

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

August 8-9, 2026

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



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A GOOD VIEW

AS WE GATHER

The only way a sinful human being can dare to approach and worship an almighty God is if we also know that He is a God of mercy. God's mighty power is known from the vastness of His creation, the stars and seas, light and darkness, tempests and storms (Job 38). "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10). Yet we are told, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

"Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you" (Isaiah 30:18). This "almighty and most merciful God" (Prayer of the Day) showed both His might and mercy when He became aware of His disciples' peril on a storm-tossed sea. Walking on water wasn't the point. It was the Lord's coming to save us in our fear and distress (Matthew 14). As the catechism says of God's commandments, "We should fear and love God." We can trust the God who has harnessed His wrath with His love. Greater love has no one than the God who joined us in our misery, took our sin upon Himself, and died our death but now is risen to save us from every evil that threatens us or makes us afraid.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Prelude "All You Works of God, Bless the Lord" Benjamin Culli

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Hymn "All You Works of God, Bless the Lord" *LSB 930*
Verses 1-2, 5-6

Invocation

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:4; Matthew 14:30–31*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: **to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor: "Lord, save me."

People: **"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Matthew 14:33*

Pastor: No doubt our needs are known by the God of mercy, chief of which is deliverance from sin and fear. Aware of our great need for forgiveness and faith, we cry out to our Creator and Redeemer.

People: **Lord, save me from my little faith, my doubt, my fears, my sin. I come to You now because You have promised to come to me here with Your saving grasp of power and mercy. Forgive me of my sin and give me help and deliverance from all my fears, that I may worship You with a pure heart and say, "Truly You are the Son of God" and my Savior. Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord your God has brought you out from the slavery of sin with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm of mercy by the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His own command I announce to you as a called and ordained servant of the Word: I forgive you all your sins. Peace be with you, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ 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

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

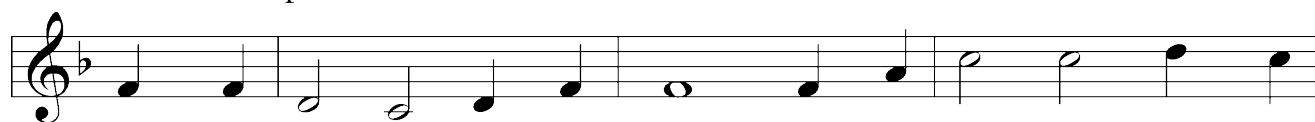
LSB 849



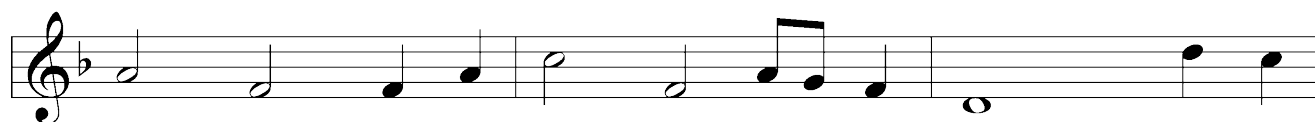
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

✂ WORD ✂

Old Testament Reading: Job 38:4-18

(Who prescribed the limits of the sea?)

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

when the morning stars sang together

and all the sons of God

shouted for joy?

“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

when I made clouds its garment

and thick darkness

its swaddling band,

and prescribed limits for it

and set bars and doors,

and said, ‘Thus far shall you come,

and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves

be stayed’?

“Have you commanded the morning

since your days began,

and caused the dawn

to know its place,

that it might take hold of the

skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?

It is changed like clay under the seal,

and its features stand out

like a garment.

From the wicked their light is withheld,

and their uplifted arm is broken.

“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

Have the gates of death been revealed to you,

or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?

