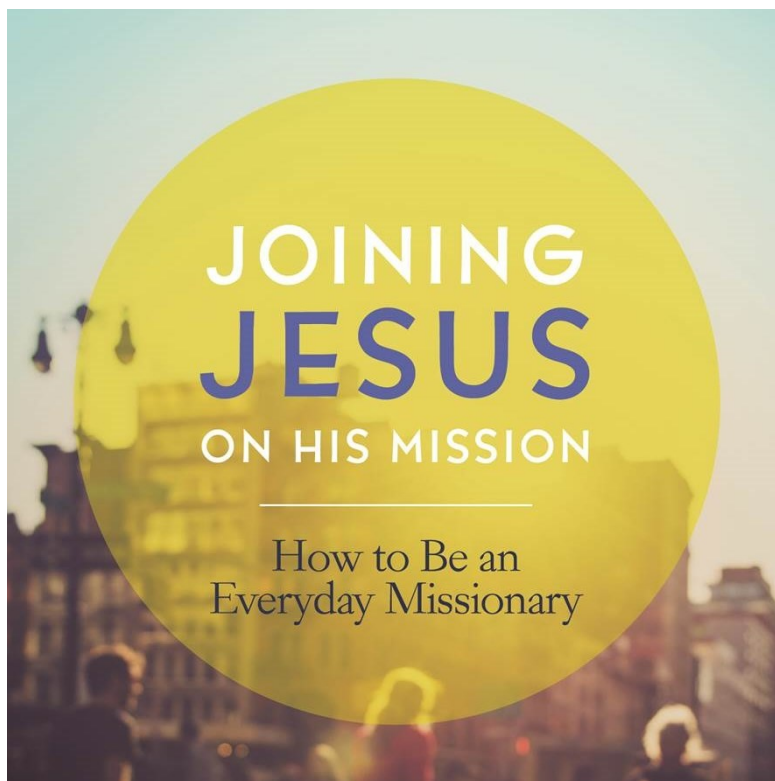




Ascension
Lutheran Church



February 11, 2024

Ascension Lutheran Church

Today's Theme: Actions Speak Louder than Words

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

Pastor John Boeder

Pianist: Bethel Boeder

Instrumentalists: Sam Boeder, Jake Schlomer


Cantor: Claire Schlomer

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Opening Hymn


By Faith
CW21 #868




1. By faith we see the_ hand of God in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de -
2. By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth with the pow'r of His prom - ise in their
3. By faith the pro - phets saw a day when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap -
4. By faith the church was_ called to go in the pow'r of the Spir - it to the
5. By faith this moun - tain_ shall be moved and the pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre -




sign,
hearts, in the lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness,
pear of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,
lost with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
vail, to de - liv - er cap - tives and to preach good news
for we know in Christ all things are pos - si - ble



who walk by faith and not by sight. reign. } We will stand as chil - dren of the
a place where peace and jus - tice earth.
and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. name.
in ev - 'ry cor - ner_ of the
for all who call up - on His



prom - ise; We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

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: Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory 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

1 Peter 2:9-12

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹²Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.


P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day


Psalm 2

Refrain



Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-
lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone *



Refrain

Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers
gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One.

Refrain

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,*
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:*
He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.”

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

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 9:7

C: **Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"
Alleluia.**

Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Christ Is the World's Light

CW #343



1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none oth - er;
2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none oth - er;
3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none oth - er;
4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.
No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.
Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.
Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;

