

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*June 25, 2017*

10:00 am



## **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

No Fear!

### **AS WE GATHER**

There are many things that cause us to be afraid. We become afraid anytime we perceive our sense of security is threatened. This can be a perceived physical, financial, intellectual, relational, or spiritual threat. In these last days, these threats may only appear to be real or they may actually be real. No matter what it may be, our security and our strength lie in our God, who is our refuge and strength. In Him we put our trust.

## GATHERING SONGS

### Preservice Music

#### THE HEART OF WORSHIP

BALOCHE

When the music fades, all is stripped away, and I simply come;  
Longing just to bring something that's of worth that will bless Your heart.  
I'll bring You more than a song,  
For a song in itself is not what You have required.  
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;  
You're looking into my heart.

**CHORUS:**        **I'm coming back to the heart of worship,  
And it's all about You, all about You, Jesus.  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,  
When it's all about You, all about You, Jesus.**

King of endless worth, no one could express how much You deserve.  
Though I'm weak and poor, all I have is Yours, ev'ry single breath.  
I'll bring You more than a song,  
For a song in itself is not what You have required.  
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;  
You're looking into my heart.

**Chorus (2 X)**

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# DIVINE SERVICE



### Pastoral Greeting

PASTOR LARSON

*Congregation, please stand.*

### INVOCATION

**Pastor:**        In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:**        **Amen.**

## Opening Song

## Your Grace is Enough

Tomlin

Great is Your faithfulness, O God; You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart.  
You lead us by still waters into mercy And nothing can keep us apart.  
So, remember Your people, Remember Your children,  
Remember Your promise O God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, for me.

Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob; You use the weak to lead the strong.  
You lead us in the song of Your salvation, And all Your people sing along.  
So, remember Your people, Remember Your children,  
Remember Your promise O God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, for me.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, for me.

Remember Your people, Remember Your children,  
Remember Your promise O God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, for me.

Yeah, Your grace is enough; Heaven reaches out to us. Your grace is enough for me.  
God, I sing: Your grace is enough; I'm covered in Your love.  
Your grace is enough for me, for me.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*1 Peter 2:10*

Pastor: Gathering as God's chosen people, we bring with us the sins that wage war with our souls. We take this time to confess our sins to Him who has delivered our souls from death, and we seek His forgiveness through His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Silence for personal reflection and confession*

Pastor: Lord Jesus,

**People: We are surely sinful from birth, and we struggle with change, even as a people changed by You from death to life. Our struggle is revealed as we fall into patterns of living, speaking, and thinking that are not in line with being the people You have called us to be. You have set us free through Your perfect life, death, and resurrection, yet we continue to live like people who are enslaved to the enemy. Lord Jesus, forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness for Your name's sake. Amen.**

Pastor: Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## WORD



### **OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 20:7–13**

(God is with us when we are persecuted for being His people.)

**O LORD, you deceived me, and I was deceived; you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the LORD has brought me insult and reproach all day long. But if I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot. I hear many whispering, "Terror on every side! Report him! Let's report him!" All my friends are waiting for me to slip, saying, "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we will prevail over him and take our revenge on him."**

**But the LORD is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced; their dishonor will never be forgotten. O LORD Almighty, you who examine the righteous and probe the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the LORD! Give praise to the LORD! He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked.**

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **EPISTLE: Romans 6:12–23**

(Jesus has freed us from our sins; live free.)

**Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.**

**What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey--whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.**

**I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as**

**you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Congregation, please stand.*

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 10:5a, 21–33**

(Life will be hard in these last days. Fear not, for God is with us.)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Tenth chapter.

**People:** Glory to You, O Lord.

**These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. I tell you the truth, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.**

**"A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household!**

**"So do not be afraid of them. There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.**

**"Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.**

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Song of the Day**

***You Never Let Go***

***Redman***

Even though I walk through the valley  
Of the shadow of death  
Your perfect love is casting out fear  
And even when I'm caught in the middle  
Of the storms of this life  
I won't turn back I know You are near

And I will fear no evil—For my God is with me  
And if my God is with me  
Whom then shall I fear—Whom then shall I fear

**CHORUS:**        **Oh no You never let go**  
                      **Through the calm and through the storm**  
                      **Oh no You never let go—In ev'ry high and ev'ry low**  
                      **Oh no You never let go—Lord You never let go of me**

And I can see a light that is coming  
For the heart that holds on  
A glorious light beyond all compare  
And there will be an end to these troubles  
But until that day comes  
We'll live to know You here on the earth

And I will fear no evil—For my God is with me  
And if my God is with me  
Whom then shall I fear—Whom then shall I fear

**CHORUS**

Yes, I can see a light  
That is coming for the heart that holds on  
And there will be an end to these troubles  
But until that day comes  
Still I will praise You—Still I will praise You

**CHORUS**

Lord, You never let go—Lord You never let go of me

## **A CONTEMPORARY CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, source of all life, source of all love,  
Creator of the Universe and all that is in it,  
including me.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, fully human, fully divine,  
the only begotten Son of the Father, the Author of salvation,  
whose death on the cross was so that “all could be saved,”  
including me.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, He is the voice of the prophets,  
the true Author of Scripture, And the power to believe  
He holds together the Universe and all that is in it,  
including me.

