

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 16, 2018 • 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

As We Gather

Imagine if you were the father in today's Gospel. Since childhood, his son has been plagued by an unclean spirit that makes him mute and throws him down, doing bodily harm. The dad brings his son to Jesus' disciples, and they are of no help. The father comes before Jesus and asks Him to help . . . if He can. Jesus responds, "If You can! All things are possible for one who believes." To which the father cries out, "I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:23-24). This father, who is at the end of his rope, cries out with faith mixed with desperation. Thankfully, his worthiness, and our worthiness, does not depend on the greatness or smallness of faith. Instead, it depends on Jesus, the object of our faith. When we face desperate times, we, too, cry out in prayer and faith, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"



✠ WE GATHER IN THE LORD'S NAME ✠

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Sentences

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

C Amen.

P I love the LORD, for He heard my voice;

C He heard my cry for mercy.

P Because He turned His ear to me,

C I will call on Him as long as I live.

P The LORD is gracious and righteous;

C our God is full of compassion.

P The LORD protects the simplehearted;

C when I was in great need, He saved me. (Psalm 116:1-2, 5-6)

- P** Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
C all you who wait for the LORD! (Psalm 31:24)

Opening Hymn

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB #611



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.

Please stand.

Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
A *Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and*

lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Please be seated.

Hymn of Praise

“This Is the Feast”

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Prayer of the Day

P Lord Jesus Christ, at times we fear that You are far away from us. Forgive us for doubting Your presence, and give us confidence that You, our redeemer and vindicator, are always near; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ WE LISTEN TO THE LORD'S WORD ✠

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4-10

The image of the Servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the Servant, whom early Christians rightly associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the Servant does not strike back at His detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given Me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens Me morning by morning, wakens My ear to listen like one being taught. ⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened My ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. ⁶I offered My back to those who beat Me, My cheeks to those who pulled out My beard; I did not hide My face from mocking and spitting. ⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps Me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set My face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against Me? Let us face each other! Who is My accuser? Let him confront Me! ⁹It is the Sovereign LORD who helps Me. Who is he that will condemn Me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up. ¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the word of His servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

R This is the Word of the LORD.

C Thanks be to God!

Epistle Reading

James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it is to reflect our faith.

¹Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ²We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. ³When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. ⁴Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. ⁵Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, ⁸but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. ¹⁰Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. ¹¹Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? ¹²My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Please stand in honor of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia Verse

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

Holy Gospel

Mark 9:14-29

A father's faith had nose-dived because the disciples had been unable to help him. Jesus encourages him and then releases his son from a demon that he might speak again. For this father, Jesus both healed his son and strengthened his faith.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁴When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. ¹⁵As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet Him. ¹⁶“What are you arguing with them about?” He asked. ¹⁷A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked Your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.” ¹⁹“O unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to Me.” ²⁰So they brought him.



When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹Jesus asked the boy's father, “How long has he been like this?” ²²“From childhood,” he answered. “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” ²³“If You can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for him who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” ²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, He rebuked the evil spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” He said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He's dead.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. ²⁸After Jesus had gone indoors, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why couldn't we drive it out?” ²⁹He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

LSB #849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Message

Please stand.

✠ WE RESPOND TO THE LORD'S GRACE ✠

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

A *I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

Prayer of the Church

P Father in heaven, as we hear of the suffering and humiliation described by Isaiah, we remember Jesus' great sacrifice on our behalf. In times of persecution for the sake of bearing Christ's name, remind us that You are with us and Your grace sustains us. Lord God, I pray, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P Father in heaven, James reminds us that the tongue is a powerful part of our body, and our words can do great harm or good. Give us Your Spirit that we would not lie, betray, slander, or hurt with our words, but instead use them to defend our neighbor and praise Your name. Lord God, I pray, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P Father in heaven, Your Son cast out demons and bestowed healing with just His Word. According to Your will, restore and give wholeness to those who are suffering, (*especially . . .*). Lord God, I pray, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P Lord God, I pray, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P (*Other petitions may be offered.*) Father in heaven, we place these prayers and all others in the hands of Your Son, Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit reign forever and ever.

C Amen.

Choir Anthem (10:30)

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
Chancel Choir

Arr. L. Foster

Offering

A SPECIAL NOTE: The mission and ministries of Ascension are supported by the love, generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. If you are a GUEST today, please do not feel obligated to make a contribution, but know that any financial gift which you make will be used to help share Christ’s love and salvation. Our offerings are an important part of our worship. Also, take a moment to fill out a Friendship Card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Offertory

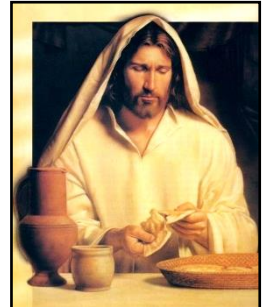
Please stand.

