



You Are The Body Of Christ

Ascension Lutheran Church

Landover Hills, Md

Phone: 301-577-0500

www.alutheranchurch.com



Third Sunday After The Epiphany

January 22, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

BWV 706

Liebester Jesu, wir sind hier

(Dear Jesus, we are here)

J.S. Bach

(Stand) Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

(Sit/kneel)

P: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I announce the forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(Stand) Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

P: In the beginning was the Word,

C: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: In the Word was life,

C: And the life was the light of all people.

P: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C: And we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

Gathering Hymn

“Come, You Thankful People, Come”

LBW 407

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

1. Come, you thankful people, come;

raise the song of harvest home.

All is safely gathered in

ere the winter storms begin.

God, our maker, does provide

for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God’s own temple, come,

raise the song of harvest home.

2. All the world is God’s own field,

fruit unto his praise to yield.

Wheat and tares together sown,

unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear,

then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we

wholesome grain and pure may be.

3. **For the Lord our God shall come
and shall take his harvest home.
From his field shall in that day
all offenses purge away,
give his angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.**
4. **Even so, Lord, quickly come
to your final harvest home.
Gather all your people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in your garner to abide.
Come, with all your angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home!**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray:

C: **Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever Amen.**

(Sit) The First Lesson

Isaiah 9: 1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ² The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1.10-18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

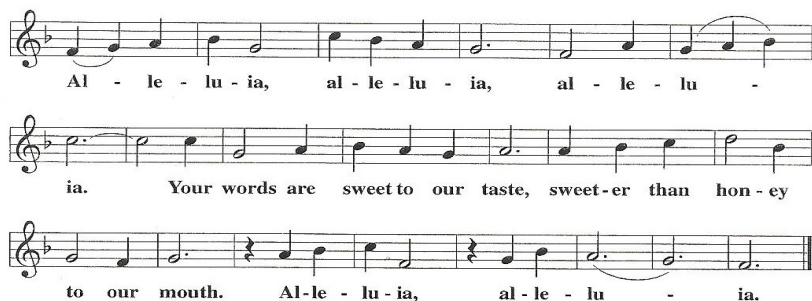
R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand) *Alleluia Verse*

“Alleluia (Your Words Are Sweet)”

Music by Marty Haugen



The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 4:12-25

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and

followed him. ²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Sit) **Sermon**

(Stand) **Hymn**

ELW 798

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.

1. **"Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?**
2. **"Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?**

3. "Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?
4. "Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"
5. Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

The Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from
the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Kneel/Sit) Prayers

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for
all people according to their needs:

(After each portion of the prayers:)

A: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

(The prayers conclude:)

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

C: Amen.

(Stand) Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All may greet one another with a sign of peace.

“Peace be with you”... “God bless you”... “God loves you”

The Gathering of Gifts

Any tithes or offerings may be placed into the offering plate by the entrance to the Sanctuary at the beginning or the end of service. For those who are worshipping with us via live-stream, please consider mailing your offering to the Church office or giving online through our website.

Presenting Our Gifts

“What Have We To Offer”

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1. What have we to offer? What have we to share?

Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.

God will not falter; so let us dare

Lay it at the altar there.

2. What have we to offer? What have we to give?

Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won’t live;

truth that must be spoken; Justice somehow.

Lay it at the altar now.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. God, our Creator,

C: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

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

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of 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, in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine".

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

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The Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in His death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours: Holy One of Israel, Word of God Incarnate, Power of the Most High – one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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

**C: 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.**

(Sit) Communion Distribution

Lutherans believe that in Holy Communion we are offered the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized adults who share this belief with us are welcome to come forward to receive Holy Communion. Children who are members of other congregations who have been baptized and take communion at their church are welcome to commune with us. Others, including children, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Those communing may receive the wafer in their hand and you may receive the wine by individual cup. The ushers will direct you to communion.



Communion Hymns

“Lamb Of God”



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“Change My Heart, O God”

ELW 801

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Text © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

**Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.
You are the potter;
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.**

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”

ELW 814

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Text © 1995 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc

**Take, oh, take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.**

(Stand) Post Communion Blessing

P: May this, the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keeping you steadfast in your faith for life everlasting.

C: Amen.

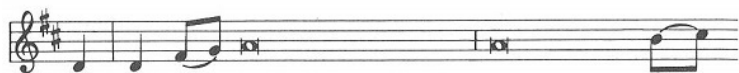


Post Communion Song

Song of Simeon



Lord, now let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing to your



word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-pared



be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the



Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and



ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men

Post Communion Prayer

A: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Lord bless you ...

