

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Workers for the Harvest

June 14, 2026 • Proper 6 A • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

As We Gather

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send workers into the harvest field." (Matthew 9:37-38)

Jesus was not talking about a physical harvest of gathering ripened grain or vegetables or fruit. He was talking about souls – people. As he traveled, Jesus could see so many people who were just lost spiritually, without faith, without God, without any hope of eternal life. The Bible says that he had compassion on them – and on us (Matthew 9:36). Jesus died on the cross to save us when we were lost and deserved nothing (Romans 5:6-15).

Jesus not only died for us; he himself went into town after town, healing and preaching so that people would turn back to God (Matthew 9:35). He trained and sent out apostles, missionaries, to reach more people (Matthew 10:1-8). Today he wants us to be his witnesses to a world full of people who do not yet trust in him. Like the Israelites in the Old Testament, God has chosen us to be a "kingdom of priests," his missionaries to the people around us (Exodus 19:2-8).

As you worship today, let Jesus' promise of salvation fill you with peace, joy, and love – and then, with his help, go out into the harvest field and share what you have received as a gift.

Prelude: "Psalm 19" – Benedetto Marcello

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)



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home,
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har - vest home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,
 Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
 There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Prayer of Confession

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.** (1 John 1:8-9)

We take a few moments for silent prayer and reflection.

A **Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Our very nature leads us astray. We have not loved you with our**

whole heart. We have not loved other people as you call us to love. We deserve to be punished. But for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us. Help us to walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

- P** Jesus said, "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Matthew 9:13) Jesus died on the cross to pay for all our wrongdoing. He rose from the dead and lives to forgive us. As pastor, I have the privilege to announce to you what God says in his Word: All of us who trust in Jesus are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

† Service of the Word †

Psalm 100

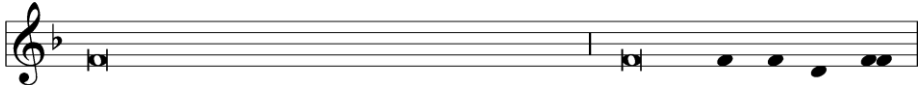
- P** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
- C** **Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!**
- P** Know that the Lord, he is God!
- C** **It is he who has made us, and we are his.**
- P** We are the his people,
- C** **And the sheep of his pasture.**
- P** Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
- C** **Give thanks to him; bless his name!**
- P** For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
- C** **And his faithfulness to all generations.**
- 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 (Ancient Prayer: "Lord, Have Mercy")

Lutheran Service Book 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



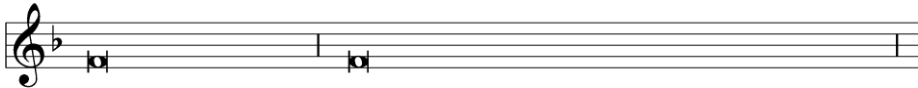
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



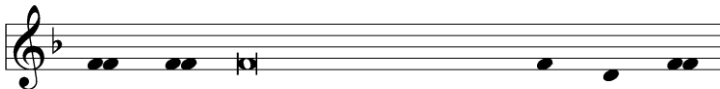
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 19:1-8

(God called Israel to be a "kingdom of priests", his ambassadors to the world)

On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai. ²After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

³Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak. ⁸The people all responded together, "We will do everything the Lord has said." So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord. (NIV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading (Epistle)

Romans 5:6-15

(In spite of the fact that we are sinners, Jesus loved us and has saved us.)

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

¹³To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! (NIV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

Lutheran Service Book 156

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.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:35 – 10:8

(Jesus chose the apostles and sent them out as workers in the world to bring in the "harvest" of people who repent and believe.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapters 9 and 10.

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

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

10 Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'⁸ Heal the sick,

raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. (NIV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

Song: I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true.
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story! 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Story Time (Children, youth, and others are invited to come forward for this time.)

Hymn: The Coloring Song

Make a Joyful Sound (White Booklet) 56

Red is the color of the blood that flowed
Down the face of someone who loved us so.
He's the perfect Man, he's the Lord's own Son.
He's the Lamb of God, he's the only one
That can give us life, that can make us grow,
That can make the love between us flow.

Blue is the color of a heart so cold
That it will not bend when the story's told
Of the love of God for a sinful race,
Of the blood that flowed down Jesus' face,
That can give us life, that can make us grow,
That can keep our hearts from growing cold.

Gold is the color of the morning sun
That shines so freely on everyone.
It's the sun above that keeps us warm.
It's the Son of love that calms the storm,
That can give us life, that can make us grow,
That can turn our mornings into gold.

