

# Ascension Lutheran Church

**Christ the King ..... November 21, 2021**

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

*Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.*

\*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**

[P] In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**[C] Amen.**

[P] 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.

**[C] Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection*

[P] Gracious God,

**[C] 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.**

[P] 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.

**[C] Amen.**

Please be seated and take this time to reflect on the music and lyrics.

**HYMN #805 ..... "Lead on, O King Eternal!"**

1 Lead on, O King eternal!  
The day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
your tents will be our home.  
Through days of preparation  
your grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.

2 Lead on, O King eternal,  
till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper  
the sweet amen of peace;  
for not with swords loud  
clashing,  
nor roll of stirring drums,  
but deeds of love and mercy  
the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917

Please stand.

**\*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.**

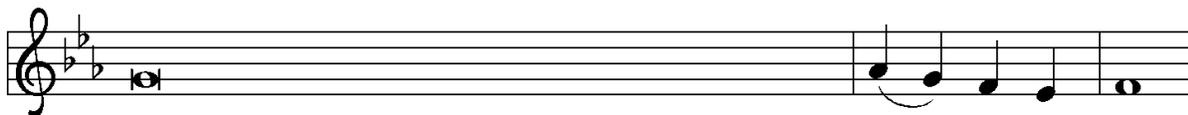
**\*KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



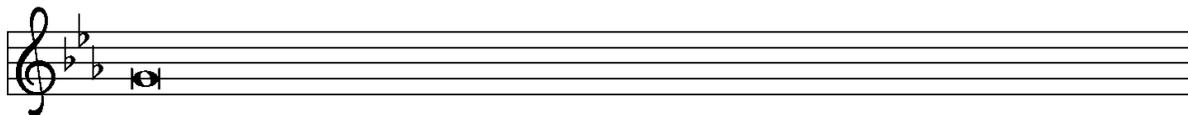
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



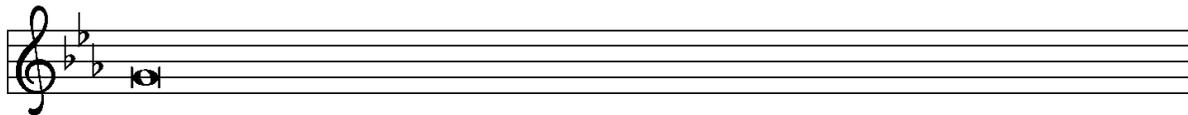
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



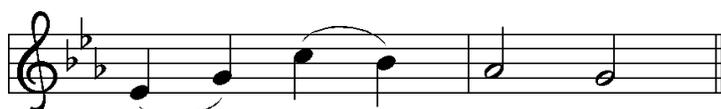
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men, a - men.

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

[P] Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**[C] Amen.**

Please be seated.

### **READING: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14**

[A] A reading from Daniel.

<sup>9</sup>As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne,  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.

<sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment,  
and the books were opened.

<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.

<sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord.

**[C] Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 93** *(Please read the psalm responsively in whole verse.)*

[A] <sup>1</sup>The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The LORD has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

**<sup>2</sup>Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.**

<sup>3</sup>The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

**<sup>4</sup>Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.**

<sup>5</sup>Your testimonies are very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore.

Please stand.

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**\*GOSPEL: John 18:33-37**

[P] The holy gospel according to John, the eighteenth chapter.

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>33</sup>Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

[P] The gospel of the Lord.

[C] **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Christina Auch**

Please remain seated and take this time to reflect on the music and lyrics.

**HYMN #431 .....** **“O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us”**

**1** O Christ, what can it mean for us  
to claim you as our king?  
What royal face have you revealed  
whose praise the church would  
sing?  
Aspiring not to glory's height,  
to power, wealth, and fame,  
you walked a diff'rent, lowly way,  
another's will your aim.

**2** You came, the image of our God,  
to heal and to forgive,  
to shed your blood for sinners' sake  
that we might rise and live.  
To break the law of death you  
came,  
the law of love to bring:  
a diff'rent rule of righteousness,  
a diff'rent kind of king.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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Please stand.

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**[C] 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.**

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

[A] Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

[A] God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy,

**[C] hear our prayer.**

[A] God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy,

**[C] hear our prayer.**

[A] God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy,

**[C] hear our prayer.**

[A] God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering. Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. We pray especially for those we name aloud or silently in our hearts...

