April 27th, 2025

Vol. 2 Issue 59

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Quasimodo Genizi Sunday



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 20:27 ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."

Prayer: Dear Risen Savior, You came to Thomas and provided Him the means to dispel his doubt by touching Your hands and Your side. By it, You assured Him of Your bodily resurrection that he might be an eye-witness to the world. Though we may not touch Your hands and side, nevertheless, let us through faith have the same confidence to be Your witnesses to the world. Through Your saving name, even as You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever, world without end. Amen.

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn

TLH 202 Welcome Happy Morning

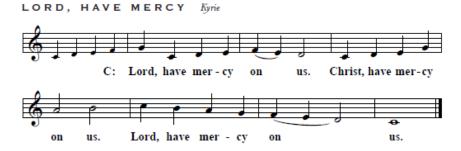
Invocation

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

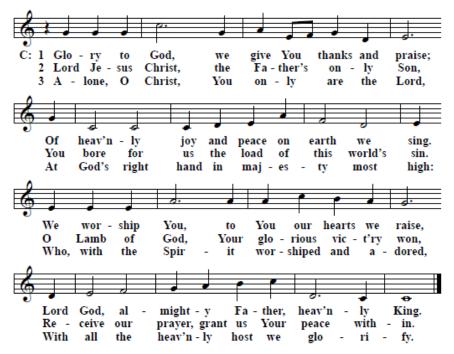
Confession and Absolution

WS pg 12

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.



GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST Cloria in Excelsis



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- 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

Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." ⁴ And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 16 [Selected Verses]

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.

C The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;

■ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

- I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- **C** Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
- For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Epistle Lesson

1 John 5:4-12

⁴They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. ⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

Confession of Faith:

С

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:

TLH 201 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

Sermon

John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but

believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

We Stand on the Evidence Faith Sees

Offertory: WS 732 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Now all the vault of heaven resounds In praise of love that still abounds, "Christ has triumphed, He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear, Repeat their song of glory here, "Christ has triumphed, Christ has triumphed!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Eternal is the gift He brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings, "Christ has triumphed, He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life, And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hymn TLH 206 Jesus Christ My Sure Defense vs 1-5

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Benediction

C: Amen

Hymn WS 726 Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Announcements

Upcoming Events:

- **<u>Voters Meeting:</u>** Our voters meeting will take place shortly after our service this morning.
- Evangelism Seminar: Ascension and Redemption have been offered the opportunity to host an evangelism seminar later in May by Pastor David Ude. It is a free seminar meant for the members. If you want more information, please let me know.

Call News:

- Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Spokane Valley, WA *is considering the call* to Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, WI
- Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church of Loganville, GA is considering the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Mountain View, CA

Fruits of Faith at Ascension:

DATE	NEEDED		RECEIVED	
3/27&30/2025	\$	1,200.00	\$	895.00
4/3&6/2025	\$	1,200.00	\$	1405.00
4/10&13/2025	\$	1,200.00	\$	1260.00
4/17&20/2025	\$	1,200.00	\$	1665.00

Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, May 4th Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30 Sunday, May 11th Ascension Communion Service at 11:30 Sunday, May 18th Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30