

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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August 7, 2022

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The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Pentecost

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El Paso, Texas

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## As We Gather

We are introduced, once again, in the Old Testament Lesson, to the founding father of our Creator's Mission in history, Abraham. Then suddenly, we are transported in the Holy Gospel to a conclusion and continuation of this mission in a quiet, but dramatic confession of faith in the resurrected Jesus by the Apostle Peter. Three times Jesus asks the once cowardly Peter, "Do you love Me?" And 3 times Peter offers a somewhat compromising, but wonderfully human response ... Peter's "love" has great room for growth. In today's worship Jesus asks you, "Do you love Me?" Honest discipleship always waits on my answer.

✝ WE GATHER IN THE LORD'S NAME ✝

## Prelude

## Welcome and Introduction to Worship

## A Gathering Praise | "I Love You Lord" 3X

I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You,  
O my soul rejoice.

Take joy my Lord in what You hear,  
Make me a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

## An Ascension Prayer for Mission

**A** *Almighty God, Heavenly Father Your mercies are new to us each morning and Your faithfulness reaches to eternity. Today You again invite us to celebrate Your gift of life in Christ and to pray for Your Church and world. We offer You new this day our lives, our thanks, and also the heartaches and hopes of the world; we bring before You the names and needs of our families and friends, our neighborhoods and our nation, our city and our world. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church and upon this congregation that we boldly live the joy and healing power of Your Son's resurrection. In the precious Name of Jesus. Amen.*

(Please stand)

## Processional Hymn | "The God of Abraham Praise | LSB 798 vs. 1-3



1 The God of A-br'ham praise, Who reigns en-throned a-bove;  
2 The God of A-br'ham praise, At whose su-preme com-mand  
3 The God of A-br'ham praise, Whose all-suf-fi-cient grace



An-cient of ev-er-last-ing days And God of love.  
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.  
Shall guide me all my pil-grim days In all my ways.



Je-ho-vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con-fessed;  
I all on earth for-sake, Its wis-dom, fame, and pow'r,  
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him-self my God.



I bow and bless the sa-cred name For-ev-er blest.  
And Him my on-ly por-tion make, My shield and tow'r.  
And He shall save me to the end Through Je-sus' blood.

### Invocation and Words of Invitation

**P** As we gather to worship the Holy Trinity this Sabbath Day, we remember and celebrate His Gift of new Life to us in Holy Baptism. I invite you to lift up the sign of the Holy Cross on your head and heart as together we proclaim the Holy Name:

**C** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**P** Faith is the assurance of things hoped for,

**C** **the conviction of things not seen.** (Hebrews 11:1)

**P** Our spirit waits for the LORD;

**C** **He is our help and our shield.**

**P** For our heart is glad in Him,

**C** **as we trust in His Holy Name.**

**P** Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,

**C** **even as we hope in You. (Psalm 33:20-22)**

## Confession and Forgiveness

**P** We confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

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

**P** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**A** *We confess our sinfulness. We have turned away from You and from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have not sought first Your kingdom and have allowed our anxieties to distract us from Your mercy and grace. We do repent and are truly sorry. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sins. Reveal to us Your heart of love that our hearts may be renewed and our feet be set upon the new path of life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

**P** Jesus teaches us, "Seek first the kingdom of God, and all these things will be given to you as well." 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  $\ddagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn of Praise | "The God of Abraham Praise" | LSB 798 vs. 8, 9



8 The God who reigns on high The great arch - an - gels sing,  
△ 9 The whole tri - um - phant host Give thanks to God on high.

And "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!" cry, "Al - might - y King!  
"Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" They ev - er cry.

Who was and is the same And ev - er - more shall be:  
Hail, A-br'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'n - ly lays:

Je - ho - vah, Fa - ther, great I AM! We wor - ship Thee!"  
All might and maj - es - ty are Thine And end - less praise!

## Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Almighty and merciful God, as You cheered Abraham’s heart with the news that You are his Shield and Great Reward, so encourage us with the knowledge that You protect us in our daily lives and lead us by Your Spirit into Your present and eternal purpose and peace; through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## ✠ WE LIFT UP AND CELEBRATE OUR LORD’S WORD ✠

### **Old Testament Reading** | Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God’s promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

<sup>1</sup>After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your Shield, your very great reward.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Sovereign LORD, what can You give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>He took him outside and said, “Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then He said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>6</sup>Abram believed the LORD, and He credited it to him as righteousness.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God!**