✠ WE FEAST AT THE LORD’S TABLE ✠

Preparation for Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated at Ascension in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who are baptized and who trust His words, repent of all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes again. The following questions are helpful for those preparing to receive the Lord’s Supper:

- Do I believe that I am sinful and without hope of eternal life without God’s mercy in Christ Jesus?
- Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God’s Son and my personal Savior?
- Do I believe that He is personally and truly present in this meal with His body and blood?
- Do I intend by the power of the Holy Spirit to live a godly life?



Preface

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P = Pastor **C** = Congregation **A** = All **R** = Reader \triangle = Please rise to sing

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

P = Pastor **C** = Congregation **A** = All **R** = Reader \triangle = Please rise to sing

A *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.*

Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My \dagger body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \dagger blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Agnus Dei

C 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.

Please be seated.

Distribution Hymns

LSB #554 “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”

LSB #620 “Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

LSB #783 “Take My Life and Let It Be”

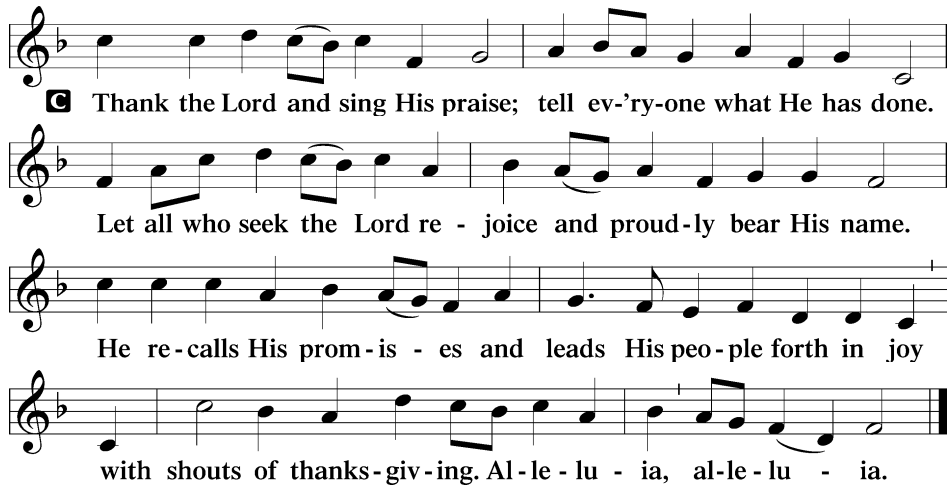
Please stand.

Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.
- C** Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle

“Thank the Lord”



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.
He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

† WE DEPART WITH THE LORD’S BLESSING †

Benediction

- P** I love the LORD, for He heard my voice;
- C** He heard my cry for mercy.
- P** Because He turned His ear to me,
- C** I will call on Him as long as I live. (Psalm 116:1-2)
- P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Parting Hymn

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

LSB #738



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Sending

- P** Go in peace to love the Lord and with compassion serve your neighbor!
- C** Thanks be to God!

Postlude

✠ WE EXIT TO WITNESS ✠

Acknowledgments

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Ascension Reminders

A staffed nursery is available across from the Kitchen during SS and 10:30 service.

Quiet Room available for parents to attend to the needs of their babies and toddlers.

Please remember to put your cell phones on vibrate or silent mode during worship services.

Ascension Lutheran Preschool

We serve children from 2 years old to prekindergarten (age 4/5). If you would like further information, please call Marhel Cueva in the preschool office at 915-833-4849.

News & Notes

► **Flowers in the altar area** are given by the DeMartelaere family in celebration of their grandson Isaiah's 4th birthday!

► **Confirmation continues at 11:30 a.m.** If you have a 7th or 8th grade youth, please call the Church Office at 833-1009 to register for Confirmation for 2018-2019!

► **Thank You:** I want to thank everyone at Ascension for the beautiful bracelet to remember my years of service to our Lord and the congregation—I will remember Ascension every time I wear it! I also want to thank Pastor, Kim, Luz, Ruth Ann, the Elders and the people of Ascension for their support and help over the years!

In Christ, Pam

► **Thank You:** Ron and I want to thank you for the outpouring of love and sympathy following the death of our brother Henry. It certainly helps in the healing of our hearts.
Sincerely, Ron and Barb Spott

► **Audio Visual Volunteers Needed!** Please call the Church Office to sign up for the next training session! Please see John Witty for more information on this meaningful and simple way to serve our Lord!