These three are but one God, indivisible, the **ONLY** true God, non-negotiable  
my God.

I believe in the communion of saints, God’s holy Bride,  
She exists not by human decision, but by God’s action through water  
and the Word As God has loved and forgiven us,  
So we love and forgive others.

Together we wait for the resurrection of the body,  
And the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## **PRAYER**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*You may now greet one another in the name of the Lord using...Peace be with you*



## THE OFFERING

**Song During the Offering**

*"Good, Good Father"*

Barrett/Brown

I've heard a thousand stories  
Of what they think You're like  
But I've heard the tender whisper  
Of love in the dead of night and  
You tell me that You're pleased  
And that I'm never alone

**CHORUS: You're a Good Good Father It's who You are  
It's who You are It's who You are And I'm loved by You  
It's who I am, It's who I am, It's who I am**

I've seen many searching for answers  
Far and wide  
But I know we're all searching for answers  
Only You provide  
Because You know just what we need  
Before we say a word **CHORUS**

You are perfect in all of Your ways, You are perfect in all of Your ways  
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us  
You are perfect in all of Your ways, You are perfect in all of Your ways  
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak  
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think  
As You call me deeper still As You call me deeper still  
As You call me deeper still Into love, love, love

**CHORUS (x3)**

### **Offertory Prayer**

**P** *Let us pray,*

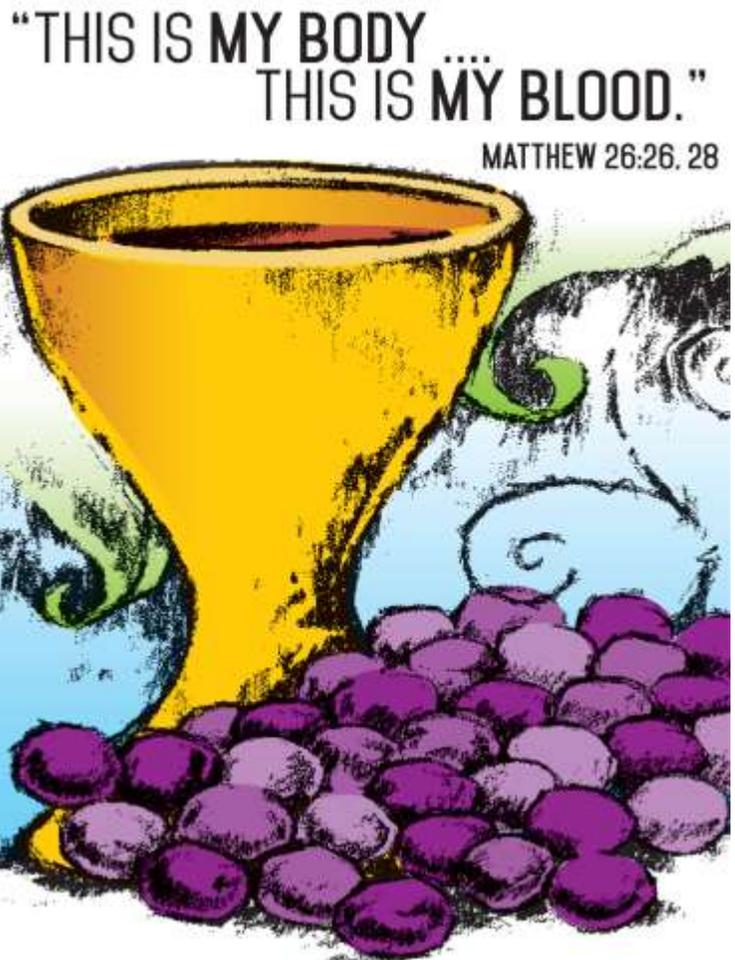
**C** **Heavenly Father, receive these gifts, symbols of the time, abilities, and resources we place at Your disposal in thanks for Your eternal grace, mercy, and peace. Receive them for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. Come, for the Supper is ready! When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.

# HOLY COMMUNION

## OUR LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD



### 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.**

### The Words of Consecration

- 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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## Distribution Songs

### OUR GOD

Redman/Tomlin/Reeves

Water You turned into wine, opened the eyes of the blind;  
There's no one like You, none like You.

Into the darkness You shine, out of the ashes, we rise;  
There's no one like You, none like You.

Our God is greater, our God is stronger; God, You are higher than any other.  
Our God is healer, awesome in power, our God, our God.

Into the darkness You shine, out of the ashes, we rise;  
There's no one like You, none like You.

Our God is greater, our God is stronger; God, You are higher than any other.  
Our God is healer, awesome in power, our God, our God.

