

Ascension Lutheran Church

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost **October 17, 2021**

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

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service

*Congregation stands

PRELUDE

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

***CONFESSİON 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 #533

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

1 Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers
prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and
grace!

2 Gracious God, I come before
thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore
thee,
there a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter thou,
let it be thy temple now!

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

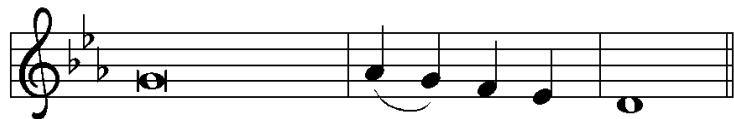
Please stand.

***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.

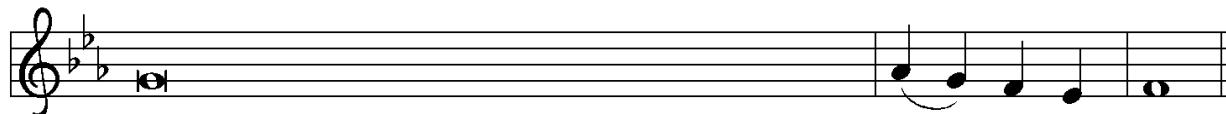
***KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



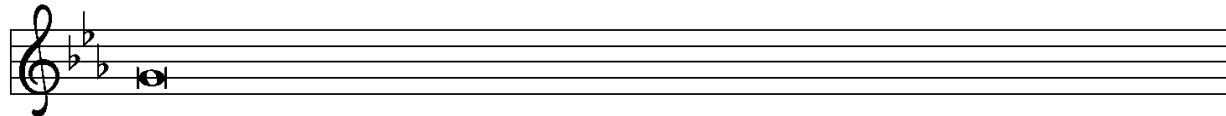
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



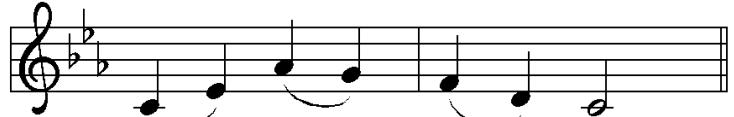
Lord, have mer - cy.



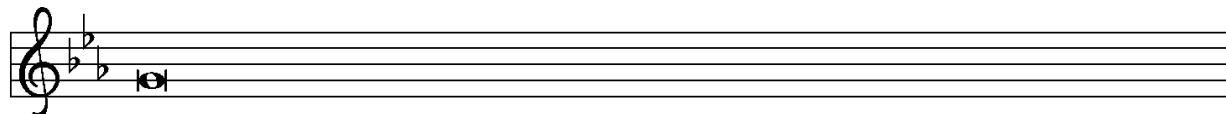
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

[C] Amen.

Please be seated.

READING: Isaiah 53:4-12

[A] A reading from Isaiah.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 91:9-16 (*Please read the psalm responsively in whole verse.*)

[A] ⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High
your habitation,

¹⁰**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

Please stand.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Musical notation for the first part of the Alleluia response. The music is in G major (one sharp) and common time. It consists of two staves of four measures each. The lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia," are repeated twice. The melody features eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical notation for the second part of the Alleluia response. The music continues in G major and common time. It consists of two staves of four measures each. The lyrics "al - le - lu - ia," are repeated twice. The melody is similar to the first part but with some variations in the eighth-note patterns.

Repeat alleluia

Musical notation for the final part of the Alleluia response. The music is in G major and common time. It consists of two staves of four measures each. The lyrics "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life." are sung. The melody concludes with a final note on the word "life."

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL: Mark 10:35-45**

[P] The holy gospel according to Mark, the tenth chapter.

[C] Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

[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.
through all eternity.

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] Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

Silence is kept for reflection.