► **Opportunity Center:** the Board of Christian Service is collecting donations of paper products for the Opportunity Center—paper towels, paper plates, napkins and toilet paper are all helpful to the ministry. Thank you!

► **Refreshments:** sign up today to share refreshments between services! Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall!

► **Flower Chart:** several dates are open on the flower chart in Fellowship Hall. This is a lovely way to remember birthdays, anniversaries, and loved ones! Sign up today!

Adult Bible Class

9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Pastor Bestian will continue the study on the Book of Acts during Family Bible Hour @ 9:15 a.m. All members & friends of Ascension are encouraged to attend.

Sunday School

Lesson Summary

Today in Sunday School, the children will learn how “Joseph Feeds Egypt” during a great famine. *Ask your children, “How do our sins cause suffering for both ourselves and others?”* God sent His Son, Jesus, to save all humanity from sin, death, and the devil. Discuss the reality that in spite of how awful life seems, Jesus is with us through His Word and Sacraments, caring for us always.



Sunday School Head Coordinator: Mrs. Wanda Melendez

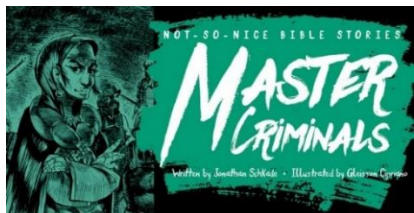
Preschool/PreK/Kindergarten: Dava Tilley, Carolyn Carnahan, Jan Schlak

Grades 1-3: Linda Canada

Grades 4-6: Kirsten Moravec

Children’s Sunday School meets in the Children’s Christian Education Wing of the building.

Youth Bible Study



Today, we investigate David and Bathsheba vs. God, from “Master Criminals of the Bible.” Join us as we dig deeper in Scripture in search of evidence, motives, and suspects regarding some of the Bible’s historical criminals. **Meet in the church office at 9:15 a.m. for more information on the scoundrels!**

Woman-To-Woman Bible Study

P = Pastor **C** = Congregation **A** = All **R** = Reader **△** = Please rise to sing

- 15 -

Women of all ages are invited to join the Woman-To-Woman Bible Study on Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. We will be using the book *Family Trees & Olive Branches—Creating a Culture of Grace in Your Family*, by Christina Hergenrader, published by Concordia Publishing House. There is no cost to you. Children and babies are also welcome. Bibles provided and refreshments served. Contact Kim Bestian for more information. See you there!

New Member Class Now Online!

Those interested in membership at Ascension are now able to go through the New Member Class online at our website: www.ALConnect.faith. Click on the New Member Instruction link and follow the prompts.



GodConnects is a video-based adult confirmation course developed by Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM). It has been doctrinally reviewed by the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (LCMS) and covers Christian doctrine in 12 topics. Each topic begins with a short video and is supported with a downloadable discussion guide and PowerPoint presentation.

When you have completed all 12 lessons, please notify the **Church Office** at (915) 833-1009. A New Member **Orientation meeting** will be held to complete the process of your membership. During this orientation session, you will be given the opportunity to ask any questions or to seek further clarification on the GodConnects course. We will also give you a quick overview of our congregation's history and our mission, vision and goals. **For those without internet, we have the DVD and discussion book for your use.**

Prayer Ministry

Philippians 4:6-7

If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please call Olga Sullivan, Prayer Chain Coordinator, at 581-1450 or e-mail Jan Schlak at oveja6925@aol.com.

☛ Please call the church office @ 833-1009 to include a prayer request for the bulletin. ☛

- † **Grieving:** We pray for the families of Pam Shubert, Alicia Rich (Marhel Cueva's grandmother) and Bob Jordan (John Witty's grandfather), as they mourn their deaths.
- † **Missions:** Apple of His Eye Ministry & Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute. **Pray for all missionaries around the world.**
- † **Immediate Concerns:** **Tony Evans** (ALS diagnosis), **Richard Cummings** (relief of pain), **Dick DeJabet** (Dawn Yturralde's father - cancer), **Erin Naylor Leach** (friend of Hite family – swelling of

brain), **Judy Stone** (eye surgery), **Christopher Holguin** (health & job concerns), **Herb Harper** (effective treatment), **Bob Gallagher**, **Sasha Kecman** (hospitalized, multiple surgeries), **Paula Gonzales** (recovery from surgery), **Susan Hjalmsquist** (recovery from surgery), **Dean Thanepohn** (heart issues), **Angela Chacon** (stomach issues), **Lorie Nadelborg** (inoperable brain tumor), **Jerad Knight** (correct diagnosis), **Debi Maki** (cancer diagnosis), **Lloyd Krumrey** (Stage 4 pancreatic cancer), **Jim Lange** (correct diagnosis)

