

# Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## Jesus Seeks the Lost

Sept. 14, 2025 • Proper 19 C • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

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### As We Gather

A couple of months ago, I couldn't find my phone. It wasn't in any of the usual places and no ring tone sounded when I tried to use a different phone to call my number. I began to think that I had left it at some store or other when I was out running errands. I got a hollow feeling in the pit of my stomach. Losing a phone means also losing your family photos and videos, your messages, your list of contacts. But I didn't give up. I took a moment to pray – and just a bit later found the phone. It was on the kitchen table, hidden under some papers, on silent mode.



The feeling we get when we have lost something – or someone – is a weak version of how God feels about human beings who are far from him. We are all precious to God. He created us and he loves us. And yet so many people have turned their backs on him and live just for themselves – and are in danger of suffering eternal consequences.

The Bible says that God yearns for us to come back to him. Like a woman searching for a lost coin or a shepherd seeking a lost sheep, God reaches out to us (Luke 15:1-10). Jesus came to earth to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:12-17). Heaven rejoices when someone who was "lost" is "found". And if we are among the "found", then God wants us to share his love for the "lost." We are not to be selfish, self-centered sheep, but sheep who help seek those who are far from God (Ezekiel 34:11-24).

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost." (1 Timothy 1:15)

### Prelude

### Words of Welcome

Stand

### Sharing God's Peace with One Another

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "Peace be with you" as a sign of our unity and reconciliation in the Holy Spirit. As we are forgiven by God, so we forgive each other. (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3)

## Hymn: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

Lutheran Service Book 740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the

heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,

Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me

day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

Lutheran Service Book 203

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
(Matthew 28:19)
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **Who made heaven and earth.** (Psalm 124:8)
- P** If you, oh Lord, kept a record of sins, oh Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.**  
(Psalm 130:3-4)

## Prayer of Confession

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us draw near to God now, with a humble heart. Let us leave behind all our excuses and acknowledge before God that we have done wrong; and ask him to forgive us and help us to do better.

*We take a few moments to pray in silence, asking the Lord for forgiveness.*

**P** We pray together:

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

### **Words of Forgiveness**

**P** Jesus Christ, out of his love, died and rose for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. In the Bible, Micah 7:18-19: "Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea." Today I have the privilege to announce to you what God says in his Word: You who believe in Christ are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Service of the Word**

### **Psalms 119:169-176**

**P** Let my cry come before you, oh Lord.

**C** **Give me understanding according to your Word!**

**P** Let my plea come before you.

**C** **Deliver me according to your Word.**

**P** My lips will pour forth praise,

**C** **For you teach me your statutes.**

**P** My tongue will sing of your Word,

**C** **For all your commandments are right.**

**P** Let your hand be ready to help me,

**C** **For I have chosen your precepts.**

**P** I long for your salvation, oh Lord,

**C** **And your law is my delight.**

**P** Let my soul live and praise you,

**C** **And let your just decrees help me.**

**P** I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,

**C** **For I do not forget your commandments.**

**A** **Glory be to the Father and to the ✠ Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Kyrie (sung responsive prayer)

Lutheran Service Book 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis (Song of Praise)

Lutheran Service Book 204



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Prayer for this Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd who has sought us out and saved us. We pray that you would keep us close to you and help us to seek others who also need your love and salvation. In your own name we pray. Amen.

**Old Testament Reading**

Ezekiel 34:11-24

*(God himself will seek us out, shepherd us and save us.)*

<sup>11</sup>“For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

<sup>17</sup>“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. <sup>18</sup>Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? <sup>19</sup>And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

<sup>20</sup>“Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the Lord; I have spoken.”

