

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*August 19, 2018*

**8:00 am**



## **THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Our Audiovisual Savior

### **AS WE GATHER**

We are an audiovisual culture. Everywhere you turn, people use a wide variety of means to get your attention: billboards along the highway, commercials on the radio, pop-up advertisements on social media, telephone surveys that interrupt your family dinner. The list could go on and on. Jesus, too, used a variety of means at His disposal in the first century to communicate His message of life and salvation. He Himself is the greatest communication in any time and place—the very Word made flesh. Christ gives words that are spirit and life. He speaks. We listen. Christ also does the saving work of removing darkness by His death and resurrection. He shines. We see and live. Talk about an audiovisual Savior! Today, let us listen, touch, taste, and see. As we respond to God's grace with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, let us lift up thankful hearts to our Father in the name of Jesus.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

**PRELUDE** "Now We Thank We All Our God" Michael Burkhardt and J.S. Bach

**PASTORAL GREETING**

**TOLLING OF THE BELL** *Congregation, please stand.*

**HYMN** "Now We Thank We All Our God" *LSB 895*

**INVOCATION**

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

**People:** Amen.

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** Let us come into the light and approach our Lord in prayer.

*In a time of silence, we reflect on our great need for Jesus' saving work.*

**Pastor:** Together, we pray.

**People:** **O God our Father, light-creator, Your perfect glory exposes the darkness of our ways. As children who stray from their Father's instruction, we have wandered in disobedience and stumbled in what we have thought, said, and done. By the rescuing work of Your Son, the light of the world, shine on us the bright beams of forgiveness. Wash us in the light of His resurrection victory so that we make melodies with our lips and honor You with our lives. Amen.**

**Pastor:** In Christ Jesus, You who once were darkness are now light. Walk as children of the light. Be who you are! As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✘ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

✘ WORD ✘

**KYRIE**

**Pastor:** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

*LSB 893*

### **Verses 1, 3**

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant us grace to know Your Son, Jesus, who alone has the words of eternal life, that we would walk in the light of His glory and truth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING: Proverbs 9:1–10**

(Wisdom is seen and heard.)

**Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn out its seven pillars. She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her maids, and she calls from the highest point of the city. "Let all who are simple come in here!" she says to those who lack judgment. "Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of understanding.**

**"Whoever corrects a mocker invites insult; whoever rebukes a wicked man incurs abuse. Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you. Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."**

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE: Ephesians 5:6–21**

(We walk as children of light.)

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**     *John 6:68*

Pastor: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

People: **You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

*Congregation, please stand for the Gospel.*

## **HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:51–69**

(Jesus speaks words of spirit and life.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

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

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will

live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever." He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him." From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

### HYMN OF THE DAY "Thy Word is a Lamp"

#### 973 Thy Word Is a Lamp

*Refrain*

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.

1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,  
2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My

Still You're there right be - side me. And  
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.

noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.  
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; *And Refrain*

Please be near me to the end. \_\_\_\_\_  
I will love You to the end. \_\_\_\_\_

**SERMON** "The Word of Eternal Life"

Pastor Richard Langness

TEXT: John 6:51-69

**NICENE CREED**

*Text found in the back of the Hymnal.*

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For all of God's children, both here at [*name of the local congregation*] and throughout the world, that the darkness of sin would scatter and we be filled with the light of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Light of the world, shine on us.**

**Pastor:** For the mission of the Gospel, that the Holy Spirit touches hearts wherever God's Word is preached, and many souls be brought to saving faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Word made flesh, speak to us and through us.**

**Pastor:** For all servant leaders in this church and in the world, that their work for our benefit be a blessing and that they be guided by wisdom from on high, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Light of the world, lead our way.**

**Pastor:** For all who are broken in heart, mind, and body, [*especially . . .*], that they receive healing mercies from our faithful Father, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Word made flesh, touch the lives of all who are sick.**

**Pastor:** For these and all other concerns we have, that coming before the throne of grace we find mercy to help us in our time of need, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Light of the world, we praise and glorify Your holy name! Amen.**

