 187





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:3-9a

³“Why have we fasted, and You see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and You take no knowledge of it?”

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
 and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
 and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day
 will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
 a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
 and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
 Will you call this a fast,
 and a day acceptable to the LORD?
⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of wickedness,
 to undo the straps of the yoke,
 to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?
⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;
 when you see the naked, to cover him,
 and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
 and your healing shall spring up speedily;
 your righteousness shall go before you;
 the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
 you shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 112:1–9; antiphon: v. 4

¹Praise the LORD!
 Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
 who greatly delights in His commandments!
²**His offspring will be mighty in the land;
 the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
³Wealth and riches are in his house,
 and his righteousness endures forever.
⁴**Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
 he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**
⁵It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
 who conducts his affairs with justice.
⁶**For the righteous will never be moved;
 he will be remembered forever.**
⁷He is not afraid of bad news;
 his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.
⁸**His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,
 until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.**
⁹He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
 his righteousness endures forever;
 his horn is exalted in honor.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love Him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

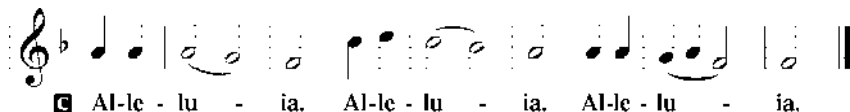
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

LSB 190



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

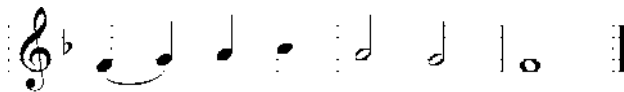
¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES’ CREED

G I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

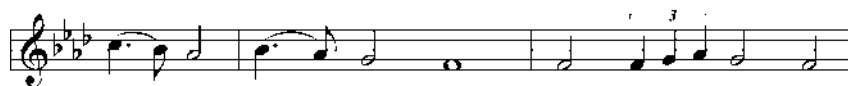
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sit

578 Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death. Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!

- △ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76
 Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944
 Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276
 Tune: Public domain

Sit

SERMON

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts
 and minds in Christ Jesus.
C Amen.

OFFERING



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

P For counsel and aid for those who cry to the Lord in weakness and in need, that the Lord would bless and prosper His Church so that she may be salt and light, giving bold witness to the redemption provided in Jesus Christ and giving shape to God's love by showing compassion to all in need, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

P For our Synod, her congregations and schools, her pastors, teachers, deaconesses, musicians and all her faithful servants, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Synod convention this summer and those who are making preparations, especially those gathering nominations for elected office, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

P For our homes, husbands and wives, the children in their care and extended family, that the Lord would guide us to serve each other in love; and that our homes would become places of blessing and peace where God's Word is spoken, forgiveness is shown and love is demonstrated in word and deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the rulers of this age whom God has placed in authority, that they may fulfill their duties in wisdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick, the suffering, the grieving and the dying, /especially _____, / that they would receive healing, relief, comfort and peace according to the Lord's will; and that they would be delivered from their afflictions, sustained in their struggles and be granted patience in their adversities, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who commune this day, that Christ, whose righteousness goes before us and whose glory is our rearguard, would visit His people at the altar with grace and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the mind of Christ, that we would not dismiss His gifts as folly, but judge and discern all things according to His wisdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy. Supply us with all things needed and beneficial to us and to our faith, and keep from us all things harmful, that we may rest our fears in You and be granted a clear conscience and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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 194

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



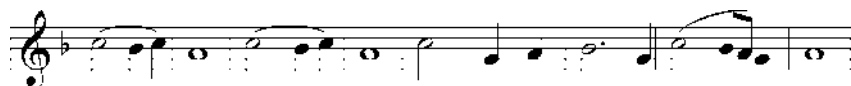
C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

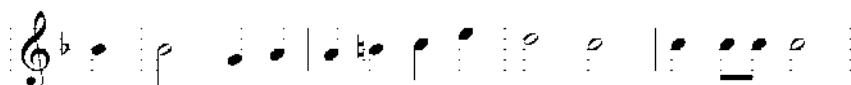
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