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Reading**

1 Timothy 1:12-17

*(Paul testifies that Jesus Christ came into the world to seek the lost.)*

<sup>12</sup>I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, <sup>13</sup>though formerly I was a

blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

### Alleluia and Verse

Lutheran Service Book 205



### Reading from the Holy Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

*(Jesus came to seek the lost, and there is joy in heaven whenever a sinner is saved.)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

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

Sit

**Children’s Song:** Amigos de Cristo

(Little Ones Sing Praise # 23)

Amigos de Cristo, we’re friends of the Lord.  
Amigos de Cristo, we’re friends of the Lord.  
For we’ve been forgiven and we’ve been restored.  
Amigos de Cristo, we’re friends of the Lord.

## **Children’s Message**

**Hymn: Once There Were 100** (Faithful Shepherd – Mondragon-Williams/Bringle)

1. Once there were one hundred in the Shepherd’s sheepfold.  
Once a loving Shepherd had a hundred sheep.  
But one fateful evening, when he went to count them,  
One of them was missing, one of them was missing,  
Wandered from her keep.

Refrain: And the ninety-nine, he left in the sheepfold.  
He began to seek her through the bitter cold.  
Then at last he found her, lonely, sad, and weeping.  
To her hurts he tended. In his arms he took her  
Safely to the fold.

2. I was once a lost sheep, wandering far from Jesus,  
Stubborn and unheeding, lonely, sad, and hurt.  
But one day he found me, offered me salvation.  
In his arms he took me, to my hurts he tended,  
Brought me back with love. (Refrain)

## **Sermon: To Save Sinners**

(Based off of the New Testament reading from 1 Timothy 1:12-17)

Stand

## **Apostles' Creed** (Public declaration of our faith)

**A I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the ✠ life everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

## **Offering**

The Bible says, "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income." (1 Corinthians 16:2a, NIV). Our offerings are part of our worship, part of our response to God's love. We give to help share Jesus' love with others.

### **Offering Options**

You can contribute offerings using any of the following methods:

**In-Person donations:** You can place your donation in the offering plate as it is passed during the service.

**On-line Banking donations:** You can utilize the on-line bill pay option at your financial institution to donate to Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912.

**Mail donations:** Mail your check to the church office: Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912. The mail is checked daily.

**Other Electronic donation option:** You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at [www.alconnect.faith](http://www.alconnect.faith) or by scanning the QR code below. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofit organizations. Your



contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

**Donations via an app:** If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Mobile app. You can easily set up an account and donate through the app.

*The ministries of Ascension are supported by the love, generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. As a guest, please do not feel obligated in any way to make a contribution. We believe that any gift to the Lord should be uncoerced and from the heart — as a loving response to God's grace.*



### **Special Choir Music during the Offering: Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling**

1. *Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
Calling for you and for me.  
Patient and loving, he's waiting and watching,  
Watching for you and for me.*

*Refrain: Come home, come home,  
You who are weary, come home!  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
Calling, "Oh sinner, come home!"*

2. *Why should we linger when Jesus is pleading,  
Pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we wait, then, and heed not his mercies,  
Mercies for you and for me? (Refrain)*

3. *Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,  
Promised for you and for me.  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
Pardon for you and for me. (Refrain)*

Stand

## Offering Prayer

- A** Lord Jesus Christ, you have forgiven us and blessed us and you have given us eternal life! Accept these offerings, and use them so that the message of salvation may be proclaimed in every part of the world. In your own name we pray. Amen.

## Offertory (Song of Dedication)

Look Around You

Look around you, people crying,  
There are people dying, and they don't know me.  
Can you feel their pain inside you,  
Love them just as I do, want to set them free?

I will be there right beside you,  
Have my Spirit guide you, give you all you need.  
You just need a heart that's ready,  
And in prayer be steady, follow where I lead.

So, whom shall I send? Oh, whom shall I send?  
From here, who will go for me?  
Will you hear my cry? Oh, raise your heart high,  
And answer: "Send me, send me!"