### **THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*We share the Lord's peace with one another, saying, "Peace be with you."*



### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** "Bright Mansions Above"

K. Lee Scott

Anita Baresel, soloist

## 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 been instructed and 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. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.*



# COMMUNION *Service*

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

*Colossians 3:1*

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Psalm 136*

**People:** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for the rescuing work of Your Son, Jesus Christ, whose words are spirit and life. Through Him who is the very Word made flesh, we see the fullness of Your glory and walk in the light of Your truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

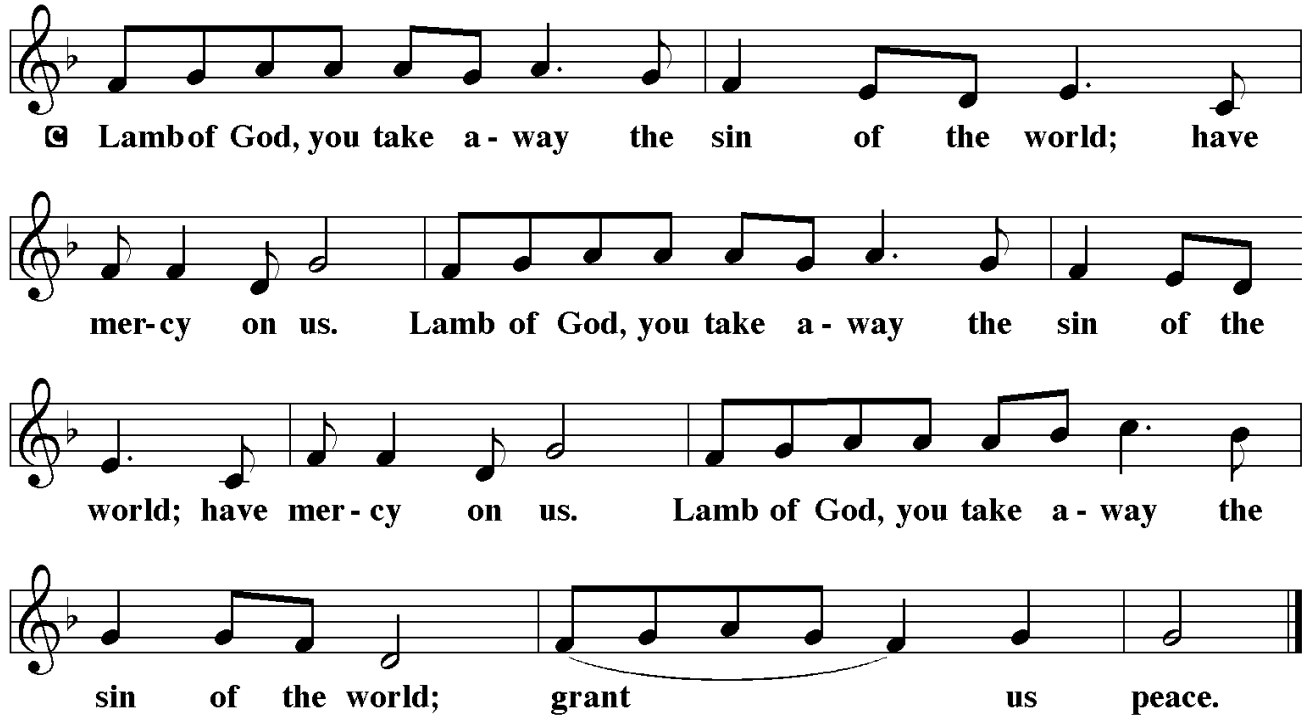
Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\times$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\times$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## LORD'S PRAYER Text found in the back of the Hymnal. (Matthew 6:9–13)



# AGNUS DEI



♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.



