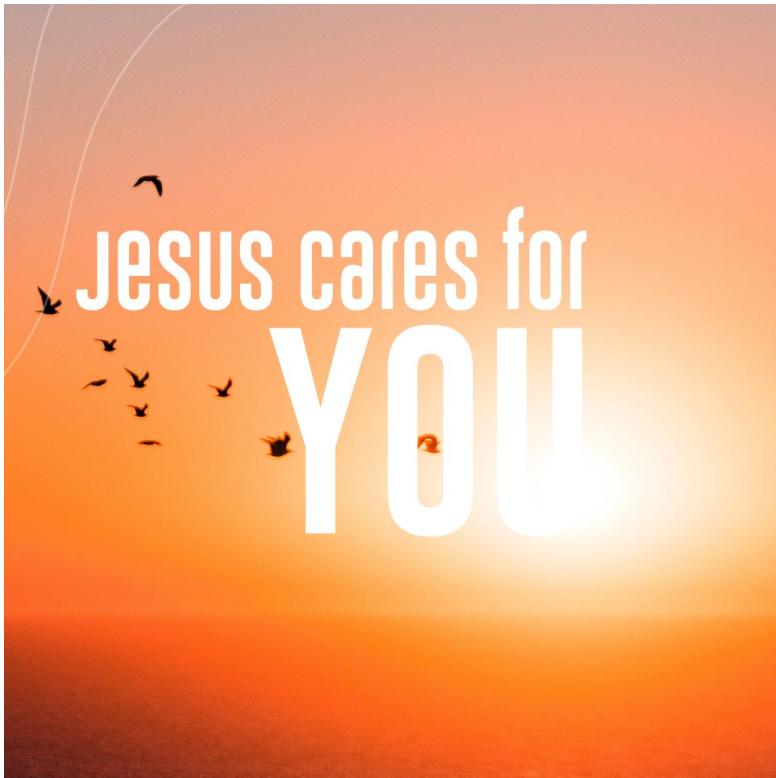




Ascension
Lutheran Church



January 28, 2024

Ascension Lutheran Church

Today's Theme: Jesus Appears to Undo the Devil's Work

Welcome

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we—the pastor and members of Ascension. Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection Jesus won forgiveness for all. God teaches these truths in the Bible—God's complete plan for your salvation and his guidebook for your life. Ascension greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

For Your Convenience

Restrooms are located near the entrance of the building. If your child becomes restless, that's okay! There is a speaker equipped children's area also near the entrance.

Worship at Ascension

The order of service is printed in this worship folder. Many of the elements in this service have ancient roots in the Christian church. Ascension values your participation in the service. Congregational responses are printed in **bold** and marked with a "C:".

Prayer Before Worship:

Lord Jesus, you promised, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Be with us as we gather for worship. Answer our prayers. Fulfill our desires according to your perfect wisdom and love. Grant us a greater knowledge of your truth, and the peace of your forgiveness. Amen.

The Sacraments

Baptism - Christians have been baptizing infants and adults for 2000 years. We here at Ascension do as well. You do not need to be a member. If you, or a little one you know, would like to be baptized or learn more about baptism, speak with the pastor at any time. His contact info is on the back page.

Lord's Supper - Two Sundays each month we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Speak with the pastor about details or see the announcement in the back of the worship folder.

Serving in Worship

Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Horn, National WELS Chaplain to the Military

Pianist: Christina Schroeder

Cantor: Gisele Wozniak

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Opening Hymn

Day by Day
CWS #765



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me,
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me



Bring - ing com - fort to my anx - ious soul.
Strength to serve and wis - dom to o - bey;
When my bur - dens grow too great to bear;



Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me
I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



Draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.
O'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.
When I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal meas - ure,
I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row;
Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me,



Brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest;
I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace.
You will hold me ev - er in your hand.



Sav - ior, lead me to the home I treas - ure,
Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and sor - row;
Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to guide me,



Where, at last, I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
Till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Stand

Opening Words

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**

Confession and Absolution

- P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

P: Heavenly Father, keep your family continually in true faith, so that those who rely only on the hope of your heavenly grace may be protected by your mighty power; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 40:27-31

When the devil's temptations make us tired and accusations make us weary, the LORD promises to renew our strength.