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



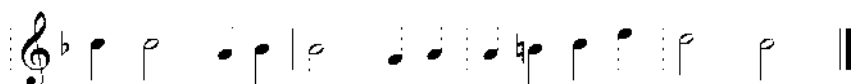
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

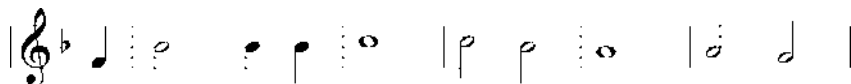


Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

P 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.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
 2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
 wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
 Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
 me this hour In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
 Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
 Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
 On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
 pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
 death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
 grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
 Whose own feast of love I savor,
 Bidden by His gracious call.
 Wedding garments He provides me,
 With a robe of white He hides me,
 Fits me for the royal hall.

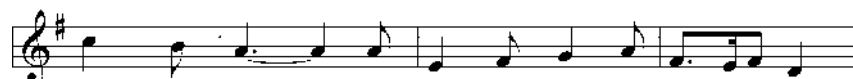
- 6 Now have I found consolation,
 Comfort in my tribulation,
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
 Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808-58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758
 Text: © David W. Rogner. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276
 Tune: Public domain

642 O Living Bread from Heaven



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en. How well You
2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most
3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can
4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly



feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en
ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me
death de - stroy. And You have free - ly grant - ed
food, while here My course on earth is length - ened,



Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, won - drous food of
The trea - sures of Your grace; For You have free - ly
The cup of end - less joy. My Lord, I do not
To serve with ho - ly fear. And when You call my



bles - sing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this
giv - en What earth could nev - er buy. The bread of
mer - it The fa - vor You have shown, And all my
spir - it To leave this world be - low. I en - ter.



gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows.
life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.
soul and spir - it Bow down be - fore Your throne.
through Your mer - it, Where joys un - min - gled flow.

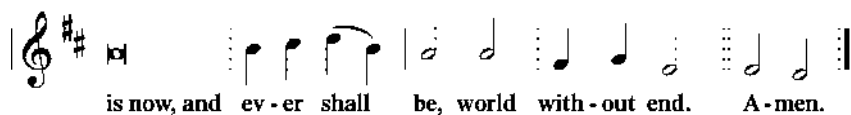
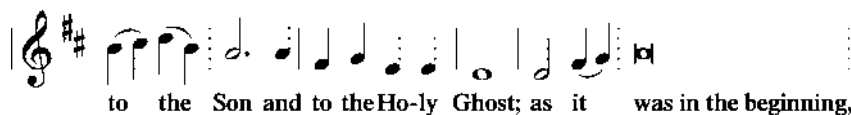
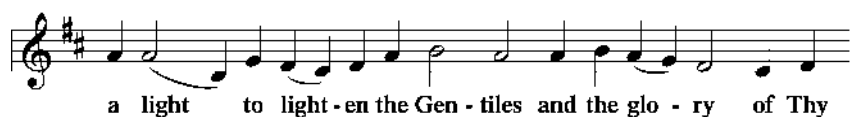
Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius
Text and tune: Public domain

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.



THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

P The Lord be with you.

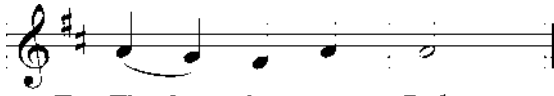


C And with thy spir - it.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

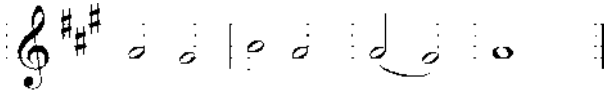


C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



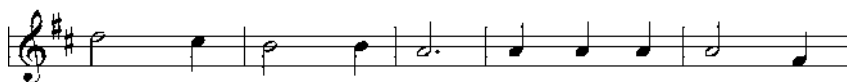
C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
 3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
 deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
 mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
 on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

- 5 When from the dust of death I rise
 To claim my mansion in the skies,
 This then shall be my only plea:
 Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
 Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
 For me, and all Thy hands have made,
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt.
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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House.