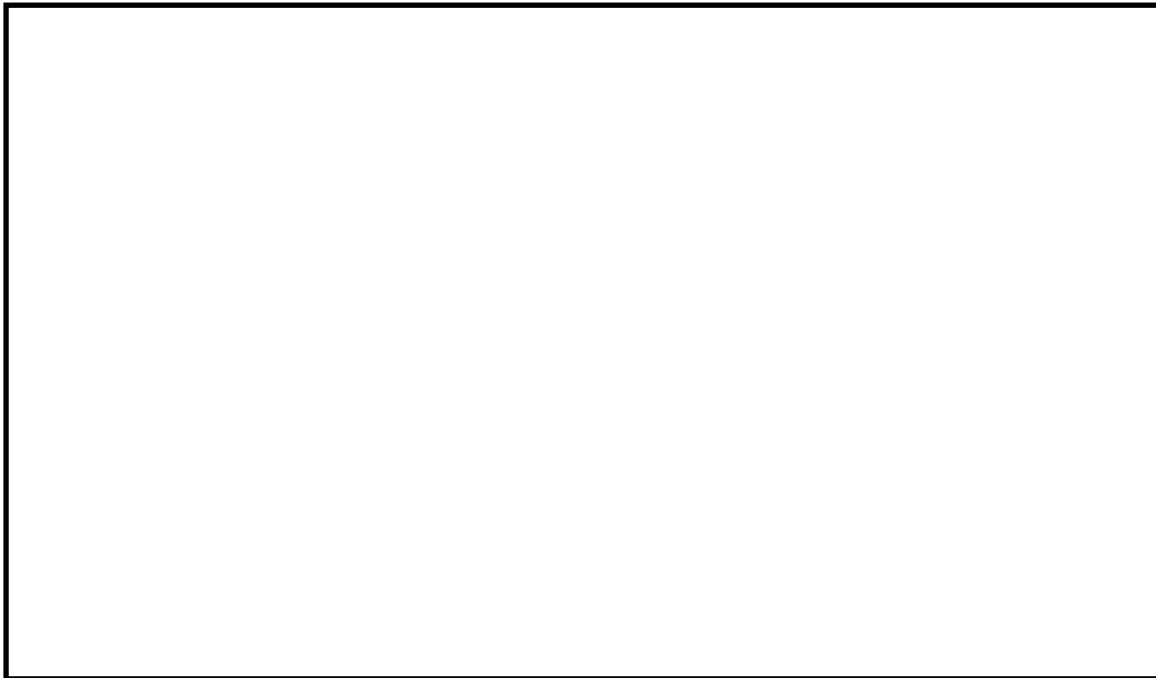


If we have seen him, we have seen the
Who else u - nites us, one with God the
He who re - deemed us reigns with God the
Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

Actions Speak Louder than Words



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

Prayer for Joining Jesus on His Mission

P: O Almighty God, whose Son died on the cross to redeem all the people of the earth,

C: Open our eyes to see that the harvest of souls is plentiful, but the workers are few.

P: Open our hearts to a sincere concern for the souls of those who will be lost without you.

C: Open our hands to support the preaching of your Word in all the earth.

P: Look with compassion on the billions of people who are still sitting in spiritual darkness under the shadow of death – both those nearby and those far away.

C: Wherever your consecrated workers are proclaiming your message of salvation, support them in their efforts and bless the labors of their hands.

P: O Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit on us so that we also might actively share your Word with others.

C: Use our loving actions to help our neighbors learn about you.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions for the successful sharing of your Word.

Silent prayer

P: These things we ask in Jesus' name, as we also pray:

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.

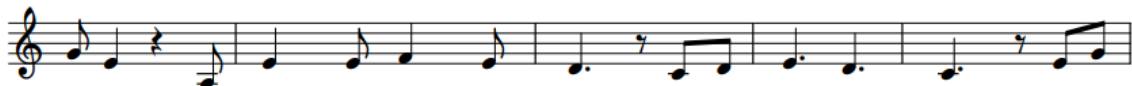
Be seated

Closing Hymn

Oh, How Good It Is
CW21 #731



1. Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to - geth - er in
2. Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re - joice with the
3. Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre - fer one a -



spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the bonds of peace, of ac -
hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the weak find strength, the af -
noth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we live as one we all



cep - tance and love are the fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong -
flict - ed find grace when we of - fer the bles - sing of be - long -
share in the love of the Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir -



us.
ing. So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord; and with one
it.



heart we'll live out his Word. Till the whole earth sees the Re - deem - er has



come for he dwells in the pres - ence of his peo - ple. 2. Oh, how ple.
3. Oh, how

Announcements

Lenten Bible Reading Plan

We will be offering a 40-day Bible reading plan during the season of Lent for you to follow along with if you so choose. We also have a Facebook group available, which will have daily reading reminders and provide a forum for people to post their insights or ask questions about the day's reading with others who are participating. You can find the plan on our website, in the weekly update email, or in the Facebook group (facebook.com/groups/lentprepare).

Ash Wednesday Service

Join your church family at 7pm on Wednesday for a special remembrance of Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days of Lent, the season during which the Church remembers the passion and death of Jesus. During these 40 days, Christians reflect on their lives and repent of the sin that sent the Savior to the cross.

Worship that evening will include the imposition of ashes, a solemn symbol with deep roots and wide precedent in both the Old and New Testaments. Ashes symbolize human mortality and the deserved destruction of all who sin. Like Job, believers of many ages repent in "dust and ashes." The symbol emphasizes the seriousness of sin. The practice of imposing ashes on Ash Wednesday is experiencing renewed appreciation among some WELS congregations. With this in mind, the service provides worshipers an opportunity to experience this custom. Receiving ashes is not mandatory.

Ash Wednesday Meal

Prior to worship on Ash Wednesday, a few of our teens will be hosting a dinner for anyone interested. They plan to attend the 2024 WELS International Youth Rally in Fort Collins, Colorado, this summer and will be using this as an opportunity to help raise funds to defray the costs of attending. They will make meals, serve food, bus the tables, and clean up after the event. There will be a tip jar available if you are able to help support these young Christians in their efforts. They will also have desserts available for purchase.

As they are doing the majority of planning for this dinner, they would sincerely appreciate it if you could let them know in advance if you will be coming. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway of the church, or you can sign up by scanning the QR code below. This will give them an idea of how many people to expect. If you are interested in generously contributing a meal (a soup, sandwiches, etc.) they would welcome this! Please speak to Lucy Greuel, Jeff Greuel, or Eliza Newton to let them know.





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Ascension is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.



www.wels.net



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