



“THE TABLE OF MERCY”

Matthew 9:9-13

Ascension Lutheran Church

June 11, 2023

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST

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Sunday June 11, 2023

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lords Table with us today:

The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lords Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christs body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of ones sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. (*Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*)

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: *La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. (El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.)*

+ PREPARATION +

Theme: “Eating at the Table with Jesus”

As We Gather: “Thou spreadst a table in my sight” (*LSB* 709:5). With poetic words, English hymn writer Henry W. Baker puts into verse one of the most beloved images of Psalm 23. The table that the Lord sets for His people is one of generosity and grace. The first time a table is mentioned in the Bible is in conjunction with the great reunion that the ruler Joseph in Egypt has with his estranged brothers who had come from their home in Canaan to ask for help in a time of famine. The Book of Genesis records that Joseph not only welcomed his brothers and saw to it that they were fed but also directed that “portions were taken to them from Joseph’s table, . . . And they drank and were merry with him” (Genesis 43:34). The Lord’s Table is a place for rejoicing—especially since, as we gather there, we are given a foretaste of the feast to come in our Lord’s eternal kingdom.

Prelude

Welcome

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

- 1 Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- 2 Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.
- 3 Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.
- 4 O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You When heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt., Text: Public domain

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 149:1–2, 4, 9b

- P** Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
- C** **His praise in the assembly of the godly!**
- P** Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
- C** **let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**
- P** For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;
- C** **He adorns the humble with salvation. Praise the LORD!**

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **Merciful Father, we confess our sinfulness. We are not worthy for You to come among us. We are indeed sinful from our birth and since that time have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have done the things which we should not do, and we have failed to carry out the things we should. We sincerely repent of our sins. Graciously hear our confession, O Lord, and grant us Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Help us to amend our sinful lives, that each day we may grow in righteousness and hope.**
- P** Jesus, our Redeemer and God's greatest gift, promises forgiveness, life, and salvation, and welcomes us to His Table. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756
Text: Public domain

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sharing The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ THE WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Hosea 5:15-6:6 (ESV)

¹⁵I will return again to My place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek My face, and in their distress earnestly seek Me.

¹"Come, let us return to the LORD for He has torn us, that He may heal us; He has struck us down, and He will bind us up. ²After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will raise us up, that we may live before Him. ³Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; His going out is sure as the dawn; He will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth." ⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of My mouth, and My judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 4:13-25 (ESV)

¹³The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in Him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lambs’ Lesson

Pr. Jim Sprengle

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁹As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he rose and followed Him. ¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and His disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when He heard it, He said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Prayer/Love in Action Requests Gathered

I Then Shall Live

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am His child and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive my brother;
The law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving, too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your kingdom come around and through and in me,
Your pow'r and glory let them shine through me.
Your Hallowed Name O may I bear with honor,
And may Your living kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life O may I share with honor,
And may You feed a hungry world through me.
Amen

Apostles' Creed

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.

Tithes and Offerings

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

Prayer of the Church

P As dear children ask their dear father, let us bring to the Lord our prayers this day, knowing that He will hear us and respond to our petitions. Confidently we come to our Father in heaven:
Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As citizens of our blessed land, we pray for the world in which we live and for the leaders of every nation as well as of our own, that peace may prevail around the globe and that we may live without fear in our times. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P In this season of growth, we pray for the Church, that it may grow and flourish even in those places where persecution for our Lord's sake is known. Grant that there be unhindered access to the Table of the Lord in every land. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gathered in heart and mind, we pray for those in need of our special petitions, including those distanced from this fellowship today, and including those dealing with illness and the homebound. We also remember those who grieve this day and those with special needs, *including...* According to Your good and gracious will, bring strength to the weak, assurance to the fearful, and hope to those in peril. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We give You thanks for the special days, milestones, and other blessings being celebrated this week...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P With thankfulness, we remember those whose earthly lives have been completed, including relatives, friends, and members of this household of faith and so many others. Grant that we be blessed by the memory of all who have fallen asleep in Jesus as in blessed hope we await the resurrection to life eternal and the final invitation to the banquet in God's kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gathered in the forgiving love of Christ and assured that our heavenly Father hears our petitions, we say with hopeful hearts and voices:

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.**

(11:00am service, please turn to page 12 for the benediction.)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

**We believe in the real presence of the body
and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.**

Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

(Grape juice is available in the center of the trays for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

This Is the Feast

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

- 1 The gifts Christ freely gives He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride, His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
- 2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
- 3 The gifts of grace and peace From absolution flow;
The pastor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
Forgiveness that we need Is granted to us there;
The Lord of mercy sends Us forth in His blest care.
- 5 The gifts are in the feast, Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in His peace, renewed again.