## Prayer of the Church

- P** Lord God, we praise your name and give you thanks for all things.  
**C** **Above all, thank you for saving us through Jesus.**  
**P** Father, the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few.  
**C** **Raise up faithful pastors, teachers, missionaries, and leaders.**  
**P** Fill us with the Holy Spirit, that we might have a heart for those who are lost.  
**C** **Encourage us and help us to share Jesus' love with others.**  
**P** Remember our nation, Lord. Defend our liberties and give wisdom to our leaders.  
**C** **Protect us from violence, discord, pride, and arrogance.**  
**P** Touch the hearts of people from every nation, especially Israel.  
**C** **Encourage them to turn to Jesus and be saved.**  
**P** Guide the leaders of every land so that there may be peace and justice.

- C Have mercy on our fellow Christians who suffer persecution.**
- P** Heal those who are sick, especially our friends and family who are on our prayer list.
- C Help those who are struggling with trouble at home, at school, at work.**
- P** Comfort those who are grieving, especially those on our prayer list.
- C Grant them peace and the hope of eternal life with you.**
- P** Bless our families and protect our children.
- C Help and strengthen our teachers and all who guide children in your ways.**
- P** Thank you, Lord, for hearing all of our concerns, even those which we have not spoken aloud.
- C Into your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

- 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.**

### Closing Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
- C Holy Spirit, help us to trust in Jesus Christ more and more each day. Increase our love and faith and unity and courage as we serve you together in our church. Encourage us to keep sharing Jesus' love. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

### Benediction

Lutheran Service Book 212

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.** (Psalm 103:1)
- 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.  
(Numbers 6:24-26)
- C Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: Today Your Mercy Calls Us

Lutheran Service Book 915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in  
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;  
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.  
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.  
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,  
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;  
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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## **Worship Leaders**

Pastor:	Richard Schlak
Organist:	Ruth Ann Ostergren
Elder:	Andy Barber
Acolyte:	Aden Morales
Reader:	Barbara Lewis
Ushers:	Team 2
Altar Care:	Mielke
Projectionist:	Jacob Canada
Sound/Camera:	Mike Mielke

## **Prayer Ministry      Philippians 4:6-7**

Please call the church office @ 915-833-1009 to include a prayer request or update for the bulletin. If you have a prayer request or update for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at [oveja6925@aol.com](mailto:oveja6925@aol.com).

### **Grieving the Loss of Loved Ones:**

We pray for peace, comfort, and hope for all those who are grieving from the loss of loved ones, especially these whose loss is most recent:

For the family and girlfriend of **Patrick** (Ron Seiders neighbor), a young wounded veteran who passed because of his service injuries.

For **Reina**, the sister-in-law to **Mamabella** (Maritza Leon, who is Maritza Schlak's mother), passed away (in Venezuela). Please pray for peace and comfort for her family.

Please pray for peace and comfort for **Melanie Gallagher & all of the family** of her brother, **Terry Appleton** & his wife, **Peggy**, who both passed away after a tragic car accident.

For the **Perdue family** as they grieve the loss of **Ann Perdue**, **Bryan Perdue's** wife. Please pray for peace & comfort for Bryan and his whole family.

For the **Meraz family** as they grieve the loss of **Samuel Meraz**, **Jacob Meraz's** father.

For the family & friends of **Richard Neal**, especially his wife **Martha** & son, **Rich**, both suffering from emotional and physical distress. Please pray that God will comfort them during this time of grief, & that they will be strengthened through their faith in Jesus.

### **Illness and Recovery:**

**Leah Short**, Ross Provencio's sister, doctors have been unable to diagnose or treat an unknown illness she has been suffering from sometime (pray for relief from her discomfort & for wisdom for the medical team seeking a diagnosis); **Massie Warsaw**, Marjy Brady's daughter Lauren's friend, suffered serious injury from a tree fall in Dallas (pray for God's healing hand to bring her back home whole, to her husband and 6 month old daughter); **Judith Moreno**, (pray for recovery from a recent surgery); **Bruce Walker, Daren Walker's** father, has Parkinson's disease & is not doing well (please pray for both Bruce & for Daren who has gone to North Dakota to visit his father); **Dorothy Lenz**, recently had an MRI and will receive results in September (pray for a correct diagnosis & effective treatment); **Sandy Spott**, daughter-in-law of **Barb Spott**, her breast cancer has returned after a 20 year remission & she had a successful lumpectomy (please pray for peace and comfort for Sandy, her husband **Tim**, & all of the **Spott family** as they await the pathology report); **Cynthia**, Kristal Wade's sister, has a complicated medical history &