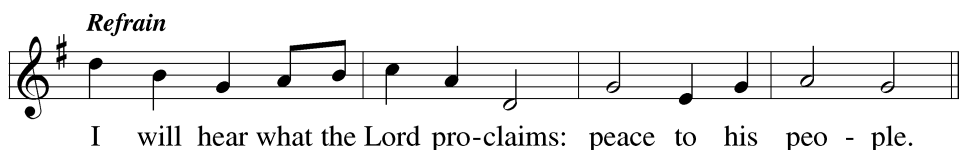
²⁷ Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God?" ²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 103



Refrain

Praise the LORD, Q my soul;*
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He forgives all your sins*
and heals all your diseases;

he redeems your life from the grave*
and crowns you with love and compassion.

Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve*
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain

As a father has compassion on his children,*
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

for he knows how we are formed,*
he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;*
the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him*
from everlasting to everlasting.

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.

Refrain

Second Reading

1 Peter 5:6-11

Our enemy, the devil, may stalk us like a hungry lion hunting prey, but the God of all grace cares for us and promises deliverance.

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 40:31

C: Alleluia. Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

The devil loves to see God's children suffer. Jesus undoes the devil's work.

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

³⁸ Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

CW #428



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me?
2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me,
3 God gives me my days of glad - ness,
4 Since I know God nev - er fails me,



Christ is near With his cheer; Nev - er
Though their weight May be great, They will
And I will Trust him still When he
In his voice I'll re - jice When grim



will he leave me. Who can rob - me
not de - feat me. God, my lov - ing
sends me sad - ness. God is good; his
death as - sails me. Trust - ing in my

