A landscape photograph featuring three crosses on a hill. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and casting long shadows. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. The crosses are silhouetted against the bright light of the sun.

*Therefore, my brothers, . . .  
stand firm thus in the Lord*

Philippians 4:1

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. James Harris, Pastor

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 a.m. March 16, 2025

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE: Page 184

### Thoughts as we gather:

*Jesus Rescues Us from Death and Brings Us into Heaven*

The prophet Jeremiah faithfully preached “*all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people*” (Jer. 26:8). He called the people to repentance, lest the Lord’s judgment come upon them. The violence that Jeremiah suffered for this preaching foreshadowed the cross and Passion of Christ Jesus, who suffered the judgment of God for the redemption of all people. For Jesus “*comes in the name of the Lord*” (Luke 13:35) in order to lay down His life for the sins of the world. Earthly Jerusalem was blind to His gracious visitation, and it put Him to death like the prophets before Him. Yet, His sacrifice upon the cross became the cornerstone of the new Jerusalem, His Church. He visits us today in mercy with His preaching of forgiveness, to gather us to Himself within that holy city, “*as a hen gathers her brood under her wings*” (Luke 13:34), for “*our citizenship is in heaven*” (Phil. 3:20).

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

### 508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a - noint - ed,  
2 The fi - nal trum - pet then shall sound And all the earth be shak - en,  
3 The books are o - pened then to all, A rec - ord tru - ly tell - ing  
4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but car - nal plea - sures,



In all His pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom God ap -  
And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their sleep a -  
What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was  
Who here de - spised His pre - cious Word And loved their earth - ly



point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And flames on  
 wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By God's al-  
 dwell - ing, And ev - 'ry heart be clear - ly seen, And all be  
 trea - sures! With shame and trem - bling they will stand And at the



flames shall rav - age earth As Scrip - ture long has warned us.  
 might - y, bound - less pow'r, Be changed at His com - mand - ing.  
 known as they have been In thoughts and words and ac - tions.  
 judg - e's stern com - mand To Sa - tan be de - liv - ered.

- 5 My Savior paid the debt I owe  
 And for my sin was smitten;  
 Within the Book of Life I know  
 My name has now been written.  
 I will not doubt, for I am free,  
 And Satan cannot threaten me;  
 There is no condemnation!
- 6 May Christ our intercessor be  
 And through His blood and merit  
 Read from His book that we are free  
 With all who life inherit.  
 Then we shall see Him face to face,  
 With all His saints in that blest place  
 Which He has purchased for us.
- 7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,  
 But hasten our salvation;  
 We often tremble on our way  
 In fear and tribulation.  
 O hear and grant our fervent plea:  
 Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
 From death and ev'ry evil.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532-99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832-1919, alt.  
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug  
 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 74:1–3; antiphon: Psalm 69:9*

For zeal for Your house has consumed me,  
 and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.  
**O God, why do You cast us off forever?**

**Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture?**

Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old,  
 which You have redeemed to be the tribe of Your heritage!

**Remember Mount Zion, where You have dwelt.**

**Direct Your steps to the perpetual ruins;**

**the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary!**

**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.

For zeal for Your house has consumed me,  
 and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.

**C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

**KYRIE**

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**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*

<sup>8</sup>When Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! <sup>9</sup>Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

<sup>10</sup>When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. <sup>11</sup>Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.”

<sup>12</sup>Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. <sup>13</sup>Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that He has pronounced against you. <sup>14</sup>But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. <sup>15</sup>Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM

*Psalm 4; antiphon: v. 8*

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!  
 You have given me relief when I was in distress.  
 Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

**<sup>2</sup>O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?  
 How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**

<sup>3</sup>But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for Himself;  
 the LORD hears when I call to Him.