is still awaiting to see a specialist for various health issues causing her to go in & out of the hospital (pray for a correct diagnosis & effective treatment plan); **Becca**, daughter of **Marjy Brady**, had knee surgery, (pray for successful recovery from surgery); **Cindy & Don Ensworth**, friends of former Ascension members **Cathy & Randy Engel**; Cindy has been battling lung cancer for five years, & is close to being called home by God (pray for a peaceful release for Cindy, & for peace and comfort for both Don & the Engel's); **Martha Neal**, at home, continued recovery from surgery on her leg to improve blood circulation, but more surgery will be required before the doctors can begin on the other leg (pray for pain relief & that she will benefit from the surgery to improve her quality of life, healing quickly without complications); **Elizabeth Hinson**, Mary Lou Provencio's daughter, who has made some improvement after being hospitalized because of a seizure, but is still not tolerating the seizure medication that will be a lifelong necessity (thankful for the church's prayers, & asks for continued prayers to improve, & for an appointment with a neurologist); pray for strength for **Rachel**, Elizabeth's daughter, who is struggling with personal challenges in addition to the stress of her mother's health; pray for peace & strength for **Mary Lou Provencio**, understandably upset for both her daughter & granddaughter; **Gilbert Provencio**, Mary Lou's husband, who has not improved since the shunt placement, (pray for the neurologist treating him to be able to increase the cerebrospinal fluid to improve his walking gait & balance); **Mary Iwen Hansen**, former Ascension member, (pray for effective treatment for her heart issues); **Jennifer Solich**, past Ascension administrative assistant, diagnosed with a brain tumor, (please pray for successful treatment & strength to tolerate the medication); **Kirstin Hervin**, daughter of Mike & Christy Mielke, experiencing a recurrence of lupus affecting her kidneys & is receiving injections, (please pray that the treatment is effective with no side effects); **Melissa Reddick**, friend of Barbara Lewis (thanksgiving that brain cancer is gone & continue to pray for complete recovery); **Maritza Leon**, Maritza Schlak's mother (for successful rehabilitation after knee surgery); **Andy Barber** (for pain relief radiating from neck to hands) & for his wife, **Suzette Barber** (pray for her as she copes with OCD & anxiety as a result of her condition); **Gloria Voge** (for successful leg therapy & healing from spine fracture); **Aubrey McDermett**, a 15-year-old with MS, in hospital due to stroke (for healing); **Barb Spott** (for no further medical issues & for relief from vertigo); **Abigail Kailukatis**, friend of Jan Schlak's daughter Elizabeth (for effective treatment); **David Kwiatkowski**, friend of Connie Swinney (for recovery & treatment for brain cancer); **Dick Seiders**, Ron Seiders' father (continued cancer recovery); **Mary Spott**, Barb Spott's niece, Keighley Spott's mother, (heart related issues); **Patty Jones**, Martha Neal's sister (stage 4 breast cancer); **Robert & Karin Gaudet**, (restoring relationships); **Sean Sweeney**, (brain tumor); **Laurie Sterling**, (colon cancer); **Coby Clark and family**, (continued cancer recovery); **Ryan Walker**, (cancer is in remission); **Mariella Kraus**, (cancer); **Bob Gallagher** (had teeth extraction this past week, & has continuing health issues that keep him homebound), **Brian Stickney** (pray for continuing health

issues making him homebound); **Kathy Kiphart, John Weiske, Linda Seiders** (pray for continuing health issues); **Daniel Mendoza** (rapidly losing kidney function); and **Angel Hill** (recently diagnosed with three tumors, one of which is Stage 2).

