

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*November 25, 2018*

**8:00 and 10:30 am**



## **LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR**

Christ Is Coming, Remain Humble in His Mercies

## **AS WE GATHER**

Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. Next week we will turn our attention to Advent and preparations for the celebration of Christ's incarnation. Our readings and message today help us to see that our victories in life come from His plans and guidance, not our own efforts. Sometimes He humbles us right before a crisis to make it clear that our successes come only through His mercy. Today we welcome to our pulpit Rev. Mike Paulison, Missionary to Haiti.



Who is  
the King  
of glory?  
The LORD,

strong  
and  
mighty,  
the LORD,  
mighty  
in battle!

PSALM 24:8, ESV

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### PRELUDE

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Paul Manz

### PASTORAL GREETING

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

**HYMN**    “All You Works of God, Bless the Lord”

LSB 930

### INVOCATION

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

**People:**    **Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES**    *Based on Psalm 93:1–2, 5*

**Pastor:**    The Lord reigns!

**People:**    **He is robed in majesty!**

**Pastor:**    The world is established.

**People:**    **It shall not be moved.**

**Pastor:**    God’s throne is established from of old.

**People:**    **Our God is from everlasting.**

**Pastor:**    His decrees are very trustworthy.

**People:**    **Holiness befits the Lord’s house forevermore.**

**Pastor:**    Christ is coming soon.

**People:**    **Therefore stay awake and remain prepared.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:**    Christ is coming again and coming soon. Although we know this, although we have heard His words and warning, we have not always acted as though Christ were coming soon. At times we have grown complacent and lazy, focused on the things of this world rather than on Christ, His Word, and His salvation. As we gather together in the Lord’s house, let us consider our failure to live according to His holiness.

*Silence for reflection*

**Pastor:**    Heavenly Father,

**People:**    **we have not always lived according to Your Word. We have fallen asleep in the comfort of our sins. We have not stayed awake and remained prepared for the return of Your Son, Jesus Christ. We have been proud of our successes instead of remaining humble in the light**

of Your plans and mercies. Forgive us, renew us, and stir us up so that we might prepare ourselves for Your victories and Your return.

**Pastor:** Because of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, you are presented blameless before the presence of God. As a called and ordained servant of the risen 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.

**People:** Amen. To God be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, now and forever. Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

## KYRIE II

LSB 944



1	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
1	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, _____	have mer - cy.	Christ, _____	have mer - cy.
3	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e	e - le -	-	-	i -	son.
Chris - te	e - le -	-	-	i -	son.
Ky - ri - e	e - le -	-	-	i -	son.
Lord, _____	have mer	-	-	-	cy.
Christ, _____	have mer	-	-	-	cy.
Lord, _____	have mer	-	-	-	cy.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

"Tell Out, My Soul"  
(Verses 1, 3)

LSB 935

## SALUTATION

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

**People:** And also with You.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son into the world to die and rise for the sins of the world, and You have promised that He is coming again soon.

Keep us firm in the true faith, ever clinging to Your promises and ever watchful for Your Son's return, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Joshua 6:1–5**

(God makes all the battle plans to make it clear our victories are through Him alone!)

**Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.**

**Then the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams’ horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in.”**

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE: Jude 20–25**

(Keep yourselves in the love of God.)

**But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh. To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.**

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Congregation, please rise for the Alleluia Verse and the Gospel.*

**VERSE** *Revelation 22:13*

**ALL: Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia.**

# Gospel

## READING

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 5:17-26**

(Only God has the authority to forgive sins.)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifth chapter.

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

**One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick. Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.**

**When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”**

**The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”**

**Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins....” He said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”**

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

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

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** (10:30 Only)

Pastor John Larson

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love”

LSB 900

**SERMON**

“Against All Odds”

Rev. Michael Paulison

Text: Joshua 6:1-5 and Luke 5:17-26

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

*Text can be found in the back cover of your 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.