[A] Holy One, for the gift of the church handed down through the ages and for all who carry on the servant ministry of Jesus, we praise you. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who are discerning calls to ministry in its many forms and equip them with your gifts. Hear us, O God. **[C] Your mercy is great.**

[A] Creating One, for the lush and abundant habitat you provide for all your creatures, we praise you. Provide healing for the earth so that waterfowl, reptiles, wild horses, dolphins, and all living things flourish as you intend. Hear us, O God. **[C] Your mercy is great.**

[A] Suffering One, for all who work toward peace and who lead nations with a servant's heart, we praise you. Bring justice for all who suffer violence, persecution, discrimination, hunger, poverty, and homelessness, and create places of refuge for all people. Hear us, O God. **[C] Your mercy is great.**

[A] Merciful One, for all who do the work of healing in mind, body, and spirit, we praise you. Surround and comfort all who struggle with depression, anxiety, cancer, diabetes, dementia, or any illness, that all may be healed.

We pray especially for those we name aloud or silently in our hearts.....

Martha Beam (Eleanor Hendrick's friend), **Dan** Birch (Carol Berger's brother-in-law), **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), **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), **Don** Galloway (Vicky Galloway's father-in-law), **Mike** Greene (Gail Sherman's friend), **Rev. Carl** Greenawald (DeBell's friends), **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 (Majorie Olsen's son), **Rachel** Kidwell (Dave William's niece), **Jim** Lilly (Dick and Donna Lilly's son), **John** 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), **Marci** Plati (Rev. Bill Battermann's friend), **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), **Candace** Siddlow (Courtney Richard's mother), **Floyd** Tate, Jr. (John Lilly's friend), **Blanche** Teele (Karen Long's aunt), **Jean and Jim** Tesseneer (Bill Bridges friend), **Beth** Thomas (Carol Berger's daughter), **David** Waldrop (Sandra Waldrop's husband), **Edith** Walker (Allen and Lisa Philbeck's friend's mother), **Freida 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, Lucinda Wallen, Lisa Upton, Sandy Harman, Ann Sipe, and Marjorie Olsen.

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

[A] Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

[A] Sustaining One, for all who volunteer for the vitality of this congregation, we praise you. Strengthen and encourage greeters, ushers, office volunteers, bakers, counters, committee and group leaders, teachers, students, evangelists, singers, builders, nurturers, and all who serve with generous hearts. Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

[A] Risen One, we thank you for those who have shaped your church and shared your gospel. Through the witness of your saints (especially Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch), continue to inspire us with hope until we all are gathered at your eternal feast. Hear us, O God. **[C] Your mercy is great.**

[A] Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

[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.2. Click the registration link and enter your payment information.3. 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 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.

[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 praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of

power 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 \ddagger give you peace.

[C] Amen.

Please remain standing and sing our sending hymn.

***HYMN #838**

"Beautiful Savior", Verses 1-3

1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Assisting Today

Organist: Steve White
Assisting Minister: Sandra Waldrop
Ushers: Greg Blalock and Mike Hubbard

Assisting October 24, 2021

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

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.

Jacob Stone and Catherine Lilly will be continuing their educations this fall in cities that can seem very far from home. Jacob is studying in Florence, Italy at the Lorenzo de' Medici Institutue. Catherine is studying in New York City. Their addresses follow: Jacob Stone, Instituto Lorenzo de'Medici, Via Melarancio 6/R, 50123 Firenze, Italia and Catherine Lilly, 11 Waverly Place, Apt. 3E, New York, New York 10003. **Cards and prayers would be very welcomed.**

A LOOK AHEAD

Sunday, Oct. 17 – 6:30 p.m. Lutheran Men in Mission Vespers at Baker's Buffalo Creek Winery, Waco. (Outdoors). *There will be a picnic at 5:00 p.m.*

Thursday, October 21

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

Sunday, Oct. 24 — 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

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

Thursday, October 28

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

Sunday, Oct. 31 — Reformation Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

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

Tuesday, November 2

7:00 p.m. - Congregation Council Meeting (Zoom)

Sunday, Nov. 7 — All Saints Sunday

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