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 696

“Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult”

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

- 1. Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding,
saying, "Christian, follow me":**
- 2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.**
- 3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."**

**4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**

**5. Jesus calls us! By your mercy,
Savior, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.**

Sending

A: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

**"Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort"
(Keep us, Lord, at your word)**

**BuxWV Anh. 11
Dieterich Buxtehude**

SERVING US IN WORSHIP

Presiding	Joe Schruhl
Musician	Ben Harris
Assistant	Annette Singletary
Acolyte	Kate Kambia
Readers	Dianne Yohe
Altar Guild	Gloria Malachi, Kathy Garrett, Roberta White, Barbara Thom
Ushers	John Corkill, Calvin Lee, Ekanem Ekanem
Counters	

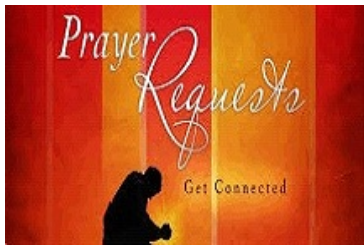
Acknowledgments

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Ascension Lutheran Church Prayer Request

*Please put your prayer requests in the
Prayer Diary at the rear of the Sanctuary so
we can add your need to our prayers.*

Laura Brooks, Prayers for healing.

Darrell & Wendy Dockery and Family upon the recent passing of Wendy's Aunt Betty Harmon.

Pastor Lloyd & Paulette Gaines and Family upon the recent passing of their son ***Lloyd, Jr. (Dougie)***

Sister Sally Hiller, prayers for healing

Jenny DeMaio, prayers for healing

Carolyn Plue, prayers for healing

Patricia Fulghum, prayers for healing.

Keith Greer, Prayers for healing

Mary West, Prayers for healing.

Susie Nilsson, prayers for healing

Helen Riley, Prayers for continued healing.

Olivia Powell, Prayers for continued healing.

Dolores Prather, Prayers for healing

Robin Sands, Prayers for healing.

Joyce Bailey, Prayers for continued healing.

Helen Bell, Prayers for healing

Alice Gaither, Prayers for healing.

Kent & Walt Nilsson, Prayers for improved vision.

Ascension Shut-Ins:

*Laura Brooks; John DellaGatta; Lois Flemming;
Samuel Malachi, Olivia Powell;
Arthur & Mildred Smith, Helen Riley.*

Ascension Weekly

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Information & Notices

January 22, 2023

Services

Divine Worship

Sunday at 9:00 am

Holy Communion is
celebrated in most services.

Holy Baptism

Arrangements for Baptism
can be made with the
Church Office.

Weddings

Weddings for active
Ascension members are
arranged with the Church
Office

Please Note

Adult Bible Study: Bible
study meets on Sundays
after worship, at 10:30 am
with Pastor Joe.

Staff:

Joe Schruhl	Vacancy Pastor
Gwen Neal	Office Mgr.
Ben Harris	Parish Musician

Office open Mon-Fri., 8-4:30
Closed Holidays.

Send your **email address**
to the Church Office at
ascenluth@aol.com.

This Week at Ascension

Sunday, January 22 Third Sunday After Epiphany

8:30 am	Choir Warm-Up
9:00 am	Worship
10:30 am	Bible Study
	Choir Rehearsal
6:00 pm	Sunday @ 6

Sunday, January 29 Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

8:30 am	Choir Warm-Up
9:00 am	Worship
10:30 am	Bible Study
6:00 pm	Sunday @ 6

Altar Flowers Are Presented By:

Please Note that flowers will only be provided when they are sponsored by members. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the Church Office Wing.



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers \$50.00

Sanctuary Lights \$ 5.00

Ascension Lutheran Church: Becoming Caring Servants who Extend Life in Christ to Diverse people

Pastoral Call Committee:

Our Pastoral Call Committee is patiently awaiting a reply from the Southeast District, which will offer us their first slate of candidates. When we receive this list we begin a careful procedure to find our next pastor. We are safe in the knowledge that our dear Lord already has a pastor in mind. May His will be done, and He will direct the right pastor to us. We will share news as we have updates.

Prayer List

In order to keep the prayer list current the **Board of Elders** will edit the list once a month. If you have the name of a loved one that you would like to keep on the prayer list permanently, please contact Marj Nilsson.

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week



**Calvin Lee, Aaron Waithe,
Kathy Garrett, Marcus Fulford**



SERVING US IN WORSHIP, Next Sunday, Jan. 29

Pastor	Joe Schruhl
Musician	Ben Harris
Assistant	Adam Kampia
Acolyte	Kevin Pineda
Readers	Annette Singletary
Altar Guild	Pat Broady, Ginny Lee Jannie Goldston, Kathy Walker
Ushers	Harry Sessums, Clay Goldston
Counters	Pat Broady