

<u>Complete Worship Folder</u> February 16, 2025 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. February 19, 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 Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

Celebrate Anniversaries

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,...you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen

Hymn: "We Come to the Hungry Feast" (ELW 479)

We come to the hungry feast hungry for a word of peace. To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is not denied. We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast hungry for a world released from hungry folk of ev'ry kind, the poor in body, poor in mind. We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast hungry that the hunger cease, and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay with us; still we come, we come to the hungry feast.

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... Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message (10:30 a.m.) & Dismiss to Children's Church

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;

it is perverse—

who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

<u>Psalm 1</u> (Read Responsively)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

Gospel Acclamation: "Thy Word" (CCLI 14301 Chorus Only)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets."

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "I Shall Not Be Moved" (CCLI 22692)

Jesus is my Savior I shall not be moved In His love and favor I shall not be moved Just like a tree that's planted by the waters Lord I shall not be moved

Chorus I shall not be I shall not be moved

I shall not be I shall not be moved

Just like a tree that's planted by the waters Lord

I shall not be moved

In my Christ abiding I shall not be moved In His love I'm hiding I shall not be moved Just like a tree that's planted by the waters Lord I shall not be moved *Chorus*

If I trust Him ever I shall not be moved He will fail me never I shall not be moved Just like a tree that's planted by the waters Lord I shall not be moved *Chorus*

On His word I'm feeding I shall not be moved He's the One that's leading I shall not be moved Just like a tree that's planted by the waters Lord I shall not be moved *Chorus*

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...God of grace,

Congregation responds...hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Song: "Arise, Your Light Has Come!" (ELW 314, verses 1,4)

Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Offering Prayer

A: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

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: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Communion Songs: "We Know That Christ is Raised" (ELW 449)

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold, and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah!

We share by water in his saving death. Reborn, we share with him an Easter life, as living members of our Savior Christ. Hallelujah! The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God. Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah!

A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah!

"O Bread of Life from Heaven" (ELW 480)

O bread of life from heaven,
O food to pilgrims given,
O manna from above:
feed with the blessed sweetness
of your divine completeness
the souls that want and need your love.

O fount of grace redeeming, O river ever streaming from Jesus' wounded side: come now, your love bestowing on thirsting souls, and flowing till all are fully satisfied.

We love you, Jesus, tender, in all your hidden splendor within these means of grace. Oh, let the veil be riven, and our clear eye in heaven behold your glory face to face.

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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. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen

Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: "To Be Your Presence" (ELW 546)

To be your presence is our mission here, to show compassion's face and list'ning ear, to be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!

To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold, to be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!

To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all the broken and oppressed, to be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!

We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your people is our call and choice, and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!

Dismissal

A: We work together to spread Christ's love with our community

C: Through an Open Heart, Open Mind, and an Open Table.

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

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