Lord, You reign as King forever. Protect Your Church from false teaching and scandalous living. Set Your justice as a light to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, You are robed in majesty. In creation, You clothed us with Your image, but we daily sin, staining and warping Your perfect image into something unrecognizable. Keep us in Christ, who clothes us in robes that have been washed white in His own blood. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, in this fallen world, creation groans with many disasters. Restore the livelihood of those who have suffered such disasters as floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, and especially the California fires, for You, O Lord, are mightier than any storm or fire or flood. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we thank you for the victories in life You give us. Help us to remain humble in our successes, realizing the blessings that have come only through Your mercy and plans. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, send healing to all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially* . . .]. If it be Your will, restore their health with the overflowing abundance that comes only from Your hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: . . . *other intercessions may be offered here* . . . Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

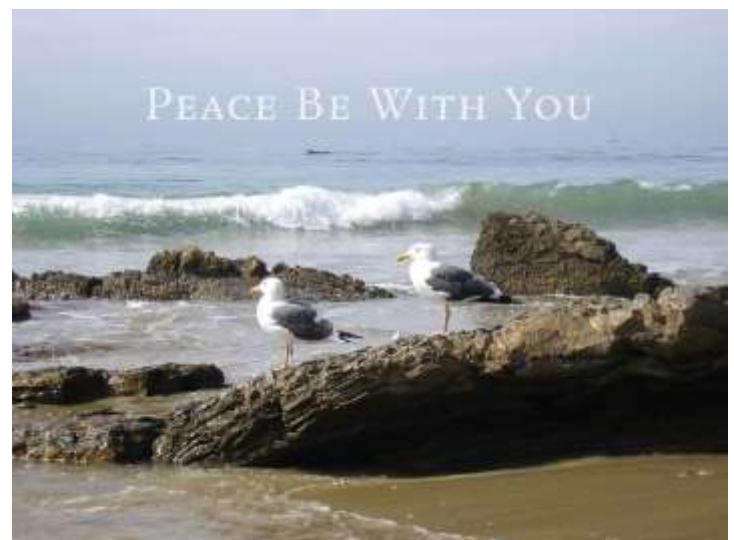
**People: Amen.**

## 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."*



## 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.*



✘ 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is risen from the dead, alive and reigning at the Father's right hand. We look for His glorious return and the promised restoration of all creation. 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 (Divine Service, Setting Three)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, 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** (Matthew 6:9–13) *Text is in the back cover of your Hymnal.*

**Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting Three)**

□ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Ellie Paulison, composer and soloist

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB 621

“Jesus Sat With His Disciples”

LSB 932

**GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING**

**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** “At the Name of Jesus”

LSB 512

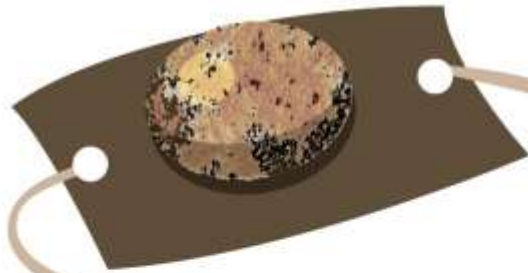
**(Verses 1-3, 7)**

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

POSTLUDE

“The Clock”

Louis Claude Dáquin



FOR THE  
**BATTLE**  
IS THE  
**LORD'S.**

I Samuel 17:47

## Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
PREACHER  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES  
SOLOIST

Pastor John Larson  
Rev. Mike Paulison  
Michael Zehnder  
Ellie Paulison

ELDER 8:00  
10:30

Norm Finrock  
Don Loptien

LECTOR 8:00  
10:30

Annette Wolfer  
Jude Donovan

ACOLYTE 8:00  
10:30

Chrissy Coon  
Cody Urbach

USHERS 8:00

Hank Peepgrass, Members of the  
Congregation

10:30

Jason Dierking, Members of the  
Congregation

SERVER 10:30

Margo Pasha

ALTAR GUILD

Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault, Dawn  
Munson, Cathy Utecht

FLOWERS

Edna & Linda Achziger, in loving  
memory of Edward Achziger

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## Joshua Fights the Battle of Jericho

