

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*August 13, 2017*

10:00 am



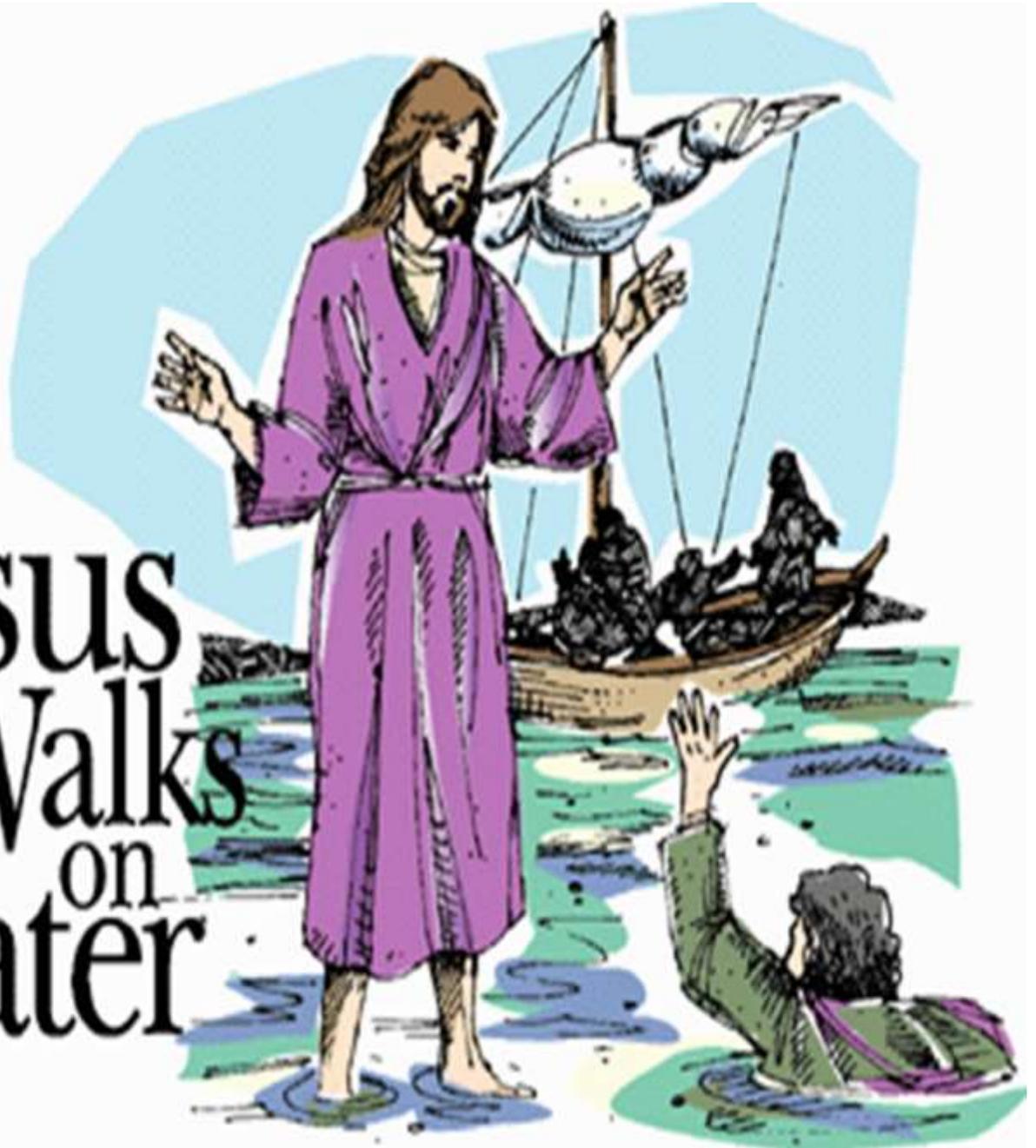
## **TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

The Word That Saves

### **AS WE GATHER**

God has worked faith in our hearts. There is no other way we would ever call out to Him in our distress. When we ask Him for anything, it is always because of His Word, which has convicted us of sin and assured us of grace. Jesus, the Word in the flesh, took the Law's punishment for us and has bestowed on us His own righteousness. The Word is so powerful that we need not fear anything, not our conscience, not the world, and not Satan. As Luther wrote, "One little word can fell him." The powerful Word puts us in our place as mere creatures (as Job learns). It invites us to trust our Savior even more (as Jesus beckoned Peter to leave his boat). And it promises, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." That promise is so sure that we dare not keep it to ourselves. Let us give thanks to God in worship today and in our continued sharing of the Good News.