### **Epistle Reading** | Hebrews 11:1-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God live out in every age. Their hope and trust in God’s promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. <sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken,

he was commended as one who pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered Him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup>And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. <sup>13</sup>All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. <sup>14</sup>People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

(We stand for the Word of Jesus)

### 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 | John 21:2-18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. <sup>4</sup>Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered Him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. <sup>8</sup>The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. <sup>9</sup>When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after He was raised from the dead. <sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." <sup>16</sup>He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because he said to Him the third time, "Do you love Me?" and he said to Him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. <sup>18</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Sermon Hymn** | "Drawn to the Cross" | LSB 560



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing  
2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -  
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing  
4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my  
bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with  
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it  
sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

**Sermon** | "Do You Love Me?" | John 21:2-17

**Response to the Word** | "I Love You Lord" 3X

I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You,  
O my soul rejoice.

Take joy my Lord in what You hear,  
Make me a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

✠ WE CELEBRATE THE CHURCH'S FAITH ✠

**Nicene Creed** (325 A.D.)

**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.*

## Prayers of the Church

**P** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come before You not in fear and trembling, but in faith. Having been baptized into Christ and cleansed with His blood, we stand before You in honor and praise of all Your wonderful deeds, none the least of which is our salvation. Strengthen our faith so that we like Abraham might believe Your promises even when we don't see the reality of them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord Jesus, help us always to be ready for Your coming or call for us to enter the kingdom prepared for us. Help us to look forward with anticipation to that day when we will join You and all the saints in the glories of our heavenly home. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Holy Spirit, we give You thanks for all the blessings, both material and spiritual, that You have given us. We are especially grateful for . . . Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord God, we also bring before Your throne of grace these special needs of our members, including the sick, the dying, the suffering (especially . . .). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** (Other petitions may be offered.) Into Your hands, merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C** **Amen.**





## Sacrifice of our Gifts to the Holy Trinity

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!

# ✠ WE FEAST AT CHRIST'S TABLE ✠

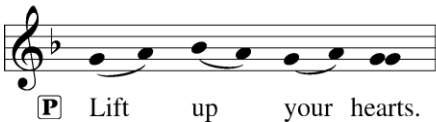
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## Preparation for Holy Communion

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** 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Sanctus ("Holy")

**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:
- 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.*

## Jesus' Words of Invitation and Promise in His Institution of the Sacrament

**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  $\mp$  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 this, all of you; this cup is the new Covenant in My  $\mp$  blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



**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.

### Distribution Hymns

LSB 571 | "God So Loved the World"

LSB 543 | "What Wondrous Love is This?"

LSB 570 | "Just As I Am"

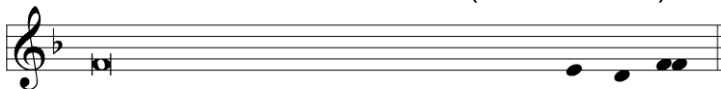
### A Communion Dismissal and Blessing

#### Closing Communion Prayer

**A** *We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this saving gift, and we pray that in Your mercy you would strengthen us through this precious Sacrament in faith in You, in fervent love toward one another and in compassionate*

mission to Your world; through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Old Testament Benediction (Numbers 6:24)



**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.

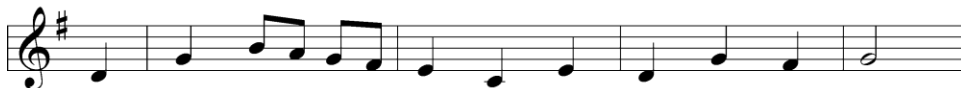


**C** A - men.

## Recessional Hymn | "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" | LSB 643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,



The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.



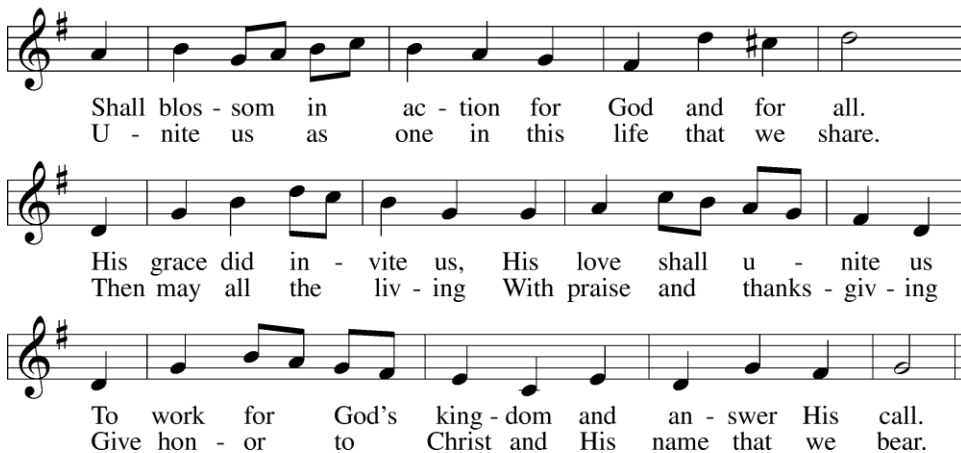
The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed  
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,



