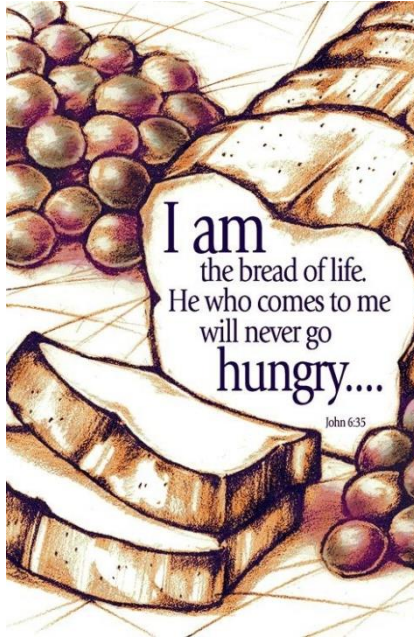


ASCENSION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Second Sunday in Advent



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.



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Pre-Service Meditation:

John 6:35 ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, Through Your grace, You have preserved the life of Your people for all generations. And yet, You do so much more than just preserve our physical lives. You have granted to us the Bread of Life, Your Son Jesus. He has given us the Holy Scriptures, Holy Baptism, and the Holy Supper as the means to continue to feed our faith on this precious, spiritual food. Let us always hunger and thirst for Your righteousness, finding it in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who rules and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. Amen.

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn **TLH 296 Speak O Lord Thy Servant Heareth**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Jesus said, “I am the bread of life.

C Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

P This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

C I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

P If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.

C And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C Almighty God, instead of nourishing our faith through listening to Your Word, we often try to satisfy ourselves with the temptations offered by the world around us. We turn from Your ways to follow our own sinful desires. We try to fill our lives with things that can never truly satisfy us. Have mercy on us and forgive us for Jesus' sake.

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. He is the Bread of life, and in him we have eternal life. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C We live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord!

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:

Deuteronomy 8:1-3

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. ² And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. ³ And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Epistle Lesson:

1 Corinthians 11:23-29; 10:16,17

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. ²⁷ Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 145 [Selected Verses]

- P** I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- C** Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- P** The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

C The Lord is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

P The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.

C You open your hand;
you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

P My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,

C and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Gospel Lesson

John 6:32-40

³²Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

Confession of Faith:

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn: **TLH 27 Oh Bless the Lord, My Soul**

Sermon: **John 6:35**

³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

“The I AM Sayings of the Savior”

I Am the Bread of Life

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 54 Guide Me Oh Thou Great Jehovah**

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Communion Examination

Distribution

Responsive Prayer:

P Jesus, Bread of heaven,

C Nourish us in faith and bring us to eternal life.

P Lord Jesus, you came down from heaven and gave your life for us. Through your body and blood, given and shed for us on the cross, we have forgiveness for our sins. Jesus, Bread of heaven.

C Nourish us in faith and bring us to eternal life.

P Lord Jesus, when we are dissatisfied and tempted by all that the world offers, forgive us and strengthen us in faith. Feed us with your holy Word. Jesus, Bread of heaven,

C Nourish us in faith and bring us to eternal life.

P Lord Jesus, help us to reach out in love and service to those who are hungry and in need. Let us walk in love as you walked, satisfying their earthly needs for food, clothing and shelter, and bringing to them the comfort and hope of your Word. Jesus, Bread of heaven,

C Nourish us in faith and bring us to eternal life.

P: We now join to pray in the name of our Savior, as He taught us:

C: 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

C Amen.

Hymn

TLH 49 Almighty God Thy Word is Cast

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Announcements

Upcoming Events:

- **Advent Midweek:** Our candlelight Advent service will be held on Wednesday night December 11th at 6:30pm.

'Call News:

- Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Lutheran in Spokane, WA is **considering the call** to Faith Lutheran in Manchester, MO

Fruits of Faith at Ascension:

DATE	NEEDED	RECEIVED
11/10/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 670.00
11/17/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 710.00
11/24/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 745.00
11/28 & 12/1	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1360.00

Usher Schedule:

Month:

Name:

December

Scott Radcliffe

January

Jim Hansen

Upcoming Schedule:

Wed. December 11th, Advent Candlelight Service at 6:30

Sunday December 15th Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30

Sunday December 22nd Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30