**<sup>4</sup>Be angry, and do not sin;  
 ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer right sacrifices,  
 and put your trust in the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?  
 Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”**

<sup>7</sup>You have put more joy in my heart  
 than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**<sup>8</sup>In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE**

*Philippians 3:17—4:1*

<sup>17</sup>Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup>who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

*Luke 13:35*

Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see Me until you say, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

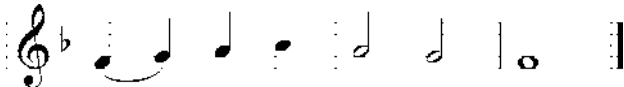
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



**G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill You.” <sup>32</sup>And He said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish My course. <sup>33</sup>Nevertheless, I must go on My way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ <sup>34</sup>O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! <sup>35</sup>Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see Me until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

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



**G** Praise be to Thee, 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*

## 666 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe



1 O lit - tle flock, fear not the foe Who mad - ly  
 2 Be of good cheer; your cause be - longs To Him who  
 3 As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor  
 4 A - men, Lord Je - sus, grant our prayer; Great Cap - tain,



seeks your o - ver - throw; Dread not his rage and pow'r.  
 can a - venge your wrongs; Leave it to Him, our Lord.  
 hell's sa - tan - ic crew A - gainst us shall pre - vail.  
 now Thine arm make bare, Fight for us once a - gain!



And though your cour - age some - times faints, His seem - ing  
 Though hid - den yet from mor - tal eyes, His Gid - eon  
 Their might? A joke, a mere fa - cade! God is with  
 So shall Thy saints and mar - tyrs raise A might - y



tri - umph o'er God's saints Lasts but a lit - tle hour.  
 shall for you a - rise, Up - hold you and His Word.  
 us and we with God— Our vic - t'ry can - not fail.  
 cho - rus to Thy praise For - ev - er - more. A - men.

Text: Jacob Fabricius, 1593–1654; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: German, 1534, Nürnberg  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### SERMON:

### STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH

*Philippians 3:17-4:1*

**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 this and all congregations, that the Lord would remember them, strengthen and defend His pastors and servants in the Church, and cause His people rightly to fear His wrath and rejoice in His redemption, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For hope in a world convulsed by sin, that we would believe that our eternal citizenship is in heaven and that our Lord Jesus Christ will subject all things to Himself, transforming our lowly bodies to be like His glorious body, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For our homes, that they would not be places to worship our bellies, glory in shame or set our minds on earthly things, but a refuge of love while here and a foretaste of our heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For our nation and its officials, that the Lord would give them wisdom and integrity; and that neither they nor the citizens of our land would hinder His Church or despise His call to repentance, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For the sick and afflicted, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that He who cast out demons and performed cures on His way to the cross would strengthen their faith and deliver them from suffering, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For repentance and joyful confidence in Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, and that God would gather us at His altar in a true confession of His Word as a hen gathers her chicks, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For courage to bear reproach and declare boldly the name of Jesus, who suffered reproach and bore our sins to the cross, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, 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 un - to the Lord, our God.

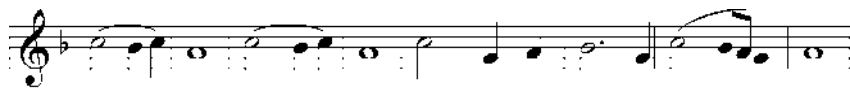


**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**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, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

LSB 195



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



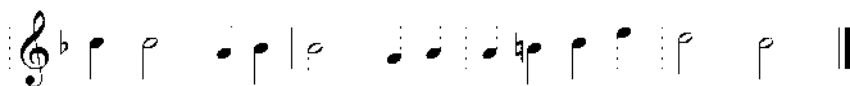
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



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.

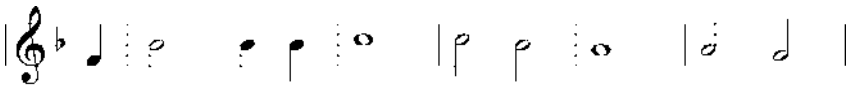


Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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  $\text{✠}$  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


*LSB 197*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.



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

## 624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -  
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con -  
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own  
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple  
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought  
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels  
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.  
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.  
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.  
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,  
 As at the rail on bended knee  
 Our hungry mouths from Him receive  
 The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,  
 A priestly food and priestly meat;  
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours  
 His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim  
 Our voices join the endless hymn,  
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing  
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970

Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731-1807

Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276

Tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

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

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-

cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

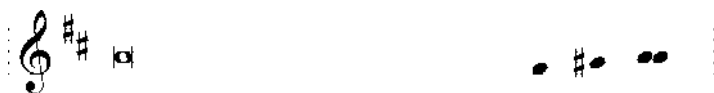
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**G** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**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.



