

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

June 6-7, 2026

4:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE DON'T DESERVE GOD'S ATTENTION

AS WE GATHER

We do not deserve the attention God lavishes on us! As He calls us to Himself, we are on the receiving end of boundless love and mercy from Him, shown especially in the death and resurrection of our Lord, to whom we have been united. We share faith with Abraham, though the future may not be clear. Our sins brought Jesus to the cross, but the empty tomb invites us to eternal life. When the Pharisees questioned Jesus for eating with tax collectors and sinners, He admonished them in saying, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick" (Matthew 9:12). God calls those who need to be saved—sinners like us—with the gracious Good News proclaimed to us in worship this day.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Prelude

“All Glory Be to God on High”

Paul J. Grime

Pastoral Greeting

Invocation

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

People: **Amen.**

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM (*with Apostles' Creed*)

Pastor: Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In the last chapter of Mark, our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

People: **Yes, I believe.**

Pastor: Do you believe 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?

People: **Yes, I believe.**

Pastor: Do you 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?

People: **Yes, I believe.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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 \times Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

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 “All Glory Be to God on High”

LSB 947

1 All glo - ry be to God on high And thanks for all His
2 We praise and laud and wor - ship You; We give You thanks for -
fa - vor; No harm can touch or ter - ri - fy A
ev - er, O Fa - ther, for Your rule is true And
child of God for - ev - er. God shows His good and
just and chang - es nev - er. With bound - less pow'r, Your
gra - cious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—
might - y reign Ful - fills what - ev - er You or - dain.
All strife at last has end - ed.
Lord, grant us ev - 'ry bless - ing!

✂ WORD ✂

Old Testament Reading: Hosea 5:15-6:6

(God promises to go to His people.)

**I will return again to my place,
until they acknowledge their guilt
and seek my face,
and in their distress earnestly seek me.**

**“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.**

**After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.**

**Let 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.”**

**What 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.**

**Therefore 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.**

**For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.**

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

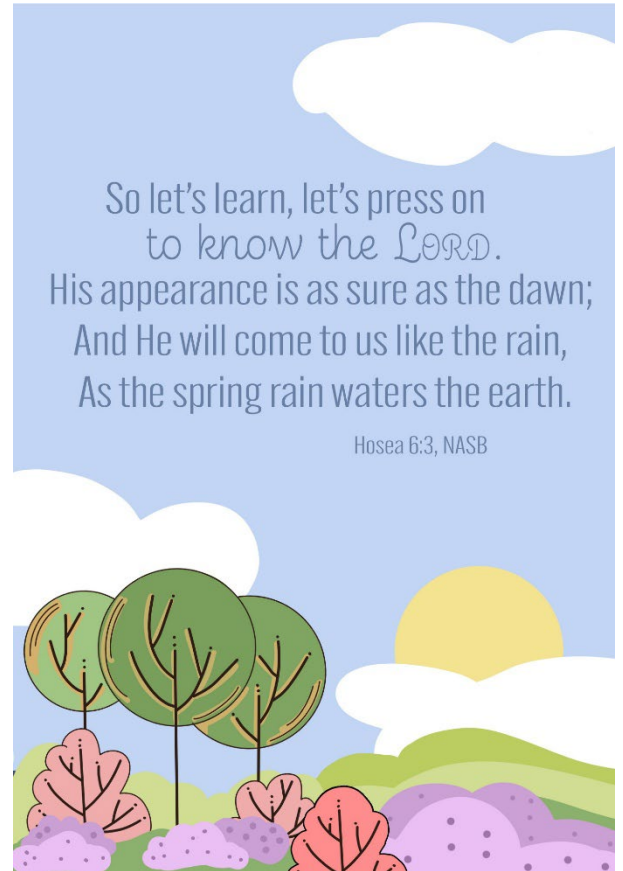
People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Romans 4:13-25

(We are saved by the faith given to us, not our own designs.)

For the 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. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That 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, as 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. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” He 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. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

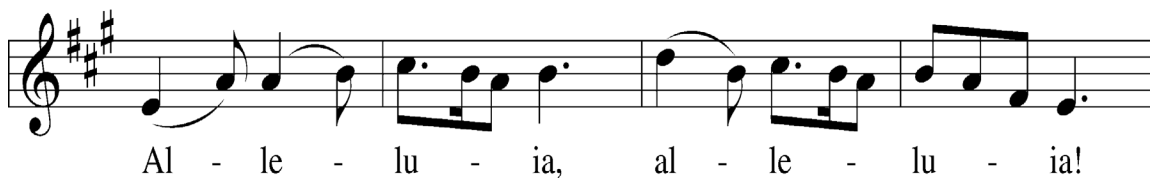
Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Verse and the Holy Gospel.

Alleluia — II

LSB 952



Text: Public domain Tune: © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000713

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

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

Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13b

(Jesus accepts people who know they are sinners, but He opposes those who are proud.)

As 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.

And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Day "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

LSB 702

Sermon "Simple Math"

Pastor John Larson
Text: Romans 4:13-25

Apostles' Creed (*already spoken at service beginning*)

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy ...

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

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

Offering (4:00 pm - collected in back;
9:00 am – collected in the pews)

Offering Music (9:00) "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest"

Flor Peeters



✠ 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 (Divine Service, Setting One)

LSB 160

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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 One)

LSB 161

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

People: **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.**

Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting One)

LSB 163



DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Special Music “Holy, Holy, Holy” Marlene Eickmann, Soloist

Hymn “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” *LSB 637*

Hymn “Take My Life and Let It Be” *LSB 783*

General Communion Blessing

Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)

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.

People: **Amen**

Closing Hymn “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” *LSB 803*

Congregational Concerns

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude “We All Believe in One True God” Johann Christoph Bach



The Calling of Matthew

SERVING IN WORSHIP

OFFICIANT / PREACHER
MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP
ORGANIST
ELDERS
ACOLYTES
LECTORS
COMMUNION SERVER (4:00)
ALTAR GUILD

Pastor John Larson
Michael Zehnder
Nathan Eickmann
4:00 Jeff Dunker; 9:00 Michael Lawrenz
9:00 Parker Aldrich
4:00 Mike Price; 9:00 Joyce Dowdy
Mike Price
Barbara Rutter, Charmaine Rohde

✘ ✘ ✘

Ascension Lutheran Church
1701 West Caley Avenue, Littleton, Colorado 80120
www.alutheran.org
(303) 794-4636 office@alutheran.org
Extended Day Preschool
303-730-2514 director@alcpreschool.com