### **Praise and Thanksgiving:**

**Gretchen Schmalz**, she has completed the last of her injections for the bladder cancer (thankful for everyone's prayers, please pray that her pathology report next month will show the treatment regime worked); **Rose**, Mary Lou Provencio's sister, emergency surgery went miraculously well; **Bryan Perdue**, had outpatient neck surgery (give thanks and praise for successful surgery & pray for healing and recovery with no complications); **Mark Pfeifer**, nephew of Vicki Pfeifer, (thankful for improvement, now breathing on his own & doing better overall); **Sherri Pfeifer Wilson**, niece of Vicki Pfeifer (completed chemotherapy radiation treatment for cancer & is doing well, thanks be to God).



## **Ascension News & Notes**



**18 Sept. — Richard Schlak**

**Attention!! All Ladies of Ascension**

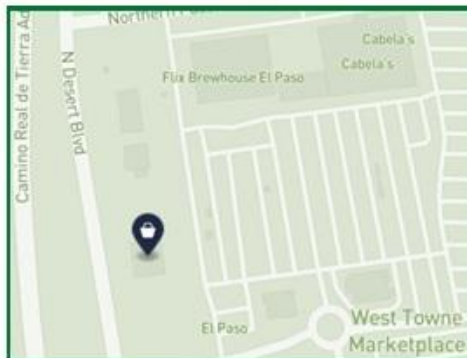
**Ladies Night Out: September 17th, 2025**

All ladies of Ascension are welcome.

Once a month on the 3rd Wednesday @ **6:00 PM** we meet at a restaurant and enjoy food and fellowship.  
(Dutch treat)



**September 17th**  
we will be meeting at:  
**Cheddar's**  
at 6460 N. Desert Blvd.



*Ladies Night Out*

For information call Robin Wiegert at (915) 581-5566  
I hope you can join us.

# charcoaler

DRIVE - IN  
RESTAURANT

## HAPPY BELLIES, HAPPY SCHOOLS

**15%** of your purchase will  
be donated to schools

SCHOOL NAME:

Ascension Lutheran

TIME:

4:00-8:00pm

DATE:

Sept 17, 2025

TOSS RECEIPTS IN OUR DONATION BIN  
TO ENSURE CREDIT FOR YOUR CHARITY.







**Friday, September 26, 2025**

**5:00pm - 7:30pm**

**Photo Booth, Jumping Balloon,  
Games, Food & FUN**

**Outdoor Event**



**CASH ONLY**



**6520 Loma de Cristo  
El Paso, TX 79912**



Sunday School: God calls us to encourage each other in studying His Word and putting it into practice. A great way to do this is to come and join us for Sunday School and Bible Study right before church on Sundays! We meet from 9:00-10:00 am.