† **Ongoing Prayers:** Todd Maki, Jerry Aguilera, Helen Allen, Sue Anderson, Arelis Baez, Rick Barber, Dave Bardouche, Eric Bell, Lourdes Carabotta, **Juan Chacon**, Peter Chisholm, Harry Clark, Ron Cleavenger, Micah Cohen, Josephine DeMartelaere, Jessica Deo, Julie DeRusha, Travis Dickson, Humberto Garcia, Angelika Grossnick, Tina Guerrero, Karla Herbert, John Hunter, Wayne Kendrick, Taylor Martinez, **Kay McLeod**, Ingrid Meraz, Rich Overton, Marilyn Patten, William Peevey, Lenae Rasmussen, Cheryl Rasette, Eloisa Regalado, **Gideon Rhodes**, Alicia Rich, Paul Robinson, Julio Rodriguez, Gabriella Rubio, Jim Schwab, **Garry Simmons**, Ron Spott, Bill Strickland, Louise Strickland, Anthony Sullivan, Tony Sullivan, Fred Svarney, Jim Swegarden, **Phil Taylor**, Bud Thanepohn, Doug Thanepohn, **Jim VanEtten**, Greg Vaughan, Jenny Vicencio, Carol Watson, Joan Watson, Grace Wells, Jim Werner, **Marge Jordan**

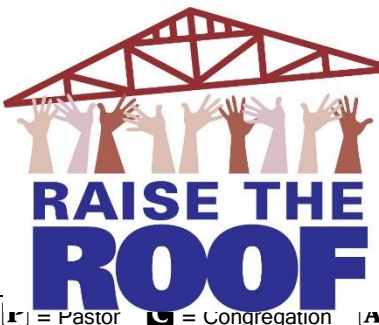
† **Please pray for safety for all whose lives and property are at risk from Hurricane Florence**

† **Home Bound:** Sandra Eckland, Ralph Matarrazo

† **Our Deployed Troops:** **Drew Rossow**. Please pray for all deployed troops and their families as they serve our country around the world.

Raise the Roof!

Join the Ascension Capital Campaign!



As of September 9, we have raised \$108,002! We thank you for helping us provide a safe sanctuary, gathering area, and school to establish and grow in our faith walk. Roof repairs and installation of the air conditioners are complete. Stucco and paint the outside of the church are planned for September-November.

We praise God for the gifts we have received and for the blessings we will receive.

Donation Envelopes are available at the Welcome Center or in the pew racks!

packet of DETERRA which will deactivate the drugs. The directions are simple to follow and you simply throw the packet into your trash. Consider obtaining some FREE PACKETS and help take care of our environment.

Friendship Sunday—September 30!

Friendship Sunday is September 30! Think about friends, neighbors and any others you would like to invite to church and share God's love! Pray about those in your life with whom you could extend a warm invitation to join us here at Ascension. We will have a post-church reception with refreshments to welcome all of our guests that day.

Sunday School Teachers/Bible Study Leaders

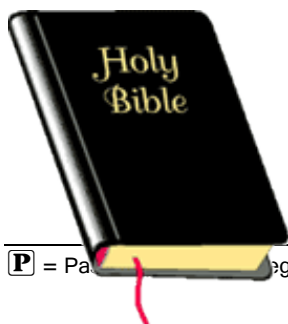
At Ascension, there are several opportunities to grow deeper in God's Word! We thank those teachers and substitute teachers who give of their time to teach, lead, and facilitate the study of Scripture!

Sunday School Head Coordinator	Wanda Melendez
Cradle Roll Coordinator	Keri Howell

We are blessed with this year's Sunday School teachers: Caroline Carnahan, Cheryl Canada, Linda Canada, Jean DeWitt, Kirsten Moravec, Jan Schlak, and Dava Tilley! If you are so moved by the Holy Spirit to join the teaching team or substitute teach, please talk with Wanda Melendez our Sunday School Head Coordinator. May God richly bless these willing souls who put much, prayer and preparation into the lessons as they partner with parents!

Junior/Senior Youth Bible Study	Luz Soto
Adult Bible Class	Pastor Brian Bestian

Weekday Bible Study Leaders



Tuesday Women's Bible Study	Anita Werner
Tuesday Men's Bible Study	Ryden Richardson Leo Melendez
Woman To Woman	Kim Bestian

Thursday Women's Bible Study

Gretchen Schmalz

Saturday Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

John Witty

Sermon Notes