# Jesus Walks on Water



## GATHERING SONGS

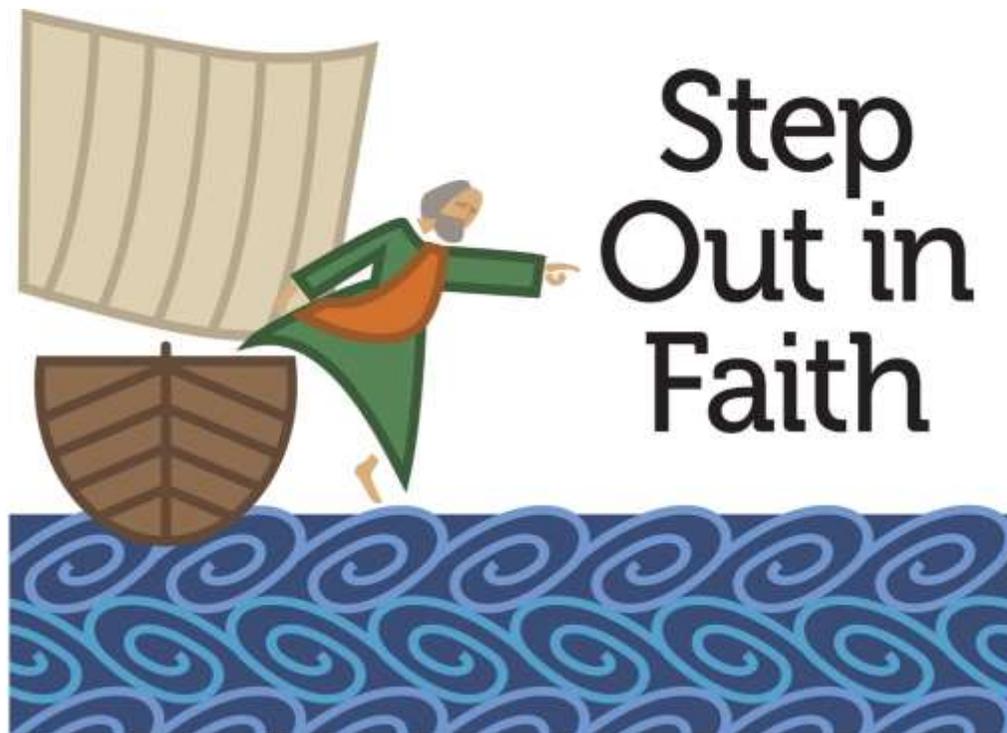
### PRESERVICE MUSIC

#### GREAT IS THE LORD!

Michael W. Smith

Great is the Lord, He is holy and just,  
by His power we trust in His love.  
Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true,  
by His mercy He proves He is love.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory,  
great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice,  
now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

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## CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: ORDER OF WORSHIP

### 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

## FOREVER REIGN

Morgan—Ingram

You are good, You are good, when there's nothing good in me.  
You are love, You are love, on display for all to see.  
You are light, You are light, when the darkness closes in.  
You are hope, You are hope, You have covered all my sin.

You are peace, You are peace, when my fear is crippling.  
You are true, You are true, even in my wandering.  
You are joy, You are joy, You're the reason that I sing.  
You are life, You are life, in You death has lost its sting.

**REFRAIN Oh, I'm running to your arms, I'm running to your arms.  
The riches of Your love will always be enough.  
Nothing compares to Your embrace. Light of the world, forever reign.**

You are more, You are more, than my words will ever say.  
You are Lord, You are Lord, all creation will proclaim.  
You are here, you are here, in Your presence I'm made whole.  
You are God, You are God; Of all else I'm letting go. **REFRAIN**

I'm running to your arms, I'm running to your arms.  
The riches of Your love will always be enough.  
Nothing compares to Your embrace. Light of the world, forever reign.

My heart will sing, no other Name, Jesus, Jesus.  
My heart will sing, no other Name, Jesus, Jesus. **REFRAIN**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our gracious God has promised to hear us for Jesus' sake when we call out for pardon and peace. Let us go to Him, confessing our sins.

*Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our fallen condition.*

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

**People: we admit that we have often put our own wills ahead of Yours. In our pride we have demanded reasons from You for what has gone wrong in our lives. We have not called out to You in all humility, but have relied on our own righteousness instead of asking You for mercy and grace. We have let the turmoil of the world around us distract us from keeping our lives focused on Your strong Word and the salvation it proclaims. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, forgive us. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, move us to paths in which we may serve You and proclaim Your saving Word to those who do not know Your loving promises.**

Pastor: Although God's Law condemns us in our fallen condition, with all our sinful thoughts, words, and deeds, He has promised that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 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: Job 38:4-18

(God puts Job in his place.)