SERVING SERVICE TODAY:

ELDER

Rick Ferrell

HEAD USHER

Bruce Benson

SUNDAY READINGS

The readings for Sunday, February 15, 2026 are:

Exodus 24:8-18

Psalms 2:6—12 (antiphon: v. 6)

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

February 8 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Matthew 5:17 – “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Sun. (02/08)	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study
Mon. (02/09)	4:00 p.m.	Youth Confirmation Class
Wed. (02/11)	11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Bible Study Adult Confirmation Class
Thurs. (02/12)	6:00 p.m.	NAMI Family to Family & Peer Connections
Sun. (02/15)	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Service Bible Study Potluck & Dessert Auction

ATTENDANCE:

02/01/2026	9:00 a.m.	67
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OFFERING:

Needed weekly:	\$ 4,501.00	Needed YTD	\$ 22,505.00
Rec'vd. 02/01/2026	<u>\$ 5,222.56</u>	Rec'vd YTD	<u>\$ 26,445.01</u>
Over Weekly	\$ 721.56	Over YTD	\$ 3,940.01

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, February 9, at 4:00 p.m.

ADULT—Confirmation Class will be held on Wednesday, February 11, at 6:00 p.m.

NAMI

NAMI's Family to Family and Peer Connections will be meeting on Thursday, February 12, at 6:00 p.m. Family to Family is via Zoom only; Peer Connections is via Zoom and in person.

FEBRUARY POTLUCK

A fun-filled potluck and dessert auction is scheduled for February 15th at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board for homemade goodies to be auctioned off during the potluck. All proceeds will be going to our Pacific Southwest District Missions. For the potluck we are dividing up what food to bring by last name: **A-E** Main Dish; **F-M** Salad or Finger Foods; and **N-Z** Dessert to share (not for the Auction).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lent by Candlelight service is scheduled for February 22, 2026 @ 10:30 a.m. The theme for the service is Ashes to Stone: Symbols of Lent. Please bring your favorite finger foods to be served after the service which will start at 10:30 a.m. instead of the normal Bible Study. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Valvo at (760) 887-7125. Thank you.

SUNDAY READERS

We are looking for volunteers to be readers on Sunday mornings for the balance of the year. If you are willing, please see Ralph Hollins or Ken Porter. Thank you

CHURCH CHOIR

We have had some inquiries about resuming our choir. If you are interested, please let Ken Porter or Debbie Stowe know.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone for the cards and prayers. ~ Jean Coburn

UPCOMING *Events*

Sunday, February 15th - Potluck and Dessert Auction at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 22nd - Lent by Candlelight – “Ashes to Stone: Symbols of Lent”- immediately after service at approximately 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 28th - Parish Nurse event “BP, Healthy Eating and Walking

Sunday, April 5th – Easter Pancake Breakfast – immediately after service in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, May 9th – Ladies Gathering “Garden of Friends”

Saturday, June 13th – Men’s Gathering “Bicycling Along”

Sunday, June 28th – Annual Summer BBQ at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 5th - Parish Nurse event “Fall into Cleanliness”

Sunday, October 18th – Oktoberfest Potluck at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

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

Sunday, December 13th – 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. Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