**G** A - men.



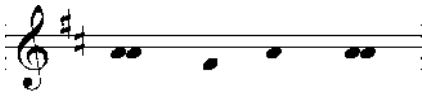
**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And with thy spir - it.

**BENEDICAMUS**

*LSB 202*



**A** Bless we the Lord.



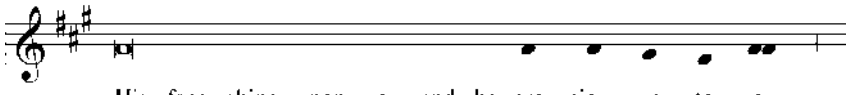
**G** Thanks be to God.

**BENEDICTION**

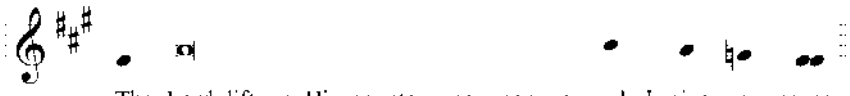
*LSB 202*



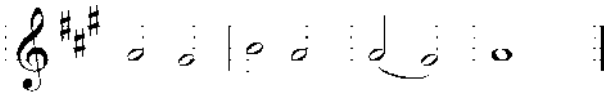
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



**G** A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Sit*

## 748 I'm But a Stranger Here



1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;  
 2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;  
 3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;



Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.  
 Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;  
 What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;



Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;  
 And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;  
 And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;



Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.  
 I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.  
 Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–35  
 Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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**SERVING SERVICE TODAY:**

**ELDER**

Rick Ferrell

**HEAD USHER**

Bruce Benson

**SUNDAY READINGS**

The readings for Sunday, March 23, 2025 are:

Ezekiel 33:7-20

Psalm 85 (antiphon: v. 8)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9



## March 16 – Lent 2

**Philippians 3:19 – “Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.”** St. Paul does not want us to set our minds on earthly things, for they are passing away. This is similar to what Jesus says about storing up treasures on earth rather than storing them in heaven. Our heart tends to go where we put our treasure. This is why God commands us to live generously: not to spoil our fun, but to help train us in keeping our priorities straight and our minds off earthly things.

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

<b>Sun. (03/16)</b>	9:00 a.m.	Service Craft Sale
<b>Mon. (03/17)</b>	10:00 a.m.	Adult Confirmation Class
<b>Wed. (03/19)</b>	11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Bible Study Mid-Week Lent Service
<b>Sun. (03/23)</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study Craft Sale

### ATTENDANCE:

03/09/2025	9:00 a.m.	59
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### OFFERING:

Needed weekly:	\$ 4,197.00	Needed YTD	\$ 41,970.00
Rec'vd. 03/09/2025	<u>\$ 5,465.28</u>	Rec'vd YTD	<u>\$ 48,202.76</u>
Over Weekly	\$ 1,268.28	Over YTD	\$ 6,232.76

## **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.*

### **SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**

There will be NO Bible Study today.

### **ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Adult Confirmation Class will be held on Monday, March 17.

### **MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE**

Mid-Week Lenten Service, Week Two will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

### **CRAFT FAIR/FUNDRAISER**

The Craft Fair/Fundraiser for Visitation Books is on-going through May 11, 2025 in the Fellowship Hall after each Sunday service.

### **VBS**

It is that time of year again. We are planning our VBS and are looking for volunteers. We are going to try something different and plan a one day VBS on Saturday, June 21, 2025. If you would like to help and donate your time and talents, please let me know. Thank you, Shari Nelson.

