



# Ascension Lutheran Church

16th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, September 20, 2020

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## MUSICAL OFFERING

### Great is Thy Faithfulness (v. 1, 2)

ELW 733

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no  
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-  
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in  
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.  
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.  
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

**PRAYER**

P: Let us pray... Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Pastor Chris

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

**Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**  
(Setting by Paul Manz)

**GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 20:1-16**

P: The Holy Gospel for this day comes from the book of St. Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## Receiving More Than Deserved

Pastor Chris

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Your Love Defends Me (Kerr/Maher)

You are my joy, You are my song  
 You are the well, the one I'm drawing from  
 You are my refuge, my whole life long  
 Where else would I go?

**Surely my God is the strength of my soul  
 Your love defends me, Your love defends me  
 And when I feel like I'm all alone  
 Your love defends me, Your love defends me**

Day after day, night after night  
 I will remember, You're with me in this fight  
 Although the battle, it rages on  
 The war is already won  
 I know the war is already won (*Chorus*)

We sing Hallelujah  
 You're my portion  
 My salvation  
 Hallelujah (*Chorus*)

## PRAYERS &amp; MUSIC

He Reigns (Furler/Taylor)

*Please sing after each petition:*

**It's all God's children singing  
 Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns  
 It's all God's children singing  
 Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

A reminder that when you receive the bread and wine you may say to yourself or others in your home: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

Give Me Jesus

(Setting by Anne Krentz Organ)

## BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (v. 1, 4, 6)

ELW 886

1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great re-deem-er's praise,  
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,  
 3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,  
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; he sets the pris - 'ner free.  
 5 To God all glor - y, praise, and love be now and ev - er giv'n

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!  
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.  
 sings mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
 His blood can make the foul - est clean; his blood a - vails for me.  
 by saints be - low and saints a - bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

## SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Grace (Heumann/Townend)

Called and chosen when I was far away  
 You brought me into your family  
 Free and forgiven, my guilt is washed away  
 Your loving kindness is life to me

'Cause it's grace, there's nothing I can do  
 To make You love me more  
 To make You love me less than You do  
 And by faith I'm standing on this stone  
 Of Christ and Christ alone  
 Your righteousness is all that I need  
 'Cause it's grace

## FAITH CONNECTION

*Join us as we connect as a church in new ways.*

**Confirmation Is Coming!** We will have a modified Confirmation Capture this Sunday, Sept. 20 after worship. We are currently planning for confirmation outside on Sunday, Oct. 18. More information to come. Questions? Contact PC or Pastor Tony.

### Donate Today or Give By Text or Online

- There is an offering box at check-in.
- Text 262-214-3681 with the amount to donate
- Online: [tinyurl.com/DonateAscension](https://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension)

**Mid-Week Worship Indoors:** Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 9:30 a.m. We will have communion. Attendance is capped at 50. Please sign-up online at <https://tinyurl.com/mid-worship> or call the church office. Masks and physical distancing are required.

**Sunday Worship:** Please register online or by call to the church office for worship next week. There will be one service at 9:30 a.m. Please register by Friday at noon, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCWorshipRSVP>.

**Spanish-Language Worship:** This worship service is held weekly on the front lawn. Next week the service will be held at 10:30 a.m.

**Mt. Meru Coffee:** This coffee is now available to purchase and order. Please check the table at the Welcome Tent. Prices on the Meru Coffee website have increased but prices for coffee ordered through church have remained the same. Any coffee orders received should be available for pickup the following Sunday or from the church office. Payment with your order is appreciated.

### BLAST Fall 2020

Find out what we're planning for fall and register online at <https://tinyurl.com/BLAST2021> to enjoy this fun, faith-filled opportunity.

### Be the Village Ministry

We're collecting new baby/toddler toys for foster children and cosmetic bags (nail sets, etc), and athletic balls for teens for donation. The collection continues until Sept. 27. Put items in the blue *Be the Village* bins at the check-in station for outdoor worship. Donations may also be dropped off at church during business hours.

**JOLT Begins:** Thursday, Sept. 24, at 6:30 p.m. with a student/parent meeting to unveil plans for the year with lots of changes/expectations as we continue to walk with the pandemic. Please register for JOLT online <https://tinyurl.com/JOLTRegistration>. Questions? Email Pastor Tony, [tony@ascensionelca.org](mailto:tony@ascensionelca.org).

**Donations Needed:** The bins for the Food Pantry and Blessing Box will continue to be next to the Welcome Tent for services. The need is greater than ever. We have taken care of the bags for Cross Food Pantry for the fall months.

### Church Building Hours

The church building is open for donation drop-off Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please make an appointment to meet with a staff member as schedules vary.

**Healing Hearts** is celebrating 10 years of service in our community. Share in the celebration via their virtual auction and balloon pop from September 21-26. Register online.

### Outreach for Hope

Lend your virtual support to Outreach for Hope and one of Ascension riders: Bryn and Jeff Kirk, Cheryl Anspach, Bob Stoll, and Beth and Tom Hoffmann. If you are planning to participate, let us know so we can include your names. <https://outreachforhope.org/bike-ride-2/>

### Mission Outreach of Facebook

Check out the Ascension Mission Outreach Facebook page to keep up with all the activities of our Mission Outreach team with our global and community partners and our outreach efforts. <https://www.facebook.com/Ascension.ELCA.MO/>

### Prayers

Submit a prayer request online [ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers](https://ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers)), by email to [Tamie@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Tamie@ascensionelca.org), or phone message to the church office. Please pray:

### Healing

- For Erik Lewis, following a serious head injury
- For Karen Shulfer, broken wrist

**Thanksgiving:** For a Gail Simon being cancer-free as reported at her last quarterly exam

### God's Care

- For people affected by the wildfires in the west
- For people affected by Hurricane Sally
- For all affected by the coronavirus: those who have died, who are hospitalized, who are sick and all caregivers and emergency personnel

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Lutheran Church

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