**John and Kathy Backof** (Donna Lilly's dear friends), **Martha** Beam (Eleanor Hendrick's friend), **Cody** Bryant (Bob Bryant's grandson), **Kathy** Callahan (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Mike** Callahan (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Chuck** Cook (Fred and Nancy DeBell's cousin), **Edna** Cooper (Bill Bridges' Aunt), **Phil** Costello (Donna Lilly's friend), **Sonya** Cress (Jenny White's friend), **The Davenport Family** (Dave and Priscilla Williams' friends), **Charles and Mary**

Degree (Karen Long's friends), **Saher** Degree (Gail Sherman's friend), **Tim** Farmer (Pastor Christina and Jamie's friend), **Ashton** Fields (Carol Berger'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), **Rev. Carl** Greenawald (DeBell's friends), **Wayne** Hector (Jim Wilson'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** Kent (Marjorie Olsen's son), **Rachel** Kidwell (Dave William's niece), **Bob and Mary** Cook Koontz (Dale Guffey's parents), **Jim** Lilly (Dick and Donna Lilly's son), **Matt** Lilly (Dick and Donna Lilly's son), **Roberto** Lopez (William Coyne's friend), **Sonya and Gerald** Lovelace (Bill Bridges' friend), **Brenda** Lowery (Gail Sherman's friend), **Eva** McCombs (Sandra Waldrop's mother), **Janice** McGoven (Eleanor Hendricks' sister), **Sheri Dawn** Mack (Relative of Karen Hubbard), **Ed** Marler (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Gay** Helms Melton (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **Maribeth** Norris Mies (Carol Berger's cousin), **Mary Bell** Moore (Lacy's neighbor and the Hubbard's and Johnson's granddaughter), **Pat** Mullen (Johanna Gillespie's friend), **Wanda** Mullinax (Edith Kelly's niece), **Teresa** Olsen (Marjorie Olsen's daughter-in-law), **Jeanne** Patterson (Karen Long's cousin), **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), **Sue** Rippy (Donna and Dick Lilly's neighbor), **Fred** Ryan (Fred and Nancy DeBell's cousin in law), **Evan** Sealey (Eleanor Hendrick's friend), **Candace** Siddlow (Courtney Richard's mother), **Floyd** Tate, Jr. (John Lilly's friend), **Jean and Jim** Tesseneer (Bill Bridges friend), **Beth** Thomas (Carol Berger's daughter), **David** Tucker (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **David** Waldrop (Sandra Waldrop's husband), **Edith** Walker (Allen and Lisa Philbeck's friend's mother), **Freda Walker** (Ludy Wilkie's friend), **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, **Ann** Sipe, and **Marjorie** Olsen.

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

God, in your mercy,  
**[C] hear our prayer.**

[A] God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy,  
**[C] hear our prayer.**

[A] God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy,  
**[C] hear our prayer.**

[A] God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**[C] 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.)

[P] The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**[C] 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 stand.

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



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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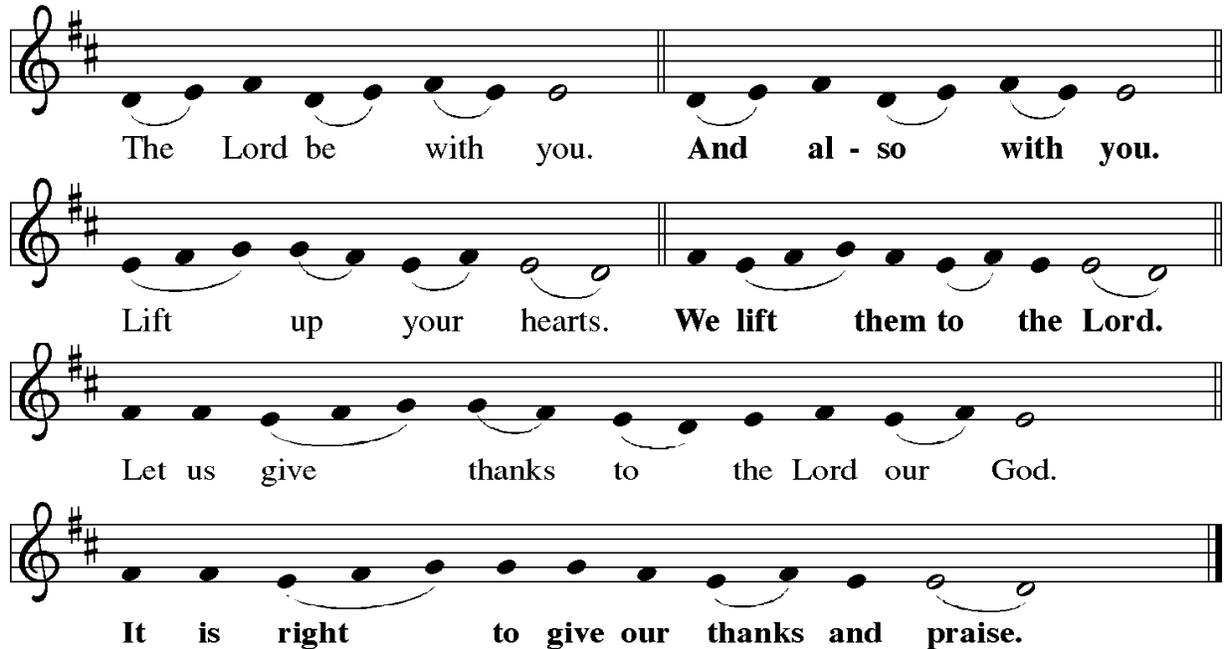
**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

[A] Let us pray.