And if our God is for us then who could ever stop us,  
and if our God is with us then what could stand against?  
And if our God is for us then who could ever stop us,  
and if our God is with us then what could stand against?  
What could stand against?

Our God is greater, our God is stronger; God, You are higher than any other.  
Our God is healer, awesome in power, our God, our God.

And if our God is for us then who could ever stop us,  
and if our God is with us then what could stand against?  
And if our God is for us then who could ever stop us,  
and if our God is with us then what could stand against?  
What could stand against?

Our God is greater, our God is stronger; God, You are higher than any other.  
Our God is healer, awesome in power, our God, our God.

### Our God Saves

Baloche/Brown

In the name of the Father In the name of the Son  
In the name of the Spirit Lord we come  
We're gather'd together To lift up Your name  
To call on our Savior To fall on Your grace **(REPEAT)**

Hear the joyful sound Of our offering As Your saints bow down As Your people sing  
We will rise with You Lifted on Your wings And the world will see that

**CHORUS:** Our God saves our God saves There is hope in Your name  
Mourning turns to songs of praise Our God saves our God saves

Hear the joyful sound Of our offering As Your saints bow down As Your people sing  
We will rise with You Lifted on Your wings And the world will see that

**CHORUS (x2)**

## Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

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.**

## Closing Song

## My Redeemer Lives

Reuben Morgan

I know He rescued my soul His blood has covered my sin  
I believe, I believe. My shame He's taken away  
My pain is healed in His name I believe, I believe!

I'll raise a banner 'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave

CHORUS: My Redeemer lives My Redeemer lives  
My Redeemer lives My Redeemer lives

I know He rescued my soul His blood has covered my sin  
I believe, I believe. My shame He's taken away  
My pain is healed in His name I believe, I believe!

I'll raise a banner 'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave

CHORUS x2

You lift my burdens I'll rise with You  
I'm dancing on this mountaintop To see Your kingdom come

CHORUS x3

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

## Congregational Concerns



# Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
PREACHER  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

The Rev. John R. Larson, Pastor  
Jim Tuell, Vicar  
Michael Zehnder

ELDER 8:00

Norm Finfrock

10:00

Scott Luethy

PRAISE TEAM 10:00

Agape

LECTOR 8:00

Mavis Slifka

10:00

Jeanette Nelson

ACOLYTE 8:00

Esther Langness

10:00

Lyla Dollar

USHERS 8:00

Members of the Congregation

10:00

Members of the Congregation

SERVER 10:00

Dave Hitztaler

ALTAR GUILD

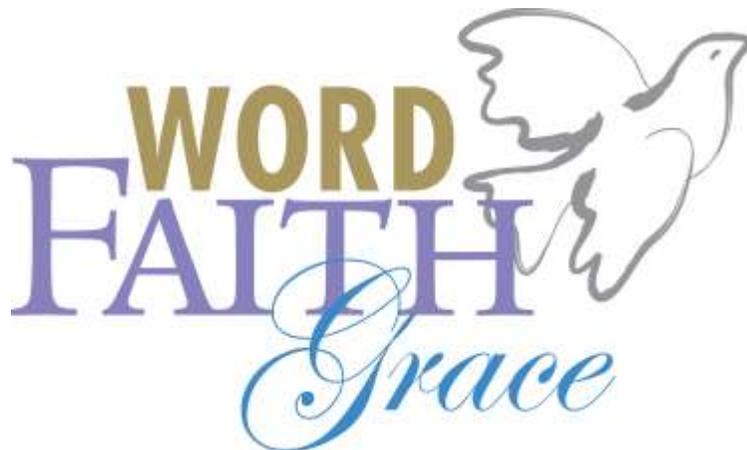
Charmaine Rohde, Gloria Gaudreault, Sally

Atchison

FLOWERS

Lois Kreye, in loving memory of George,  
who went home June 28, 2016

CCLI License #1903595



Vicar Jim Tuell is enrolled in the Specific Ministry Pastor program through Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne. His specific ministry targets to serve communities such as Immanuel Englewood that are undergoing renewal and growth but where our LCMS congregation has suffered membership losses and is no longer able to financially support a regular full-time seminary trained pastor. It is hoped that after serving such a congregation, planting and watering Gospel seeds, and the work of the Holy Spirit that God will give the growth if it is His will. After such growth, it is thought that such a congregation would call a full-time pastor to serve their needs and he would start the process over in another similar or mission congregation.

Jim and Tami are married and have two daughters, Suzi and Alannah. Suzi is married and is an Archivist in Cheyenne for the State of Wyoming. Alannah is a Junior at the University of Denver majoring in English. Prior to joining Immanuel Englewood in 2017, they were members of Holy Cross in Highlands Ranch since its founding in 1994. Jim has also served on the LCMS Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors for the past eight years representing the metropolitan Denver area, the last five years as Chairman of the Board.