

<u>Complete Worship Folder</u> May 25, 2025 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. May 28, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road Saginaw, MI 48609 (989)781–2170 Email address: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net Julie Bailey, Pastor Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

Sixth Sunday after Easter (Memorial Day)

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of \pm the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: Amen.

Hymn: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" (ELW 834)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Public Domain.

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.

Hymn of Praise: (ELW, Setting 10, page 204)

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray... Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message (10:30 a.m.)

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

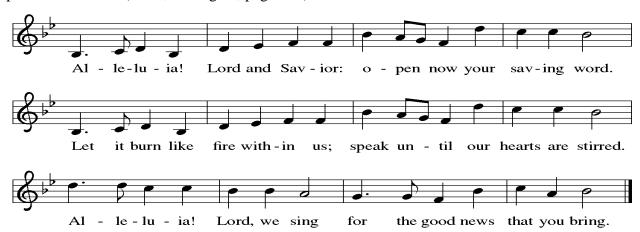
¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. ^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: (ELW, Setting 10, page 205)



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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 5:1-9

¹ After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷ The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Drawn to the Light" (ELW 593)

People who walk in darkness have sought a light in the heart of the darkest night. Just when we thought all would be lost, we were drawn to the light of God.

Refrain Dawn is

Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the light and the morning. Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight to be drawn to the light of God.

How can we tell a heaven from hell if ev'ryone dwells in the dark of night? Morning dispels, gently compels, and we're drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the one who is shining bright, bids us to come! Life has begun when we're drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Hear us, O God,

Congregation responds...Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Song: "Come to the Table" (ELW 481)

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand. Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

A: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

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.

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Communion Songs: "This Little Light of Mine" (ELW 677)

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home" (ELW 628)

Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I come to thee? When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?

O happy harbor of the saints, O sweet and pleasant soil! In thee no sorrow may be found, no grief, no care, no toil.

Thy gardens and thy gallant walks continually are green; there grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs as nowhere else are seen.

There trees forevermore bear fruit and evermore do spring; there evermore the angels sit and evermore do sing.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, God grant that I may see thine endless joy, and of the same partaker ever be!

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: Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen

Blessing

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: "We Are Marching in the Light" (ELW 866)

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,) we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,) we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing, dancing,) we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing, dancing,) we are dancing in the light of God.

We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,) we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,) we are praying in the light of God.

We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing, (singing, we are singing, singing,) we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing, (singing, we are singing, singing,) we are singing in the light of God.

Dismissal

- A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A: We work together to spread Christ's love with our community
- C: Through Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Lives, and an Open Table.
- A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Drawn to the Light, Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Text © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved Come to the Table, Claire Cloninger, Martin J. Nyström CCLI Song #675056 © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Curb Word Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #2006453

This Little Light of Mine, Text: African American spiritual Arrangement Augsburg Fortress P.O. Box 1209 Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209 United States Telephone: 612-330-3530 Email: copyright@augsburgfortress.org Website: http://www.augsburgfortress.org/copyrights/ All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved All rights reserved

Jerusalem, My Happy Home, Text: F.B.P., 16th cent., Arrangement: Augsburg Fortress P.O. Box 1209 Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209 United States Telephone: 612-330-3530 Email: copyright@augsburgfortress.org Website: http://www.augsburgfortress.org/copyrights/ All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved All rights reserved

We Are Marching in the Light , Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp. All rights reserved. Used with permission

under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved
From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright ©2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006501 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.