



Complete Worship Folder
March 15, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

Relationship and Reciprocity: Making Room at the Table

Welcome and Announcements

Dialogue (*spoken*)

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time;

C: now is the day of salvation.

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

C: that the light of your face may shine on us.

P: May your justice shine like the sun;

C: and may the poor be lifted up.

Hymn of Light (*spoken*)

P: Joyous light of glory:

C: of the immortal Father;

heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.

We have come to the setting of the sun,

and we look to the evening light.

We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.

O Son of God, O giver of life:

The universe proclaims your glory.

Thanksgiving for Light (*spoken*)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you called light into being,

and you set light in the sky

to govern night and day.

In a pillar of cloud by day

and a pillar of fire by night

you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ:

may your Word be a lamp to our feet

and a light to our path;

for you are merciful,

and you love your whole creation,

and with all your creatures we give you glory,

through your Son Jesus Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

now and forever.

C: Amen.

Psalmody

All **Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Group One **O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to you.**

All **Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Group Two **Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.**

Group One **Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.**

Group Two **But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
in you I take refuge. Strip me not of my life.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.
Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Hymn: "God Welcomes All" (ACS 978) (*video*)

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

First Reading: Proverbs 25:6-7a

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; ⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 14:7-14

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" (ELW 523) (*video*)

Refrain Let us go now to the banquet,
to the feast of the universe.
The table's set and a place is waiting;
come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

I will rise in the early morning;
the community's waiting for me.
With a spring in my step I'm walking
with my friends and my family. **Refrain**

God invites all the poor and hungry
to the banquet of justice and good
where the harvest will not be hoarded
so that no one will lack for food. **Refrain**

May we build such a place among us
where all people are equal in love.
God has called us to work together
and to share ev'rything we have. **Refrain**

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Merciful God,

Congregation responds...receive our prayer.

Offering

Offering Prayer

A: God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

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

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

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.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen

Blessing

P: God, the giver of love, ✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: “All Praise to Thee, May God, This Night” (ELW 565) (*video*)

All praise to thee, my God, this night
for all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,
the ill that I this day have done;
that with the world, myself, and thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread
the grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die, that so I may
rise glorious at the awesome day.

Oh, may my soul in thee repose,
and may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
to serve my God when I awake!

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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Dismissal

A: As an open and progressive congregation,

C: we boldly make Christ's vision known.

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

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