**"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone--while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?**

**"Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, when I said, `This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt'?**

**"Have you ever given orders to the morning, or shown the dawn its place, that it might take the earth by the edges and shake the wicked out of it? The earth takes shape like clay under a seal; its features stand out like those of a garment. The wicked are denied their light, and their upraised arm is broken.**

**"Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been shown to you? Have you seen the gates of the shadow of death? Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth? Tell me, if you know all this.**

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE: Romans 10:5-17

(Everyone who calls on the Lord will be saved.)

**Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, `Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or `Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess**

and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Congregation, please stand.*

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33**

(Jesus invites Peter to walk to Him on the water.)

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

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

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

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

**SONG OF THE DAY**

**INDESCRIBABLE**

**Story**

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea,  
Creation's revealing Your majesty.  
From the colors of Fall to the fragrance of Spring,  
Ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings. All exclaiming:  
Indescribable, uncontainable; You placed the stars in the sky,  
And You know them by name.  
You are amazing God; All powerful, untamable.  
Awestruck, we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim  
You are amazing God.

Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt where it should go  
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow?  
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light  
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night? None can fathom.  
Indescribable, uncontainable; You placed the stars in the sky,  
And You know them by name.  
You are amazing God; All powerful, untamable.  
Awestruck, we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim  
You are amazing God.

Indescribable, uncontainable; You placed the stars in the sky,  
And You know them by name.  
You are amazing God; All powerful, untamable.  
Awestruck, we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim  
You are amazing God. You are amazing God.

**SERMON**

*Playing the Hand You Are Dealt*

*Pastor Larson*  
Text: Job 38:4-18

## 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

#### OFFERTORY

#### HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD!

Tomlin—Reeves—Cash

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,  
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.  
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.  
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.  
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!

#### 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



Sacrament  
of Communion

## 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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB (*Inside back-cover*)

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## DISTRIBUTION SONGS

### O COME TO THE ALTAR

Chris Brown

Are you hurting and broken within  
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin Jesus is calling  
Have you come to the end of yourself  
Do you thirst for a drink from the well Jesus is calling

**CHORUS: O come to the altar The Father's arms are open wide  
Forgiveness was bought with The precious blood of Jesus Christ**

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes  
Come today there's no reason to wait Jesus is calling  
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy  
From the ashes a new life is born Jesus is calling **CHORUS X2**

Oh what a Savior Isn't he wonderful Sing alleluia Christ is risen  
Bow down before him For he is Lord of all Sing alleluia Christ is risen  
Oh what a Savior Isn't he wonderful Sing alleluia Christ is risen  
Bow down before him For he is Lord of all Sing alleluia Christ is risen **CHORUS X2**

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown Tell the world of the treasure you've found

## JESUS MESSIAH

Tomlin

He became sin, who knew no sin;  
that we might become His righteousness;  
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing.  
Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;  
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven;  
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.

His body, the bread; His blood, the wine;  
Broken and poured out, all for love.  
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing.  
Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;  
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven;  
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You;  
All the glory to You, God, the light of the world.  
Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;  
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven;  
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.

Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all. The Lord of all! The Lord of all.

## HUNGRY

Kathryn Scott

Hungry I come to You for I know You satisfy  
I am empty but I know Your love does not run dry

**CHORUS: So I wait for You, So I wait for You  
I'm falling on my knees  
Offering all of me Jesus  
You're all this heart is living for**

Broken I run to You for Your arms are open wide  
I am weary but I know Your touch restores my life **CHORUS**

So I wait for You, So I wait for You  
So I wait for You, So I wait for You  
I'm falling on my knees  
Offering all of me Jesus  
You're all this heart is living for  
I'm falling on my knees  
Offering all of me Jesus  
You're all this heart is living for

## 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  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES  
ORGAN & PIANO

Rev. John Larson, Pastor  
Michael Zehnder  
Diana Gaide

ELDER  
PRAISE TEAM 10:00  
LECTOR 8:00

Roger Gaide  
Agapes  
Clyde Wiggins  
Jeanette Nelson

ACOLYTE 8:00  
10:00

Pete Federico  
Dominick Ortiz

USHERS 8:00

Barry Kratzer, Members of the  
Congregation

10:00

Jason Dierking, Members of the  
Congregation

SERVER 10:00

Jude Donovan

ALTAR GUILD  
FLOWERS

Joyce Dowdy, Rita Kratzer, Deb Shiflet  
Bruce & Phyllis McConnell, in  
celebration of their 50th Anniversary

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