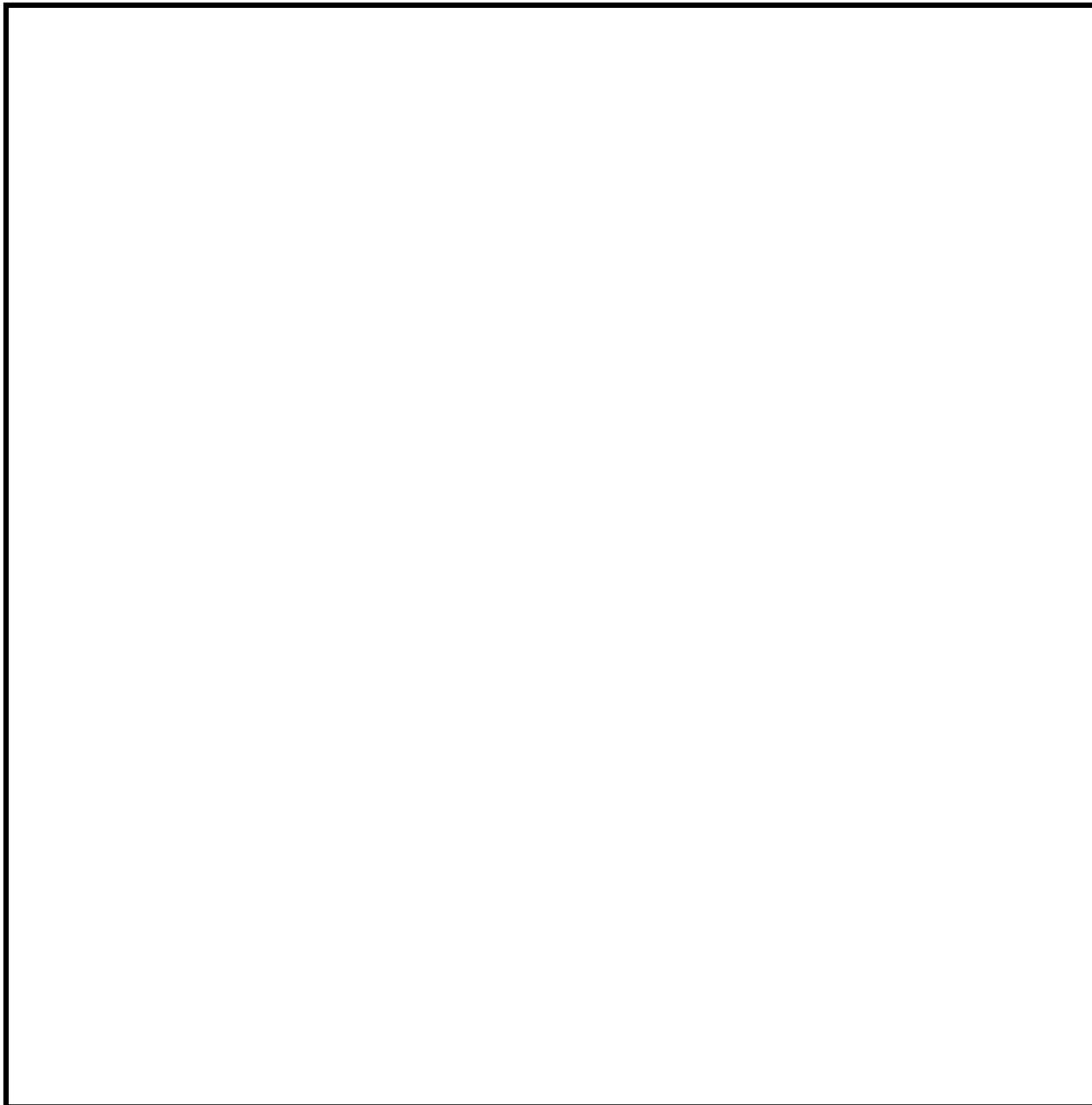


of the heav - en; That God's Son For
Sav - ior, sees them; He who knows All
love at - tends me Day by day, Come
Sav - ior's mer - it, Safe at last, Trou -



me won When his life was giv - en?
my woes Knows how best to end them.
what may, Guides me and de - fends me.
bles past, I shall heav'n in - her - it.

Jesus Cares for You



Stand

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Be seated

Offering & Connect

Guests, there is no obligation or expectation that you should give to support our ministry at Ascension. This is our members' way of expressing their thanks to God and supporting the work that we do to share the gospel.



We would really appreciate it if you let us know that you are here. Please fill out the yellow "Connect Card" you see on the back of the seat in front of you. Either put it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor.

Stand

Prayers

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.

Blessing

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

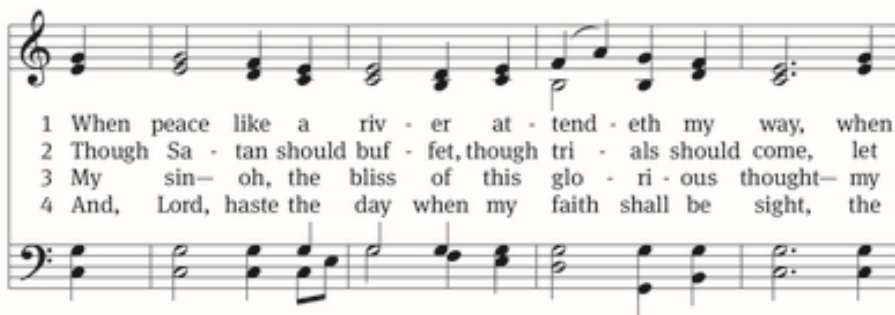
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

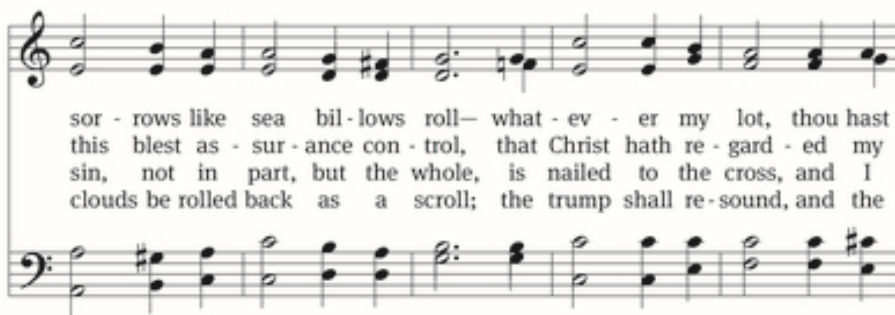
Be seated

Closing Hymn

It Is Well with My Soul
CW21 #850



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 My sin - oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought - my
4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll - what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re - sound, and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

Announcements

Thank You

We would like to thank Pastor Paul Horn for sharing God's Word with us this morning. Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship to hear about his ministry to the military.

Revelation Homework

Our Revelation Bible study will resume next Sunday at 10:15am. Don't forget to complete your homework in the meantime. Read chapters 4-8:5. Bring your questions and insights next week!



1140 N. Midway Drive
Escondido, CA 92027

760-747-4276

Church email: office@myascension.org

Pastor John Boeder
Email: boederjc@mlc-wels.edu
Cell: 507-404-0624

www.myascension.org

Ascension is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.



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