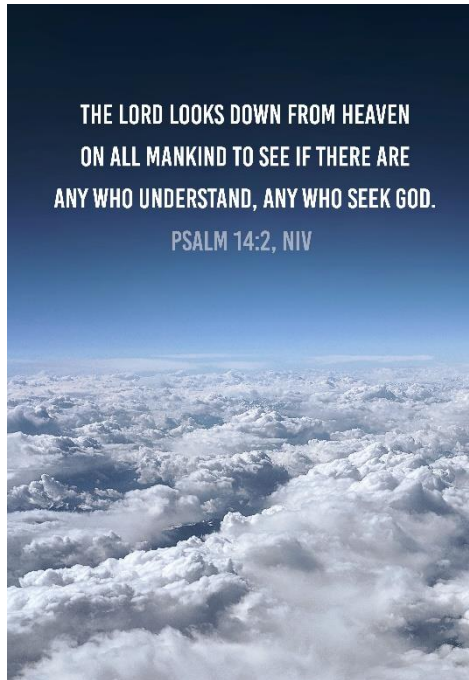


ASCENSION  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost



**WELCOME** To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.



**Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession**

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**Pre-Service Meditation:**

**Psalm 14:2** The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

**Prayer:** O Heavenly Father, by nature we are amongst the children of men. Those who do not desire to seek after You. Yet, through Your grace and through Your Son, you have bought us back to be Your children and no longer children of this world. As such, let us seek after You all our lives. Uplift and sustain us by Your love. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. Amen.

# Service of the Word

## Opening Hymn

**TLH 1 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty**

## Invocation

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

*WS pg 12*

- P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- C** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- P** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.
- C** Amen.

**LORD, HAVE MERCY** *Kyrie*



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,  
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,  
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.  
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.  
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. . .

. . . through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 29:11-19**

<sup>11</sup>The vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." <sup>12</sup>And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." <sup>13</sup>And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, <sup>14</sup>therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of

their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden.” <sup>15</sup>Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?” <sup>16</sup>You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, “He did not make me”; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, “He has no understanding”? <sup>17</sup>Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? <sup>18</sup>In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. <sup>19</sup>The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

### Psalm of the Day

### Psalm 26 [Selected Verses]

- P** Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
- C** Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind.
- P** For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.
- C** I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.
- P** O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.
- C** Do not sweep my soul away with sinners
- P** I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
- C** My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.

### Epistle Lesson:

### Ephesians 5:22-33

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. <sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup>that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup>so that he

might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup>In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup>because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup>“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” <sup>32</sup>This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

### Gospel Lesson:

Mark 7:1-13

<sup>1</sup>When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, <sup>4</sup>and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) <sup>5</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; <sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ <sup>8</sup>You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” <sup>9</sup>And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! <sup>10</sup>For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ <sup>11</sup>But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God)— <sup>12</sup>then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, <sup>13</sup>thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

**P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**Confession of Faith:**

**Apostles Creed**

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 is seated at the right  
hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to  
judge the living and the dead.**

**I 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. Amen.**

**Hymn: WS 784 Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me**

**Sermon: Psalm 14:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. <sup>2</sup>The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. <sup>3</sup>They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. <sup>4</sup>Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD? <sup>5</sup>There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous. <sup>6</sup>You would shame the plans of the poor, but the LORD is his refuge. <sup>7</sup>Oh, that salvation for Israel

would come out of Zion! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

## The Reality of Sin and the Need for Redemption

**Offertory:**

**Create in Me** ♪♪

Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen

**Hymn:**

**TLH 369 All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall**

**Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

- ☐ 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

**Benediction**

☐ Amen

**Hymn**

**TLH 334 Let Me Be Thine Forever**

**Silent Prayer**

**Acknowledgments**

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# Announcements

## Upcoming Events:

- **Vacation Bible School:** It was discussed at our last voters meeting, the possibility of hosting a one-day Vacation Bible School around Christmas time. The Voters would like the input of the rest of the congregation whether this is something we would like to pursue. If you have thoughts, there will be time at the end of the service to express those thoughts.
- **Pacific Coast Pastoral Conference:** I will be gone September 30<sup>th</sup> through October 3<sup>rd</sup> (Monday through Thursday) for our PC Pastoral Conference in California.

## 'Call News:

- Pastor Zack Sippert of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bowdle, SD and Zion Lutheran of Ipswich, SD ***has received the call*** to Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN.
- Pastor Sam Rodebaugh of Faith Lutheran Church in Manchester, MO ***is considering the call*** to St. John's Lutheran in Okabena, MN following Pastor Albrecht's retirement at the end of the year.

## Fruits of Faith at Ascension:

DATE	NEEDED	RECEIVED
7/28/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ <b>665.00</b>
8/4/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ <b>855.00</b>
8/11/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ <b>850.00</b>
8/18/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ <b>905.00</b>

## **Usher Schedule:**

**Month:**

**Name:**

**September**

**Scott Radcliffe**

**October**

**Jim Hansen**

## **Upcoming Schedule:**

Sunday September 1<sup>st</sup> Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30

Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> Ascension Communion Service at 11:30

Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup> Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30