**Kids meet in the Preschool Library**

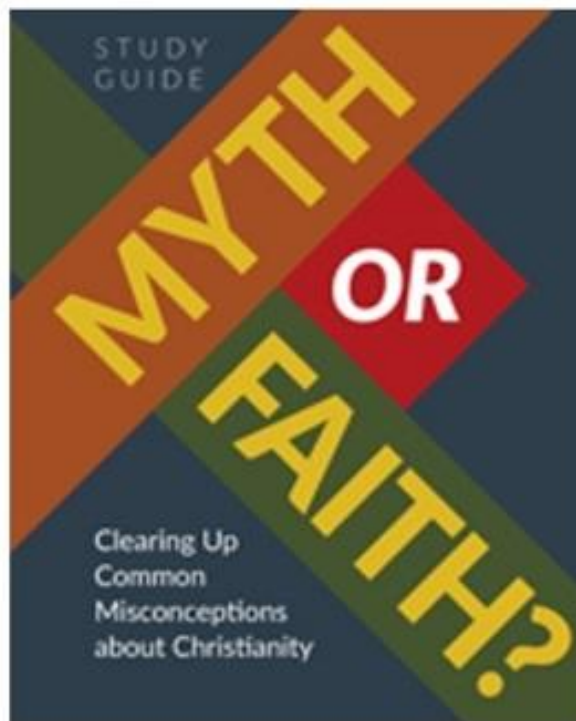
**Youth meet in the Church Library**

**Adults meet in the Fellowship Hall**

## **Adult Bible Study**

**9 to 10 am in the Fellowship Hall**



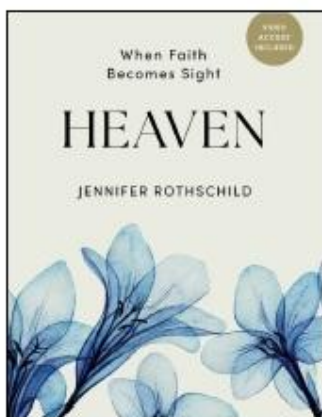


**Myth or Faith?** *There is a limit to God's forgiveness.*

**Myth or Faith?** *If we take Communion too often, it will become less meaningful for us.*

There are plenty of misconceptions about Christianity in today's society. From false rumors to biblical teachings that are heavily distorted from their subject matter, there's no lack of myths to find. Do you know how to respond to them? More importantly, do you know the **truth** backed up by God's Word and teachings?

**Ascension Men's Tuesday Night Bible Study  
7 PM in the Fellowship Hall**



HEAVEN | When Faith Becomes Sight  
By Jennifer Rothschild

## Tuesday Night Ladies Bible Study Fall 2025

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. gather, visit, share prayer requests  
[Video rolls at 7 p.m.]

**Place:** HYBRID! Ascension Church Library OR via Zoom\*

**Date:** First session is Tuesday, September 2, 2025  
(proposed schedule below)

**Cost:** Order *Heaven* (with video access)  
directly from Lifeway.com or Amazon.com

\*Zoom link is the same as always, email Anita (awerner@elp.rr.com) if you need the Zoom link.

Heaven. Who goes there? Where is it? What will we do there? Questions like these arise when we consider an eternal future beyond this physical life. How can we know the truth about what comes next?

In this 7-session video-based study, Jennifer Rothschild explores the subject of Heaven from a biblical perspective. She will separate what's true about Heaven from what's based on legend, media depictions, and hopeful guesses. As you walk through the study, you'll not only gain a deeper understanding of what God has prepared for His children, but also learn how to live with confidence today as you look forward to the glorious unending that awaits. Don't just wonder about Heaven—embrace it with a faith that turns anticipation into excitement and peace.

### Proposed Schedule:

#### Features:

- Biblically-rooted and gospel-centered content
- Interactive teaching videos  
(approximately 25-30 minutes per session)
- 7 group sessions (6 weeks of homework, optional)

#### Benefits:

- Stay connected with your sisters in Christ with weekly fellowship, encouragement and prayer either *in person* at Ascension Lutheran Church Library (6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso) or from the comfort and convenience of your own home (via Zoom).

Date	Lesson #
Sept. 2, 2025	#1
Sept. 9	#2
Sept. 16	Break-Church Council Meeting
Sept. 23	#3
Sept. 30	#4
Oct. 7	#5
Oct. 14	Break-Anita Out of Town
Oct. 21	Break-Church Council Meeting
Oct. 28	#6
Nov. 4	#7 (Final)
Nov. 11	Dinner/Fellowship/Location TBD