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  
 Tricia Blake  
 Durfee Family  
 Gaylon Pastella  
 Gwen Strasburg  
 All who hurt & suffer in silence  
 Brendan Anderson  
 Red & MaryAnn Beck  
 Vivian Bingnam  
 Sue Boers  
 Karrie Burke  
 Marcia Byron  
 Cathy  
 David Chavez  
 Della Cowie  
 Kathy Davis  
 Mary Diaz  
 Danielle, Emma, & Tim Eggers  
 Sam Fagan  
 George & Vonnie Filkins  
 Chrissie Gates  
 Grace Glass  
 Marty Hall  
 Pastor Harris  
 Jeanne Hecksel  
 Karlee Henson  
 Dawn Husel  
 John & Connie Kays  
 Emma Kraus  
 Anthony Kwesie  
 Christopher LaTrace  
 Leota Lewis  
 David McDonald  
 Mayra Micciche  
 Jay Miner  
 Renee Moore  
 Herbert & Elaine Moran  
 Michelle Nichol  
 David Parker  
 Tim & Marguerite Pastella  
 Jorge & Heather Perez  
 Kelley Pulone  
 Reyna's Mom  
 Bill Robertson  
 Beth Rubio  
 Noreen Selle  
 Bea Shelby  
 Shirley Smith  
 Vanessa Sowders  
 Carol Thomas  
 Diana Thornbury  
 Fran Truslow  
 Brandon Vess  
 Wendy Walsh  
 Beverly Wilson  
 Judy Winkler  
**GRIEF & STRENGTH:**  
 Lampkins Family

Mary Beuerle  
 Devin Coole  
 Jennifer Millgate  
 Mildred Sears  
 Rory Tighe  
 Gabe Amaro  
 Dr. Joe Ardolino & Family  
 Marilyn Belka  
 Bill & Jan Blanton  
 Tiffany Brown  
 Kyle Burton  
 Mari Caroland  
 Lane Ceballos  
 Pearl Coole  
 Larry Cramins  
 Samuel & Sean Detwiler  
 Diane Drinkwine  
 Janice Estrick  
 Lynn Fairgrief  
 Christian Frash  
 Faigie Gawn  
 Government  
 Roger Hall  
 Tim Harris  
 Hedden Family  
 Mike Holtgreffe  
 Denise Jackman  
 Chris Kelly  
 Dorothy Krentz  
 Addison Lange  
 Jeannette Lawler  
 Anthony Lopez  
 Linda Merkle  
 Daniel Midgely  
 Grace Miskimen  
 Cesar Morales  
 Amanda Netzell  
 Lori O'Neil  
 Glenn & Nancy Pastella  
 Todd Pennington  
 Jose Perez  
 Sue Purbough  
 Christian Rhoades  
 Crystal Roblero  
 Chris Segard  
 Loretta Severson  
 Diane Short  
 Manuel Sousa  
 June Spradlin & Family  
 Sarah Thomas  
 Stan Thorne  
 Stan Vacek  
 Tammy Wall  
 Melanie Waters  
 Stacy Wilson  
 Cynthia Yancho

Charles Blake  
 Judy Cutler  
 Beverly Moglich  
 Kevin Smith  
 Bob Albert  
 Leeta Amaro  
 Mark Baker  
 Ilona Berecki  
 Grayson Blomberg  
 Vanessa Brown  
 Gabrielle Butcher  
 Renee Cates  
 Carolyne Chaney  
 Robert Coole  
 William Creek  
 Rusty DeWitt  
 John & Ann Duran  
 Heidi Evans  
 Lindsay Feldhaus' Husband  
 Don Garcia  
 Chris Gibson  
 Raquel Gudino  
 Jerry & Emilie Harding  
 Jace Haynes  
 Harry Heike  
 Bill Huff  
 Jacob Jones  
 Linda Kienle  
 Steve Kuhn  
 Debbie Lange  
 Melody LeGray  
 Pete Maaske  
 Dave Meyer  
 Military  
 Debbie Moore  
 Justin Morales  
 Lauren Newmann  
 Sandy Park  
 Seunghee Pastella  
 Esperanza Perez  
 Heidi Perry  
 Marilyn Quade  
 Dave Riffel  
 Linda Roque  
 Margi Segnari  
 Ray Shaffer  
 Nancy Short  
 Barbara Souza  
 Janet Surber  
 Matthew & Tina Thorn  
 Randy Tilson  
 Lisa Marie Van Slyke  
 Rosa & Paul Wallace  
 Nancy Williams  
 Wilma Wilson  
 Ray Zayas



**About the Cover:** When it feels as though everything around us is crumbling, Jesus offers us the foundation we can stand firm on: Him! He has accomplished what we could not. His cross stands as a testament to His determination and love for us. By dying on the cross and rising again, Christ won for us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Therefore, in all trials and temptations, we can stand firm in Christ alone.