



Complete Worship Folder
April 6, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

The Heart of Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

P: Lord, we have stubbornly followed our own evil hearts; we have rebelled against you, the Lord our God; we have not obeyed your voice.

C: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

P: According to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin!

C: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

P: Your heart is a heart of love and compassion, O God. We wish to be motivated by your heart, O Lord.

C: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

P: You know the secrets of our hearts and all our hidden thoughts. Give us a thirst for your Spirit.

C: We believe in your promise: Out of our hearts shall flow rivers of living water.

Hymn: "The Heart Of Worship" (CCLI 2296522)

When the music fades all is stripped away
And I simply come
Longing just to bring something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart

Chorus I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You all about You Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You all about You Jesus

King of endless worth no one could express
How much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours
Ev'ry single breath *Chorus*

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray, loving God,

C: Enfold us with your loving heart. Move us to love each other with Spirit-given love, knowing that we love because you first loved us. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 3:12-18

¹²Go, and proclaim these words toward the north, and say: Return, faithless Israel, says the LORD. I will not look on you in anger, for I am merciful, says the LORD; I will not be angry forever. ¹³Only acknowledge your guilt, that you have rebelled against the LORD your God, and scattered your favors among strangers under

every green tree, and have not obeyed my voice, says the LORD. ¹⁴Return, O faithless children, says the LORD, for I am your master; I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. ¹⁵I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding. ¹⁶And when you have multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, says the LORD, they shall no longer say, "The ark of the covenant of the LORD." It shall not come to mind, or be remembered, or missed; nor shall another one be made. ¹⁷At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they shall no longer stubbornly follow their own evil will. ¹⁸In those days the house of Judah shall join the house of Israel, and together they shall come from the land of the north to the land that I gave your ancestors for a heritage.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

From Psalm 51 (read responsively)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgression.

**Lord, look with mercy on my heart;
There let your will be seen.**

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

**Lord, let me ne'er from you depart
But be restored, made clean.**

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

**Lord, look with mercy on my heart;
There let your will be seen.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

**Lord, let me ne'er from you depart
But be restored, made clean.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 8:8-12

⁸God finds fault with them when he says: "The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; ⁹not like the covenant that I made with their ancestors, on the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; for they did not continue in my covenant, and so I had no concern for them, says the Lord. ¹⁰This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹¹And they shall not teach one another or say to each other, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. ¹²For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the eleventh chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 11:17-44

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to

her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" (ELW 800)

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
and make me love you as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

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The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Let us pray to the Lord,

Congregation responds... Lord, have mercy.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

P: Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

Thanksgiving

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

C: Amen

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord have mercy and compassion on you. The Lord enfold you in his love and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: "I Received the Living God" (ELW 477)

Refrain I received the living God,
and my heart is full of joy.
I received the living God,
and my heart is full of joy.

Jesus said: I am the bread,
kneaded long to give you life;
you who will partake of me
need not ever fear to die. **Refrain**

Jesus said: I am the way,
and my Father longs for you;
so I come to bring you home
to be one with us anew. **Refrain**

Jesus said: I am the truth;
come and follow close to me.
You will know me in your heart,
and my word shall make you free. **Refrain**

Jesus said: I am the life,
far from whom no thing can grow,
but receive this living bread,
and my Spirit you shall know. **Refrain**

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Dismissal

P: As an open and progressive congregation,

C: we boldly make Christ's vision known.

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: Thanks be to God.