**Please RSVP your attendance to Anita Werner by August 31st** (awerner@elp.rr.com)

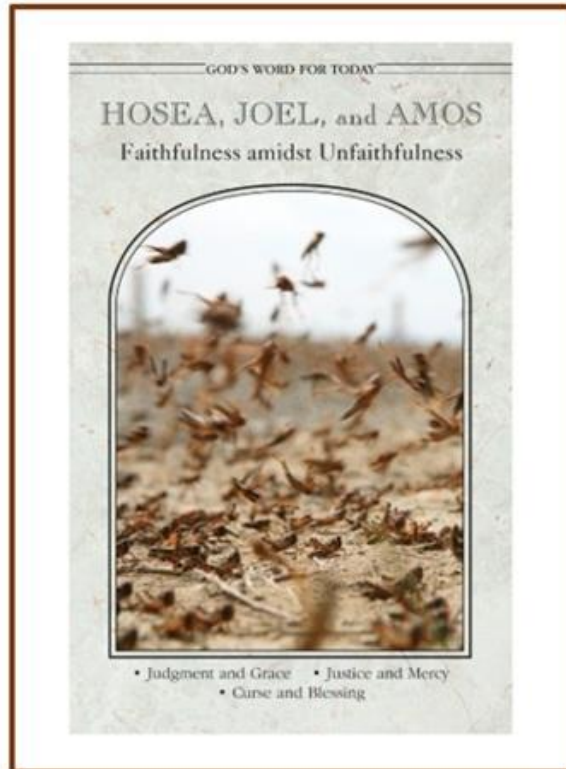
**Please visit Lifeway.com or Amazon.com and  
order Heaven (with video access)  
prior to our first session.**



# Resumed Sept. 11th

**The Thursday morning Women's Bible study  
is studying the 3 books of**

**Hosea, Joel, & Amos:  
"Faithfulness amidst Unfaithfulness"**



**We meet at the church on Thursday mornings.  
We gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 and begin  
the lesson at 10:00 and end at 11:00.**

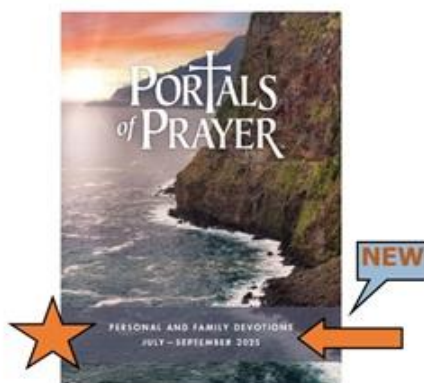
**All women are welcome to join us.  
If you have any questions, contact Gretchen Schmalz  
or Jan Schlak.**



Be sure to pick up your calendar in the narthex.

 <b>September 2025</b> 							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>Aug 31</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Confirmation	<b>1</b> <b>Labor Day</b> Church Office Closed <b>No School</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00 am Pastor's Visitation <b>9:30 am Worship Action</b> <b>Team Meeting (PH)</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study (S & Z) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (PH)	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Preschool Chapel (S) 10:00 am (S) and Sew (PH)	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm Choir (S)	<b>5</b> Preschool Extended Care 12:00-2:30pm (PH)	<b>6</b>	Cheryl Canale-Karl 9/01 Kent Kaner 9/01 Billie Matter 9/01 Celest Balgmann 9/13 Richard Schick 9/18  <i>I praise You because I am weakly and wonderfully made.</i> Psalm 138:1-6
<b>7</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship w/Communion 11:45 am Confirmation	<b>8</b> Church Office Closed	<b>9</b> <b>9:00 am Preschool Board Meeting</b> <b>9:30 am Board of Elders?</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study (S & Z) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (PH)	<b>10</b> 9:00 am Preschool Chapel (S) 10:00 am (S) and Sew (PH)	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Choir (S) 7:45 pm Women's Bible Study (PH)	<b>12</b> Preschool Extended Care 12:00-2:30pm (PH)	<b>13</b>	
<b>14</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Confirmation	<b>15</b> Church Office Closed	<b>16</b> <b>6:30 pm Boy Scouts</b> <b>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting (PH)</b>	<b>17</b> 9:00 am Preschool Chapel (S) 10:00 am (S) and Sew (PH) <b>6:00 pm Ladies' Night Out at Cheddar's (America's Dessert Stand)</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm Choir (S) 7:45 pm Women's Bible Study (PH) <b>3:00 pm - October newsletter due in office.</b>	<b>19</b> Preschool Extended Care 12:00-2:30pm (PH)	<b>20</b> <b>5:00 pm Sunday School Teachers' Meeting (PH)</b>	 Alfonso & Sylvia Diaz 9/4 Mike & Christy Mielke 9/6 Dave & Donna Tuchenkagen 9/8  <i>And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.</i> 1 Corinthians 13:13
<b>21</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship w/Communion 11:45 am Confirmation	<b>22</b> Church Office Closed	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study (S & Z) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (PH)	<b>24</b> 9:00 am (S) and Sew (PH) <b>No School for Ascension Preschool (Professional Development)</b>	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Choir (S) 7:45 pm Women's Bible Study (PH)	<b>26</b> No Preschool Extended Care <b>5:00-7:30 pm Preschool Fall Festival</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>28</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Confirmation	<b>29</b> Church Office Closed	<b>30</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study (S & Z) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (PH)	<b>Oct. 1</b> 9:00 am Preschool Chapel (S) 10:00 am (S) and Sew (PH)	<b>Oct. 2</b> 6:30 pm Choir (S) 7:45 pm Women's Bible Study (PH)	<b>Oct. 3</b> Preschool Extended Care 12:00-2:30pm (PH)	<b>Oct. 4</b>	Lament (PH) - Fellowship Hall (S) - Sanctuary (PC) - Pastor's Office