Angela Alder
Tricia Blake
Durfee Family
Gaylon Pastella
Gwen Strasburg
Bob Albert
Dave Anderson
Sistie Beauchamp
Ilona Berecki
Sue Boers
Vanessa Brown
Gabrielle Butcher
Renee Cates
David Chavez
Cathy Connors
Larry Cramins
John Davis
Nick & Julie DeRose
Matt DeWitt
Kelley Dunne
Egger Family
Heidi Evans
Shaunah Forrest
Chrissie Gates
Brielle Gondola
Roger Hall
Kelly Havens
Hunter & Justin Hedden
Mike Holtgrefe
Maggie Ivy
Norma Jenkins
John & Connie Kays
Emma Kraus
Anthony Kwesie
Debbie Lange
Erin Liedtke
Pete Maaske
Linda Merkle
Military
Renee Moore
Lauren Newmann
Donna Park
Glenn & Nancy Pastella
Tim & Marguerite Pastella
Jose Perez
Sue Purbrough
Michele Rawlins
Dave Riffel
Kathy Rodere
Jeffery Rout
Josh Seau
Noreen Selle
Diane Short & Short Family
Manuel Sousa
Carol Thomas
Diana Thornbury
Curtis & Cyndy Todd
Fran Truslow
Ron & Peggy Updike
Tammy Wall
Sharon Waters
Beverly Wilson
Curtis Wise

Mary Buerle
Devin Coole
Jennifer Millgate
Mildred Sears
Rory Tighe
Gabe & Nikki Amaro
Jeff Austin
Red & MaryAnn Beck
Vivian Bingham
Sue Brooks
Karrie Burke
Marcia Byron
Lane Ceballos
Tracy Cole
Pearl Coole
Scott Crawley
Kathy Davis
Samuel & Sean Detwiler
Mary Diaz
John & Ann Duran
Don Eliason
Lynn Fairgrief
Christian Frash
Faigie Gawn
Government
David Hanson
Jace Haynes
Harry Heike
Bill Huff
Kareem Jacobs
Eric Jones
Kathy Kays
Dorothy Krentz
Randy Lam
Jeannette Lawler
Anthony Lopez
Kelly Marscheider
Dave Meyer
Grace Miskimen
Herbert & Elaine Moran
Michelle Nichol
Sandy Park
Richard & Alice Pastella
Michele Patterson
Heidi Perry
Marilyn Quade
Penny Reese
Bill Robertson
Linda Roque
Beth Rubio
Chris Segard
Ray Shaffer
Ed Scott Smith
Vanessa Sowders
Sarah Thomas
Stan Thorne
Joshua Todd
Denise Turner
Stan Vacek
Rosa & Paul Wallace
Charlie West
Stacy Wilson
Cynthia Yanchow

Charles Blake
Judy Cutler
Beverly Moglich
Kevin Smith
Mike Adams
Brendan Anderson
Mark Baker
Marilyn Belka
Grayson Blomberg
Tiffany Brown
Kyle Burton
Mari Caroland
Carolyn Chaney
Elizabeth Collins
Robert Coole
William Creek
Linda Davis
Steve Dewiggins
Christine Dunne
Marge Edwards
Janice Estrick
Rosie Fernandez
Don Garcia
Grace Glass
Raquel Gudino
Pastor Harris
Jeanne Hecksel
Kallee Henson
Dawn Husel
Avery Jamison
Jacob Jones
Chris Kelly
Steve Kuhn
Addison Lange
Melody LeGray
Dennis Lumley
David McDonald
Daniel Midgely
Debbie Moore
Amanda Netzell
Lori O'Neil
David Parker
Seung-Hee Pastella
Esperanza Perez
Kelley Pulone
Mel & Mary Quicke
Christian Rhoades
Crystal Roblero
Carla Rosen
Rick Schmidt
Margi Segnari
Bea Shelby
Shirley Smith
Janet Surber
Matthew & Tina Thorn
Randy Tilson
Richard Torres
Sue Twarowski
Brandon Vess
Melanie Waters
Nancy Williams
Wilma Wilson
Ray Zayas
SAFE TRAVELS:
Mike & Kathy Benzow



About the Cover: Like rays of light stretching out over the horizon, the Lord promises that repentance and sincerity will be met with a new dawn filled with righteousness, healing, and the Lord's protection. Jesus has entered into the darkness of our sin through His death on the cross, but the break of a new day came on the first Easter morning to show us that He lives to bring us His righteousness, healing, and protection.