

# Ascension Lutheran Church

**Second Sunday after Pentecost ..... June 6, 2021**

**Welcome, All, In the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord!**

*A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.*

\*Congregation stands

## **PRELUDE**

(Please stand as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.)

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us**

**by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

Please remain seated.

We are not singing in worship; please take this time to reflect on the music and lyrics.

**HYMN #504 ..... "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 A mighty fortress is our God,<br/>a sword and shield victorious;<br/>he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod<br/>and wins salvation glorious.<br/>The old satanic foe<br/>has sworn to work us woe!<br/>With craft and dreadful might<br/>he arms himself to fight.<br/>On earth he has no equal.</p>             | <p>3 Though hordes of devils fill the land<br/>all threat'ning to devour us,<br/>we tremble not, unmoved we stand;<br/>they cannot overpower us.<br/>Let this world's tyrant rage;<br/>in battle we'll engage!<br/>His might is doomed to fail;<br/>God's judgment must prevail!<br/>One little word subdues him.</p>   |
| <p>2 No strength of ours can match his<br/>might!<br/>We would be lost, rejected.<br/>But now a champion comes to fight,<br/>whom God himself elected.<br/>You ask who this may be?<br/>The Lord of hosts is he!<br/>Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,<br/>God's only Son, adored.<br/>He holds the field victorious.</p> | <p>4 God's Word forever shall abide,<br/>no thanks to foes, who fear it;<br/>for God himself fights by our side<br/>with weapons of the Spirit.<br/>Were they to take our house,<br/>goods, honor, child, or spouse,<br/>though life be wrenched away,<br/>they cannot win the day.<br/>The kingdom's ours forever!</p> |

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Please stand.

**\*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 mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all , let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Please be seated.

**READING: Genesis 3:8-15**

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>8</sup>[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.<sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was

naked; and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.” <sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you among all animals  
and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the reading of the gospel.

**\*GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35**

The holy gospel according to Mark, the third chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus went home;] <sup>20</sup>and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property

without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

<sup>28</sup>“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —<sup>30</sup>for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

<sup>31</sup>Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” <sup>33</sup>And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

**SERMON** .....

**The Rev. Christina Auch**

Please remain seated.

We are not singing in worship; please take this time to reflect on the music and lyrics.

**HYMN #480** .....

**“O Bread of Life from Heaven”**

1 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.

3 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.  
claim us for your kingdom's work!

2 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.

Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862-1946, sts. 1, 3; tr. Philip Schaff, 1819-1893, st. 2

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith...

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

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

Please stand.

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of wholeness, we pray for believers all over the globe. Unify us in service of the gospel, that we may work together as beloved siblings to share your love with all. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, we pray for creation; the gardens, waterways and creatures near to us and diverse forms of life that remain unseen. Teach us to treat the natural world with reverence, seeking restoration when human divisions have caused harm to your beloved creation. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of all people, we pray for harmony among the nations. Cast out from us unclean spirits of greed and fear, that we may work in solidarity with one another for the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of abundance, we pray for those who are oppressed or in any need. Encourage those who have begun to lose heart. Strengthen and renew us with your Spirit. We pray especially for those we name aloud now or silently in our hearts...

**Martha** Beam (Eleanor Hendrick's friend), **Dan** Birch (Carol Berger's brother-in-law), **Adam** Bridges & **Brittany** Smith (Libby Stone's cousin and his fiancé), **Cody** Bryant (Bob Bryant's grandson), **Kathy** Callahan (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Mike** Callahan (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Chris** Carman (Judy Bridges' friend), **Edna** Cooper (Bill Bridges' Aunt), **Phil** Costello (Donna Lilly's friend), **The Davenport Family** (Dave and Priscilla Williams' friends), **Charles and Mary** Degree (Karen Long's friends), **Saher** Degree (Gail Sherman's friend), **Barbara Duval** (Ludy Wilkie's friends), **Tim** Farmer (Pastor Christina and Jamie's friend), **Avan** Fields (Carol Berger's friend), **Ann** Fitzsimmons (Steve and Jenny White's friend), **Carol Ann** Forgas (Bill Bridges' friend), **Mike** Greene (Gail Sherman's friend), **Carl** Greenwald (DeBell's friends), **Richard** Hollifield (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Joe** Hutchinson (William Coyne's friend), **Debbie** Irvin (Bill Bridges' friend), **Patti** Jenkins (Priscilla Williams' friend), **Kay** Johnson (Eleanor Hendrick's cousin), **Steve** Jolly (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Mark** Kailing (Bob and Vickie Jones' nephew), **Mark** Kent (Majorie Olsen's son), **Rachel** Kidwell (Dave William's niece), **Muriel** Lambert (Jennie and Dave Lambert's sister-in-law), **Bryan** Legrand (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Jim** Lilly (Dick and Donna Lilly's son), **Sonya and Gerald** Lovelace (Bill Bridges' friend), **Brenda** Lowery (Gail Sherman's friend), **Pam** Lucas (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Eva** McCombs (Sandra Waldrop's mother), **Janice** McGoven (Eleanor Hendricks' sister), **Sheri Dawn** Mack (Relative of Karen Hubbard), **Maribeth** Norris Mies (Carol Berger's cousin), **Mary Bell** Moore (Lacy's neighbor), **Jane** Morrow (Daryl and Rose Cook's friend), **Pat** Mullen (Johanna Gillespie's friend), **Wanda** Mullinax (Edith Kelly's niece), **Teresa** Olsen (Marjorie Olsen's daughter-in-law), **Bob** Patzer (Carol Berger's brother-in-law), **Linda** Patzer (Carol Berger's sister), **Lynn** Perry (Jenny and Steve White's friend) **Gerard** Peruzzi (Carol Berger's brother), **Margaret** Peruzzi (Carol Berger's mother), **Liz and Ron** Dal Poggetto (Judy Bridges' friends), **John** Reid (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Beth** Rhyne (Ladley and Jane Burn's friend), **Shannon** Sellers (Libby