Text: Richard C. Resch, 1947,

Text: © 2001 Richard C. Resch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

Post Communion Thanksgiving

P We give thanks to You, O God, for You have delivered us from death and the power of Satan and have invited us to Your Table. Grant that we with true thanksgiving receive the bread and wine, that is, the body and blood our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as a guarantee of the salvation that He purchased for us through His innocent suffering and death. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may live rejoicing in resurrection hope. Receive our prayers and thanksgiving, and grant us Your abiding peace. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Announcements

(See the FYI in the back of the Bulletin for more information.)

Living For Jesus

Living for Jesus, a life that is true.
Striving to please Him in all that I do.
Yielding allegiance glad hearted and free.
This is the pathway of blessing for me.

(Chorus)

**O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to Thee.
For Thou in Thy atonement, Didst give Thyself for me.
I own no other master, My heart shall be Thy throne.
My life I give henceforth to live, O Christ for Thee alone.**

Living for Jesus who died in my place,
Bearing on Calvary, my sin and disgrace.
Such love constrains me, to answer His call,
Follow His leading and give Him my all. **(chorus)**

Living for Jesus thro' earth's little while,
My dearest treasure, the light of His smile,
Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem,
Bringing the weary to find rest in Him. **(chorus)**

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Dismissal

- P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3.

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*Thank you to Karon Keup for the lovely Altar Flowers
in memory of her dad, Al.*

† SAVE THE DATE

Save the date! Sunday, August 20 at 10:30am ~ ONE WORSHIP ~ Lunch will follow. Look for more details to come!

† WHAT: WORSHIP WORKSHOP LED BY PR JIM

Who: All worship helpers

When: Saturday, June 24 at 12:30pm after The Chosen

Where: Community Room, lunch will be provided

Why: Coming together to better understand our roles and teamwork will bless members and visitors alike, which brings glory to God.

All participants (**or potential participants**) in worship activities are encouraged to attend, including Elders, worship assistants, greeters, ushers, audio/visual and Power Pointers, readers, and staff members. Please sign up in the narthex so we can plan for food.

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests, please e-mail: office@alcpportland.org or call 503-665-8821 Monday through Friday 9am to 3pm.

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The Family of Rich Zahursky, The Brown Family, Michele Sprengle's Family, Carolyn Barendse, Gina Kreps, Jerry and Alma Bangs, Kevin McInaney, Judy Blubaum, Robert (Virginia Jacobs Brother), Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, Karla Deal, Mike Fogarty, Emily Kohnke (member of the Webber Family), Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart. *Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 11

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	NEEDED
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis NEEDED	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young Bob Freeman James Freeman
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	Laura Potter
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Sue Lewis Heather Gulde	Christina Freeman Virginia Jacobs
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Julie Williamson
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Jan Oswald
Flowers:	Both Services	Karon Keup
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, JUNE 18

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		Jaden Mundo
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl Randy Schroeder NEEDED	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young Bob Freeman James Freeman
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	NEEDED
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	John Hazen
Greeters:	Norma Dillon Jean Dillon	Esperanza Gutierrez Margaret Hubbard
Readers:	Sheryl Maier	Carlyn Staudt
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Flowers:	Both Services	Hazen
Counters:	Both Services	Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., JUNE 11 - SAT., JUNE 17

Sunday, June 11	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish with Comm.
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, June 13	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, June 14	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	6:00pm	C-101 week 3
Thursday, June 15	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, June 16	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday June 17	2:00pm	Mary Niska Memorial

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., JUNE 18 - SAT., JUNE 24

Sunday, June 18	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, June 20	6:00pm	3:10 Group
Wednesday, June 21	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	6:00pm	C-101 week 4
Thursday, June 22	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, June 23	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, June 24	10:30am	The Chosen Episode 7
	12:30pm	Worship Meeting with Lunch

† MILESTONES - SUN., JUNE 11 - SAT., JUNE 17**BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:**

Colleen Cordes	Jun. 14	Scott Fabbri	Jun. 14
Carol Hoefler	Jun. 15	Gary Markwart	Jun. 16
Greg Zahm	Jun. 17		

BIRTHDAYS

Sue Wentela	Jun 11	Jan Oswald	Jun 16
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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Bob and Christina Freeman	June 12, 1999
Mark and Val Schiely	June 14, 1975
Tom and Teresa Osgood	June 16, 2001
Bob and Debbie Rekdahl	June 17, 1972

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Church: 503-665-8821 • Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission.”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

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