

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 20, 2023
9:15 A.M.



Gathering Hymn.....**In Christ There Is No East or West (650)**
Hymn of the Day.....**Just As I Am, without One Plea (592)**
Communion.....**Build a Longer Table (ACS)**
 Creating God, Your Fingers Trace (684)
Sending Hymn.....**Oh, Praise the Gracious Power, vs 1-4 (651)**

ASCENSIONCOS.ORG

(719) 634-1694

2505 N. Circle Drive 80909

Facebook.com/ascensioncos

Instagram.com/ascensioncos

In God's Grace, Ascension Creates Faithful Community.

Prelude

J. S. Bach , public domain

“Prelude and Fugue in C”

Announcements

+ Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the power at work within us and this world.

Amen.

Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

(Silence for reflection.)

God and Father of all,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

Forgiveness

Gathering Hymn In Christ There Is No East or West (650)

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

Greeting

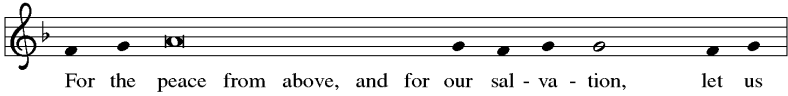
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



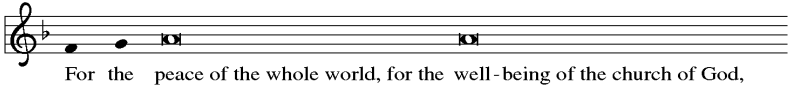
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal-va-tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



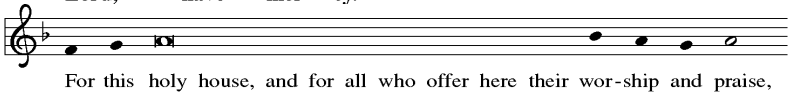
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



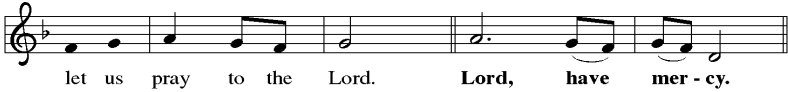
and for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples,

your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Special Music

“Peaceful Meditation”

Paul Fey, used by permission of composer

Reading

Genesis 2:4b-9,15

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 131

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.

O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time on and forevermore.

+ Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:1-5

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Smith

+Hymn of the Day

Just As I Am, without One Plea (592)

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871 Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

0000Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers

Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

(a brief silence)

After each petition:

*Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

Those remembered in prayer this week...

Mary Ann Bond, Allen Brooks, Brad Buhler, Ferne Dillow, Michael Foret, Elaine Glover, Eileen Hedstrom, Stewart Hellem, Eric Howe, Cheri Hughes, Bob Kelly, Don Knight, Pam Landry, Carol Passon, Cerne Rieves, Rick Rogers, Fran Schumacher, Jeff Sebben, Cassie Shaffer, Merrill Sorrenson, Cathy Stanley, Bruce Thompson, Carol Thompson, Bob Vanlandingham, all our men and women serving overseas, especially Anthony Calderon and all others we lift up to you at this time.

God of abundance, we lift these prayers before you trusting in your faithfulness, shown to us in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Francois Couperin, public domain

“The Pipers”

Offering Song



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on this meal of mercy and grace, given to us by Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Preface to the Sanctus

It is indeed right ... and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

We praise you and glorify your holy name.

*You formed the earth from chaos;
 you encircled the globe with air;
 you created fire for warmth and light;
 you nourish the lands with water.*

With mercy higher than the mountains, you blessed and cherished your people Israel.

With grace deeper than the seas, you came among us in Jesus.

With love stronger than stone, you died and rose that we might have life.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

We praise you and glorify your holy name. Amen.

In the night in which he was betrayed ...

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and our pleading, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

For those worshiping in the sanctuary, come forward to the altar to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free bread and white grape juice are available.

God's love and this meal are for all, including children. If your child is not ready to receive, they may receive a simple blessing such as "May the Lord bless you and keep you."

For those worshiping at home, when invited by the pastor we

encourage you to eat and drink trusting that this is God's free gift of grace for you.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

Build a Longer Table (ACS)

1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,
 feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.
 Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace (684)

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934 Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1834; arr. hymnal version Text c 1979 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company Arr. c 2006 Augsburg Fortress

The Communion Blessing

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

O God,

as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn.....Oh, Praise the Gracious Power, vs 1-4 (651)

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945 Music: Carol Doran, b. 1936
text and music c. 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

Benediction

Amen.

Sending

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Psalm 18”

Benedetto Marcello, public domain

Thank you to Ernie and Jeanie Hinck in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary.

THOSE SERVING ASCENSION’S WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers: Craig Kelly, Brad Chewakin,
Cheryl Fritsch, Andy Saunders

Worship Deacon: Ingrid Daniels

Lector: Kirsten Johnson

Cantor: Alice DeLoughry

Communion Assistant: Jackie Gresh

Communion Prep: Cindy Gaona

Communion Clean Up: Judy Leiseth

Communion Bread: Kathy Hayes

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Dan Holt **Pastor Daniel Smith** **Deacon Mary Stoneback**
Office Administrator.....Ruth Albrent-Runnells
Director of Children’s Learning Center.....Teresa Adams

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director of MusicScott Christiansen
Choir Director.....Megan Miller

Calendar: August 20-27

<u>SUNDAY 8/20</u>	9:15 AM	Sanctuary/Online Worship
	10:30 AM	Generation Panel
<u>MONDAY</u>	7:00 PM	Contemplative Prayer
<u>TUESDAY</u>	10:30 AM	Bible Study
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	9:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	9:00 AM	Quilters
<u>THURSDAY</u>	8:00 AM	Men’s Breakfast, Wooglins
<u>FRIDAY</u>		Office Closed-Summer Hours
<u>SUNDAY 8/27</u>	9:15 AM	Sanctuary/Online Worship
	10:30 AM	Community Picnic