Stone's cousin), **Jean and Jim** Tesseneer (Bill Bridges friend), **Jerry** Tessener (Daryl and Rose Cook's friend), **Georgeanne** Thomas (Judy Bridges friend), **David** Waldrop (Sandra Waldrop's husband), **Edith** Walker (Allen and Lisa Philbeck's friend's mother), **Molly and Darryl** Waterstraat (Karen Hubbard's friends), **Alfie** Welch (Renee Buchanan's brother), **Christopher** Willever (David Williams' grandson), **Mary Ann** Woolley (Sandra Waldrop's aunt)

**Members:** **Dean** Davis, **Lin** Washburn, **Dot** Paul, **Bob** Bryant, **William** Coyne, **Jim** Wilson, **Bobbie** Johnson, **Gerald** Washburn, **Ray** Valentine, **Lucinda** Wallen, **Lisa** Upton, **Sandy** Harman, and **Ann** Sipe.

**In Undergraduate College:** **Emma** Auch, **Brooke** Buchanan, **Samantha** Hoffman, **Jacob** Stone, **Catherine** Lilly

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of righteousness, we pray for this holy house of worship. Set our gaze upon things eternal, that in thanksgiving for your mercy, we may extend grace to more and more people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the ages, in your goodness you have sent us faithful witnesses for every time and place. We give you thanks for those saints who now rest in your eternal mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.  
**Amen.**

Please be seated.

**THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (We are not "passing" the peace in any physical way. Online you are invited to share a greeting of peace in the comments.)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

Make a one time or recurring gift using **the website** or **the GivePlus app** on iPhone or Android. You can give using ACH (bank account), Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

Or **text 844-906-2283** and enter the amount you wish to donate.<sup>2</sup> Click the registration link and enter your payment information.<sup>3</sup> Receive a verification text as well as an email receipt. For future giving, simply send a text to the same number with the amount you wish to give, and your donation will process automatically.

Or **mail your regular tithe or offering** to PO Box 266, Shelby, NC 28151.

Please remain seated.

We are not singing in worship; please take this time to reflect on the music and lyrics.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN #184 ..... “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

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Please stand.

## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life,  
you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.  
Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

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**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come!

Please be seated.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

This is the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you. **Amen.**

Please remain seated.

If you are not communing, please receive this blessing for you:  
"Jesus loves you and keeps you all the days of your life."

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness  
and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.  
Risen to new life with you,  
send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world,  
in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Please remain seated.

We are not singing in worship; please take this time to reflect on the music and lyrics.

**HYMN #668** ..... **“O Zion, Haste”**

1 O Zion, haste, your mission high  
fulfilling,  
to tell to all the world that God is  
light;  
that he who made all nations is not  
willing  
one soul should perish, lost in shades  
of night.

*Refrain*

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,  
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and  
release.

2 Publish to ev'ry people, tongue, and  
nation  
that God, in whom they live and  
move, is love;  
tell how he stooped to save his lost  
creation  
and died on earth that we might live  
above. *Refrain*

3 He comes again! O Zion, ere you  
meet him,  
make known to ev'ry heart his saving  
grace;  
let none whom he has ransomed fail  
to greet him,  
through your neglect, unfit to see his  
face. *Refrain*

!

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Holy Communion** When you are worshiping at home, you are encouraged to set up a temporary altar called a tabernacle at home. Find a small table or bench, place on it a nice plate and a cup or goblet. Find a slice or loaf of bread and use either wine or grape juice in the cup. When the time comes for communion, lift the bread and wine with the pastor, giving thanks to God for the gift of communion that offers us forgiveness, community, and new life in Christ.

**Fellowship Hall Use:** The fellowship hall is available for use. No food or drink is allowed. The kitchen remains closed. Contact Debby in the church office for more information.

**Prayer Concerns:** Please call or email the office or text Pastor Christina at 704-472-7783 to update prayer requests. You may leave a voicemail but please provide the spelling of any names, and your relationship to the person being prayed for.

**Please continue your tithes and offerings.** Make a one time or recurring gift using **the website** or **the GivePlus app** on iPhone or Android. You can give using ACH (bank account), Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

Or **text 844-906-2283** and enter the amount you wish to donate. Then click the registration link and enter your payment information. You will receive a verification text as well as an email receipt.

Or **mail your regular tithe or offering** to PO Box 266, Shelby, NC 28151.

**Guest Preacher – June 13<sup>th</sup>** - Susan Harris, a certified lay preacher in the NC Synod, is leading worship and preaching on Sunday, June 13. We will have communion using the sending of home communion. (with elements blessed the previous week) . Susan, who lives in Lincolnton and Blowing Rock, has also served as president of the NC WELCA, on the synod council, and as a voting member at synod and churchwide assemblies.

## **A LOOK AHEAD**

### **Sunday, June 13 – Third Sunday after Pentecost**

No Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion; Susan Harris leading and preaching

(also on Facebook & Zoom)

### **Sunday, June 20 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Zoom)

10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

(also on Facebook & Zoom)

### **Sunday, June 27 — Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Zoom)

10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

(also on Facebook & Zoom)



# **Ascension Lutheran Church**

PO Box 266 Shelby, NC 28151

Ascensionlutheranshelby.com

Facebook.com/ascensionlutheranshelbync

704-487-5679

**The Rev. Christina Auch, Pastor ..... 704-472-7783**

**Debby Chaffin, Secretary**

**Steve White and Cathy Hubbard, Organists**

**Rose Cook, Financial Secretary**

**Ludy Wilkie, Council President ..... 704-487-4269**