The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.  
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing

To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.  
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

## A Sending in Mission

**P** Go in Peace! Serve the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God!

## Postlude

✠ WE EXIT TO WITNESS ✠

### Participants in Worship

Pastor: Rev. Howard Patten  
Organist: Ruth Ann Ostergren  
Elder: Dave DeMartelaere  
Acolyte: Bella Montgomery  
Reader: Marjy Brady

## Flowers

The flowers in the altar area are given to the glory of God by the DeMartelaere family.

*Thank you!*

## PRAYER MINISTRY | Philippians 4:6-7

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

If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at oveja6925@aol.com.



### Grieving:

Family of **Steve Meitler** as they mourn his death.

### Illness and Recovery:

**Pastor Dan Sattelmeier**, (recovery from heart problems), **Wanda Melendez**, (recovery from surgery), **Diana Holguin**, (recovery from surgery), **Jerry Rust**, (recovery from surgery), **Tom Eifert**, (Barb Spott's brother in law; recovery from surgery), **Barbara Naumann**, (wife of Gretchen Schmalz cousin; in hospice), **Laura Spott**, (Barb Spott's sister in law; health problems), **Darlene Kono**, (sister of Phyllis Willadsen, breast cancer), **Don Wiegert**, (Lymphoma), **John Switzer**, (father of Kent Switzer; cancer), **Martha & Richard Neal**, **Steve Prince**, **John Weiske**, **Bob Gallagher**, **Juan Chacon**, **Tony & Olga Sullivan**, **Linda Seiders**.

### Deployed Troops:

Please pray for all deployed troops and their families as they serve our country around the world.

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Dear friends at Ascension Lutheran Church,  
Thank you for all the cards of thanks and blessings. Your generous monetary gifts and gift cards are so appreciated and will help us in our move.

We leave asking for God's peace as we part for just moments until we meet again either here on earth or in our heavenly home. Always remember, "It's all about Jesus!"

In His love and joy,

Pastor Brian and Kim Bestian



## This Week @ Ascension

**Sunday** (August 7)

8:30 AM | Adult Bible Class/Youth Bible Study

9:45 AM | Worship

**Monday** (August 8)

Church Office Closed

**Tuesday** (August 9)

11:00 AM | Steve Meitler's memorial service

6:45 PM | Boy Scouts | Church Basement

**Wednesday** (August 10)

11:00 AM | The Sewing Group | Fellowship Hall



## Youth Bible Study

All Junior High and High School Youth are welcome to the Youth Bible Study which meets in the Library at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. ***Courage that Defies Death*** shows youth that they can be and should be courageous because of Christ's courage on the cross. It follows Biblical figures on their courage journeys and how they found the strength to stand by their faith.

## A new three-month Adult Bible Study series will be initiated beginning September 11.

The Study entitled, "**Old Foundations - New Beginnings**" will be taught by Pastor Patten and will focus on the "3 Books" upon which Lutheran Christianity is founded and from which it grows - **The Holy Scriptures - The Lutheran Hymnal - The Lutheran Confessions**. The series will feature a discussion of the Liturgy through the centuries; the foundation of the Bible in the creation of our worship, how the Liturgy shapes our daily spiritual life and growth. There will be no Sunday am. adult study until the introduction of this new series.

## **For your thoughtful consideration and prayers**

The August Elders meeting agenda included a significant discussion of our Sunday worship, Sunday School and Adult Education times, The following schedule was approved and will be presented to the Ascension Church Council for approval and implementation beginning the first Sunday in September. A 3 month trial period would conclude with a congregation vote to approve or reconsider in a November Voter's meeting. The suggested Sunday schedule is **Sunday School and Adult Bible Study - 9:00 AM - 10:AM; Fellowship, Refreshment, Choir Preparation and Gathering time - 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM; Sunday Worship 10:30 AM** (Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays; Festival Days; Service of Prayer and Mission 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.) This trial schedule would be implemented beginning Sunday September 4.

### **Acknowledgments**

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