

Ascension Lutheran Church

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost **October 24, 2021**

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

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as “Son of David” he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won’t give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus’ question, “What do you want me to do for you?”

*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 #673 “God, Whose Almighty Word”

1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

2 Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind
let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, 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.

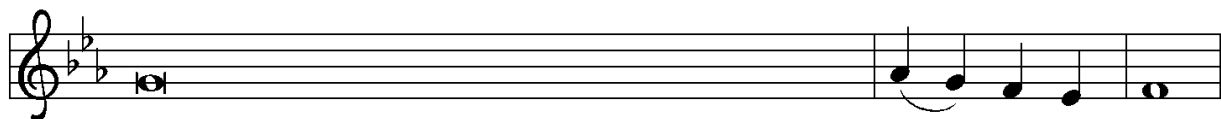
***KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



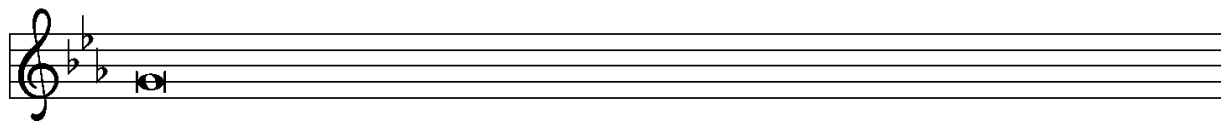
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



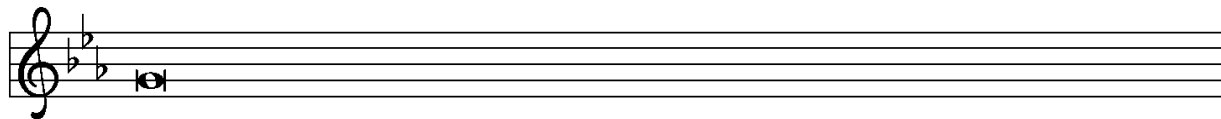
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

[C] Amen.

Please be seated.

READING: Jeremiah 31:7-9

[A] A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The Word of the Lord.
[C] Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126 *(Please read the psalm responsively in whole verse.)*

[A] ¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

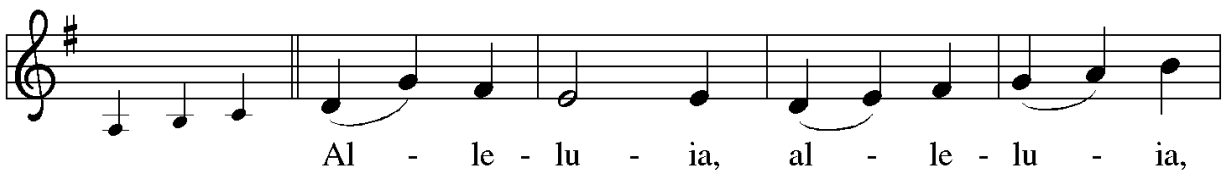
⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

⁵Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

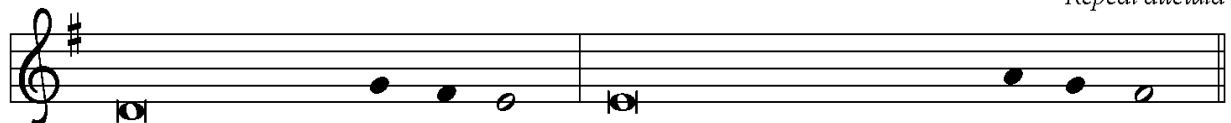
Please stand.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





Repeat alleluia



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

***GOSPEL: Mark 10:46-52**

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

[C] Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁶As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵²Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

[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 #779 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the
sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart
to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

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] Risen One, we give you thanks for congregations and ministries throughout the world that serve as centers of prayer and action. Empower missionaries, teachers, healers, evangelists, and all who are sent to share your song of joy.

Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

[A] Holy One, we give you thanks for generous land that produces abundant harvests. Strengthen and protect all soils, from rooftop gardens to prairie farmlands, to patio planters to fertile valleys, and bless all who lovingly tend them.

Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

[A] Ruling One, we give you thanks for leaders of nations who work to build up the common good. Strengthen efforts of reconciliation among all nations, that peace extends in every direction.

Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

[A] Healing One, we give you thanks for all who labor for the health of others. Comfort and strengthen all who struggle with chronic pain. Send healing and relief to all who are sick.

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), **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), **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** 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, **Lucinda** Wallen, **Lisa** Upton, **Sandy** Harman, **Ann** Sipe, **Marjorie** Olsen, and **Ray** and **Willi** Lacy.

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] Providing One, we give you thanks for all who provide for others. Inspire generosity in your people, so that we carry out the work of making disciples of all nations.

Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

[A] Living One, we give you thanks for the saints who have increased our faith. Give us courage to follow in hope until you gather us all around your table of abundance.