*Come  
to the  
Table*



## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Like a River Glorious”

arr. Don Wyrzten  
Diana Gaide, pianist

“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”

LSB 631

“Come, Let Us Eat, for Now the Feast is Spread”

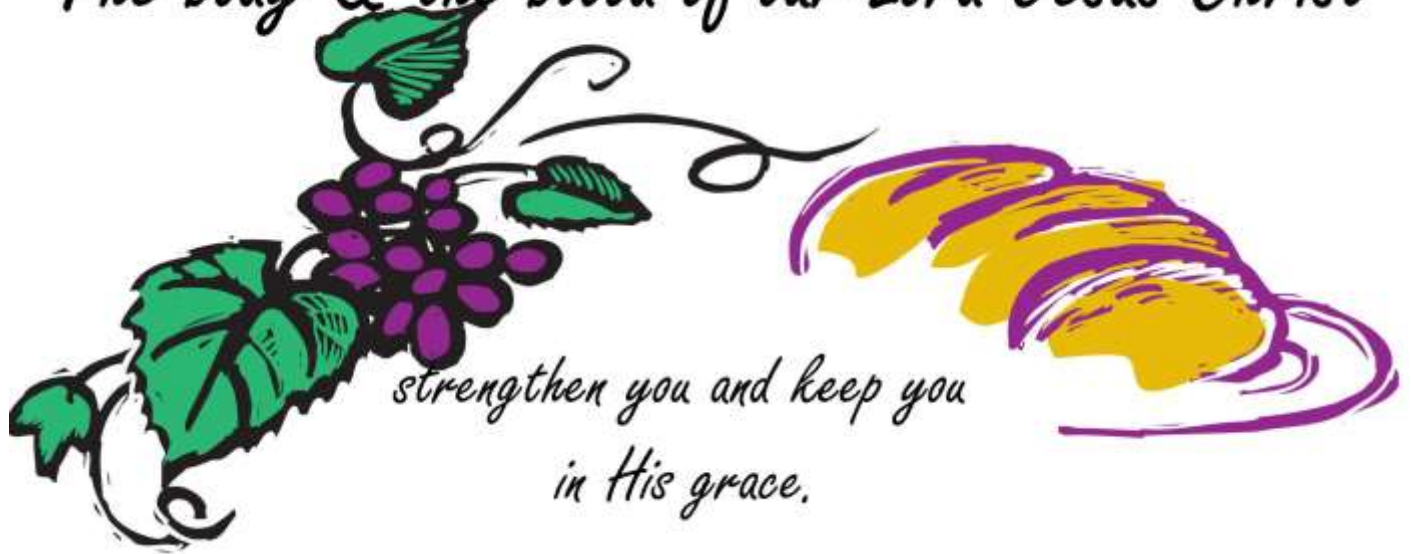
LSB 626

“Evening and Morning”

LSB 726

## GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

*The body & the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ*



*strengthen you and keep you  
in His grace.*

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “O Sing to the Lord”

LSB 808


## DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “Cantad al Señor” (O Sing to the Lord)

Mark Sedio



**“LORD, TO WHOM  
SHALL WE GO?  
*You have  
the words  
OF ETERNAL LIFE.*”**

JOHN 6:68, NIV

## Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES  
YOUTH PRAISE BAND

Pastor Richard Langness  
Michael Zehnder  
Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly  
Brinkman, Will Kopriva, Sam Riebling,  
Bob Shiflet, Brian Johnson

ELDER 8:00  
10:00

Bill Redden  
Don Loptien

LECTOR 8:00  
10:00

Scott Luethy  
Mike Reimnitz

ACOLYTE 8:00  
10:00

Esther Langness  
Cody Urbach

USHERS 8:00

Barry Kratzer, Members of the  
Congregation

10:00

Jason Dierking, Members of the  
Congregation

SERVER 10:00

Jude Donovan

ALTAR GUILD

Shelia Beu, Rita Kratzer, Phyllis  
McConnell

FLOWERS

Edna & Linda Achziger, in loving  
memory of Carla

CCLI License #1903595

“THE WORDS THAT I HAVE  
SPOKEN TO YOU ARE



spirit  
and life.”

JOHN 6:63