**NOW AVAILABLE**  
**PICK UP YOUR FREE COPY**  
**TODAY IN THE NARTHEX.**



Be refreshed daily in God's living

## **Altar Flowers**

**If you would like to recognize, remember, or celebrate a person or special occasion, then please consider providing flowers for the altar.**

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board  
in the fellowship hall.**



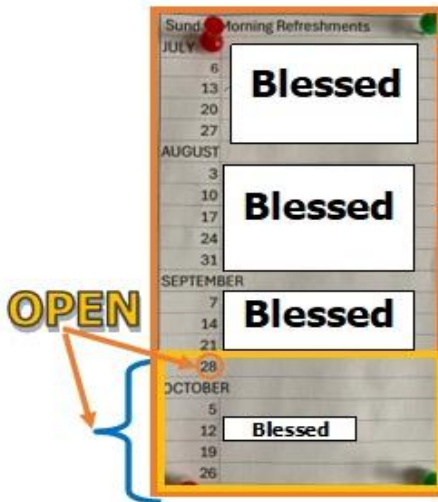
**BOTH SETS OF FLOWERS ARE \$60.00.**

**NOTE: CONSIDER SHARING THE COST WITH  
SOMEONE ELSE. THEN YOU EACH PAY \$30.00**

**PLEASE PLACE YOUR CHECK IN THE OFFERING  
PLATE OR DROP IT OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.**



## Sunday Morning Snacks Sign Up



Sign-up  
sheet on  
the kitchen  
wall next to  
counter



**Monetary  
donations are  
also  
appreciated!**

**For I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink...**

**Matthew 25: 35**

**God's blessings as we serve each other!**

## **This Week @ Ascension**

### **Sunday (September 14)**

9:00 AM Adult Bible Study & Sunday School  
10:00 AM Fellowship  
10:30 AM Worship  
11:45 AM Confirmation Class



**HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

### **Monday (September 15)**

Church Office Closed

### **Tuesday (September 16)**

6:30 PM Boy Scouts  
7:00 PM Church Council Meeting (FH)

### **Wednesday (September 17)**

9:00 AM Preschool Chapel (S)  
11:00 AM Sit and Sew (FH)  
6:00 PM Ladies' Night Out at Cheddar's (6460 N. Desert Blvd.)

### **Thursday (September 18)**

9:45 AM Women's Bible Study (FH)  
6:30 PM Choir Practice (S)

### **Friday (September 19)**

12:00-2:30 PM Preschool Extended Care (FH)

### **Saturday (September 20)**

5:00 PM Sunday School Teachers' Meeting (FH)