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



bles-sing. 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

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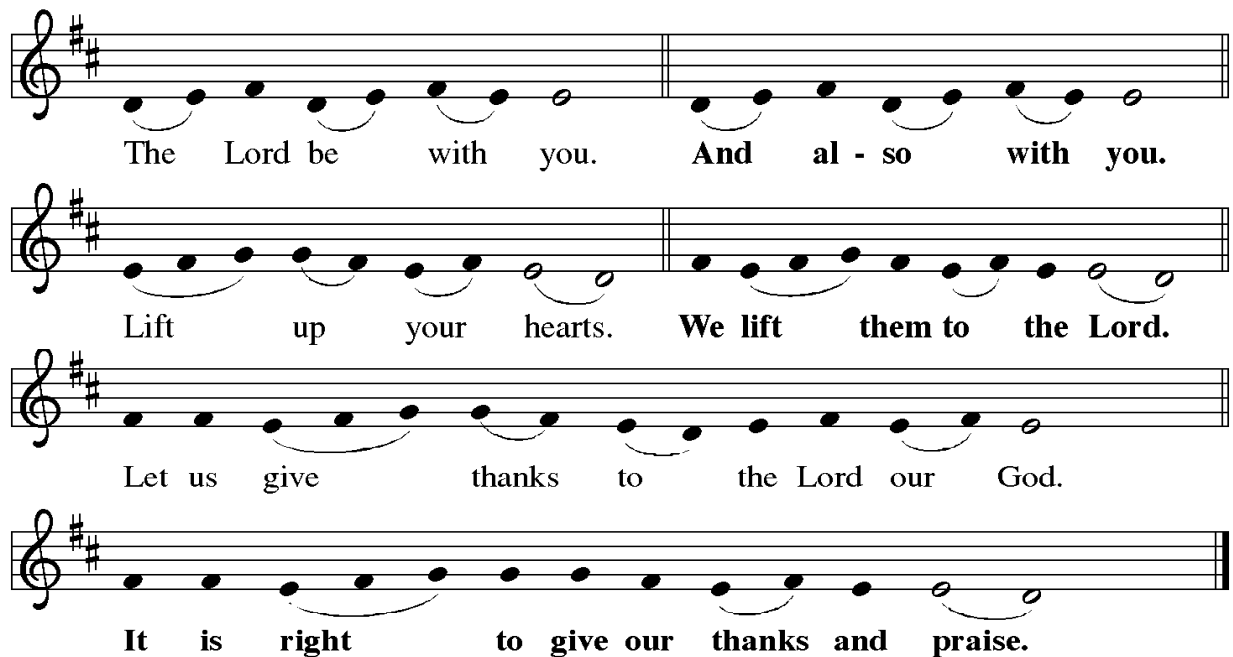
***OFFERING PRAYER**

[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.

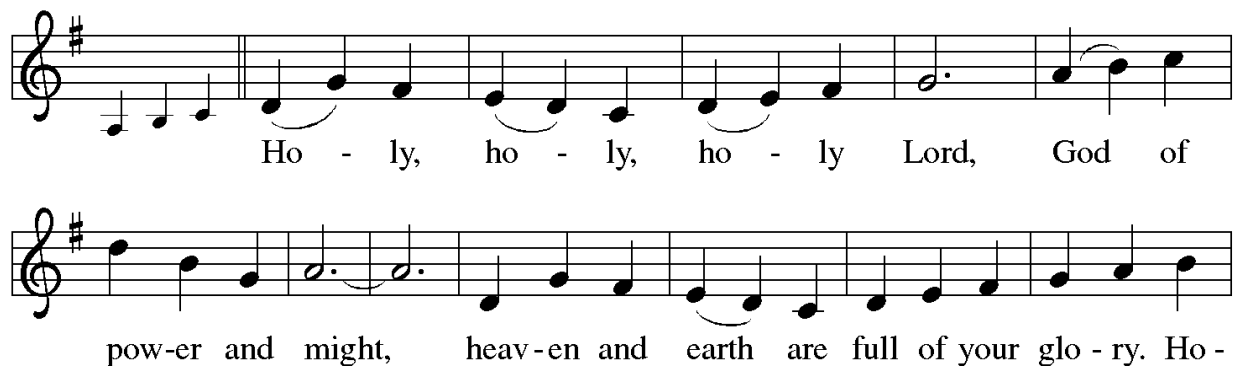
[C] Amen.

*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 praise:



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 #820 “O Savior, Precious Savior”, Verses 1-3**

1 O Savior, precious Savior,
whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor,
all other names above:
we worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our holy Lord and King.

2 O bringer of salvation,
who wondrously hast wrought,
thyself the revelation
of love beyond our thought:
we worship thee; we bless thee;

to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our gracious Lord and King.

3 In thee all fullness dwelleth,
all grace and pow'r divine;
the glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is thine.
We worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our glorious Lord and King.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

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 October 31, 2021

Organist: Steve White
Assisting Minister: Sandra Waldrop
Ushers: Max 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.

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 Institute. Catherine is studying in New York City. Their addresses follow: Jacob Stone, Istituto 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

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)

Thursday, November 4

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

Thursday, November 11

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

Sunday, Nov. 14 — 25th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

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

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Ascension Lutheran Church

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Debby Chaffin, Secretary

Steve White and Cathy Hubbard, Organists

Rose Cook, Financial Secretary

Ludy Wilkie, Council President 704-487-4269