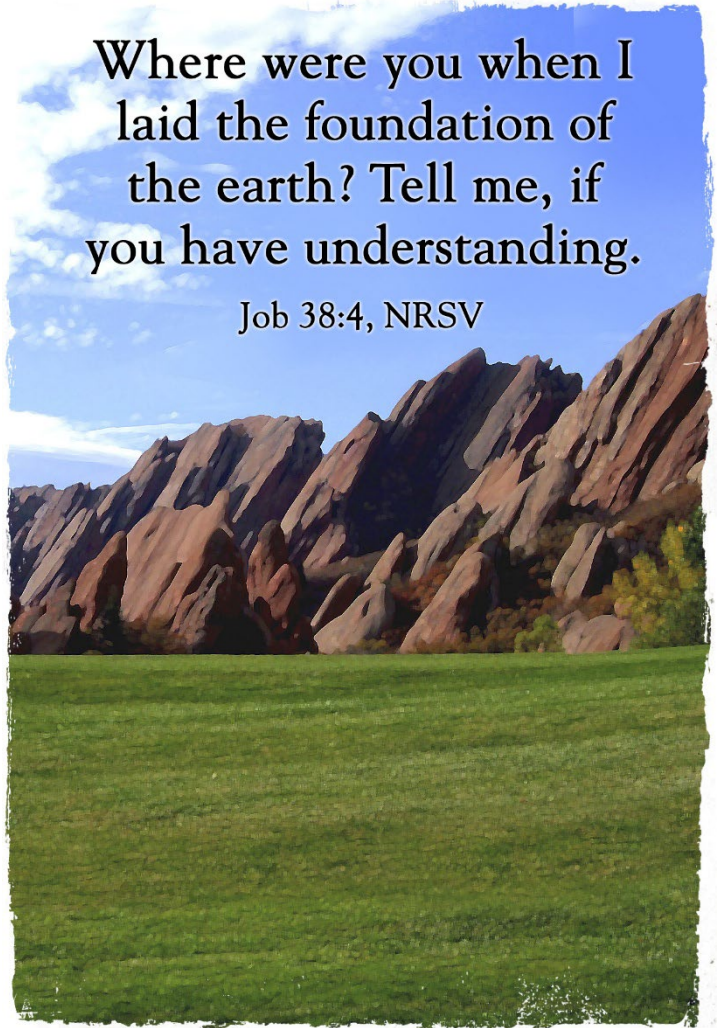
Declare, if you know all this.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Where were you when I
laid the foundation of
the earth? Tell me, if
you have understanding.

Job 38:4, NRSV



Epistle: Romans 10:5-17

(Who calls on the name of the Lord?)

For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on 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 abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE *Matthew 14:27*

Pastor: Alleluia. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying,

People: “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” Alleluia.

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

(Who can walk on water?)

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those 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.

Children's Message (9:00)

Pastor Larson

Hymn of the Day "Savior, When in Dust to You"

LSB 419

Sermon "Consider Job"

Pastor John Larson
Text: Job 1:8

Apostles' Creed

(found at the back of the hymnal)

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) "Thy Strong Word"

arr. John Innes

✠ 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 took on our human flesh and came to us from heaven to rescue us from the overwhelming flood of our sins by the sacrifice of His own blood on the cross. 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

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

LSB 163

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Special Music

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Dave Olsson, soloist/guitarist

Hymn

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

LSB 739

Hymn

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

LSB 721

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 "Thy Strong Word"

LSB 578
Verses 1-2, 5-6

Congregational Concerns

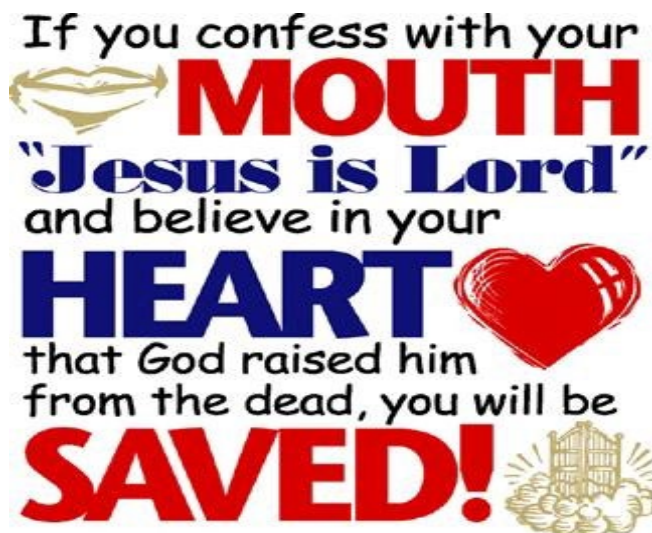
Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude "Thy Strong Word"

arr. Aaron David Miller



SERVING IN WORSHIP

PASTOR / PREACHER

Pastor John Larson

MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP / ORGANIST

Rev. Michael Zehnder

SOLOIST AND GUITARIST

Dave Olsson

ELDERS

4:00 Jim Wert; 9:00 David Pearman

ACOLYTES

9:00 Parker Aldrich

LECTORS

4:00 Dick Castleman; 9:00 Rev. Ed Maas

COMMUNION SERVER

4:00 Dave Olsson; 9:00 Arvin Michel

ALTAR GUILD

Sharon Seible, Barbara Rutter

✕ ✕ ✕

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Extended Day Preschool

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