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 the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

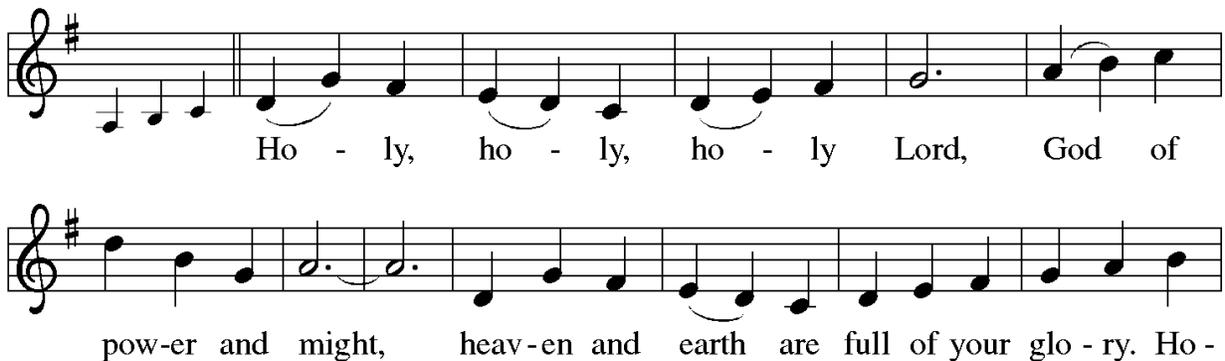
[C] Amen.

## \*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.

[P] 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 hymn:



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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

**[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**

[P] Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated.

**DISTRIBUTION**

[P] This is the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you.

[C] 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.”

**“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, grant us peace.

Please stand.

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

[P] The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

[C] Amen.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

[A] Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,  
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.  
In your name we pray.

**[C] Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

[P] The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**[C] Amen.**

Please remain standing and sing our sending hymn.

**\*HYMN #439 .....** **"Soon and Very Soon!", Verses 1-3**

1 Soon and very soon  
we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon  
we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
We're goin' to see the King!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,  
hallelujah.

2 No more cryin' there,  
we are goin' to see the King,  
no more cryin' there,  
we are goin' to see the King,  
no more cryin' there  
we are goin' to see the King,

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
We're goin' to see the King!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,  
hallelujah.

3 No more dyin' there,  
we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dyin' there,  
we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dyin' there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
We're goin' to see the King!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,  
hallelujah.

Text: Andrae' Crouch, b. 1945

Music: Andrae' Crouch

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Assisting Today**

Organist:	Steve White
Assisting Minister:	Lisa Philbeck
Ushers:	Allen Philbeck and Robert Buchanan

**Assisting November 28, 2021**

Organist:	Steve White
Assisting Minister:	Sandra Waldrop
Ushers:	Max Smolzer and Jake Smolzer

## **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.

**In person Bible study**, led by Pastor Christina, is meeting in the classroom across from the office on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. We are using Augsburg Fortress quarterly materials.

**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 Vanco Mobile 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.

### **Annual Congregation Meeting, Sunday, November 21-1:30 p.m. - On zoom**

All voting members are invited to participate in the annual congregation meeting on Zoom. In addition to approving minutes from the last annual meeting and receiving the Treasurer's report, we have two items to address.

#### **1. Council elections**

Currently we have six congregation council members including Pastor Christina. At this election we have two council members who are not eligible

for re-election because they are completing their second consecutive terms (Daryl Cook and Mike Hubbard). Council approved the nomination of Carol Berger. Floor nominations, with prior agreement from the person being nominated, are accepted.

## **2. 2022 budget**

Following the finance committee's meeting to draft a proposed budget for 2022, the congregation council will receive their recommendation and then make a recommendation to the congregation for your consideration at this meeting.

### **Join the zoom meeting**

Go to zoom.us and clicking "Join Meeting" and then enter the following information

Meeting ID: 824 0239 3871

Passcode: 382181

Or dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

and enter the Meeting ID and passcode above.

**Singing at Brookdale Senior Facility** A small group will be singing at Brookdale Senior Facility at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon, December 1. The program will include familiar Christmas carols and old familiar tunes from the past. *Any Ascension members who enjoy singing are invited* as we are trying to grow our ranks. We will be rehearsing in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m.

## **A LOOK AHEAD**

### **Tuesday, November 23**

7 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Worship  
at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Sumter Street, Shelby  
The Rev. Randy Blanton, Pastor at Aldersgate UMC preaching

### **Wednesday and Thursday, November 24 and 25**

Church Office Closed

### **Thursday, November 25 (Thanksgiving Day)**

*No online prayer*

### **Sunday, November 28 — First Sunday of Advent**

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
(also on Facebook & Zoom)

### **Thursday, December 2**

9:00 p.m. Thursday Night Prayer (Facebook & Zoom)

### **Sunday, December 5 — Second Sunday of Advent**

#### **Hanging of the Greens**

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

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**

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