Brown is the color of the autumn leaves
When the winter comes to the barren trees.
There is birth, there is death, there is a plan,
And there's just one God and there's just one Man
Who can give us life, who can make us grow,
Who can make our sins as white as snow...
That can give us life, that can make us grow,
That can turn our mornings into gold...
That can give us life, that can make us grow,
That can keep our hearts from growing cold...
That can give us life, that can make us grow,
That can make the love between us flow.

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed (Public declaration of our faith)

Lutheran Service Book 159

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.

Prayer of the Church

Jesus invites us to pray in his name for all our needs.

- P** Lord, we pray for unity and love in the church, asking you to open the minds and hearts of your people to Jesus and his love and forgiveness. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, we pray for all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list who are close to our hearts. Let them know your healing touch. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** Lord, we pray for all those who are suffering or struggling or grieving, especially our friends and relatives and fellow Christians on our prayer list. Comfort them and help them. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, we pray for peace in our homes, in our neighborhoods, and in the world, especially in Israel and in the Ukraine and places where violence or persecution threaten. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, we pray for those who have not yet believed in you as their Savior. Help us to show them your love and give us words to tell them about your salvation. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, we pray for the soldiers, the policemen and firemen, and all who risk their lives to defend us and help us. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, we pray for our teachers and leaders, that you would guide them and encourage them. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, we pray for all the needs, physical and spiritual, in the world around us. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** We trust in you, Lord, for you have power over death itself, and you have promised to hear us.
- C** **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.**

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.

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 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.



Choir Music during the Offering: **Freely, Freely** (Carol Owen)

1. *God forgave my sin in Jesus' name.
I've been born again in Jesus' name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his love as he told me to.*

*Refrain: He said, "Freely, freely, you have received.
Freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
Others will know that I live."*

2. *All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his power as he told me to. (Refrain)*

Offering Prayer

- A** **Heavenly Father, fill us anew with your Holy Spirit, and help us to live for you. Bless these offerings and use them to bring others to faith and to help those in need. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Song of Dedication (Offertory): Here I Am, Lord

Make a Joyful Sound 12

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

Appreciation for Sunday School Teachers

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ: with gratitude and joy we give thanks this day for these faithful Sunday School and youth teachers. They have been serving the Lord in this ministry for the past year with diligence, love, creativity, and hard work. The Lord Jesus commanded us not only to baptize but to teach everything in his Word (Matthew 28:19).

St. Paul said this: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3-4) We pray together:

- C** **Lord God, we give thanks to you for the faithful service of your servants Cheryl, Jacob, Jean, Maritza, Anita, and Elliot, in teaching our youth and children. Bless them with wisdom and patience, with love and faithfulness to your Word. According to your will, let them see good fruits from their work. Fill them with your joy so that with gladness they may continue to teach, comfort, counsel, and guide people both young and old on their way to everlasting life. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

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.

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Sending

- P Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Richard Schlak
Organist: Ruth Ann Ostergren
Elder: Mike Mielke
Acolyte: Anthony Barron
Reader: Bryan Perdue
Ushers: Team 2
Altar Care: Tuchenhagen
Projectionist: Jacob Canada
Sound/Camera: Ron Seiders/Mike Mielke

Prayer Ministry Philippians 4:6-7

Please fill out the blue friendship card or call the church office @ 915-833-1009 to include a prayer request or an update for the prayer list. If you have a prayer request or update for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at oveja6925@aol.com. The prayer list is no longer included in the bulletin; but a separate sheet of paper that can be picked up alongside of the bulletins in the entrance.

Ascension News and Notes

**Altar flowers for today's service are provided by Marjy Brady
in honor & recognition of Flag Day, June 14th.**



Both sets of flowers are \$70.

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



June 16 — Barb Spott

June 19 — Leticia Behl

Vacation Bible School Rainforest Falls 2026
VBS volunteers & donations needed!
Sign-up sheet in the narthex entrance.



ATTENTION
VBS volunteers!
Monday, June 15th
Meet at the church
at **9 AM** for **VBS Setup**.

VBS is this week from 9 AM to 12 PM (Tuesday, 16th through to Friday, 19th.)



Attention!
Ladies of Ascension,
NO "Ladies Night Out"
in June due to VBS.
It will **resume again on**
Wed., July 15th.

Ladies Night Out



(SHORT) Congregational Meeting
July 12th, 2026

Please join us immediately after the worship service.

Voting on the proposed 2026-2027 Preschool Budget

*The following copies are available in the church office to be printed upon request:

Congregation Agenda for July 12th, 2026 meeting

Proposed 2026-2027 Preschool Budget & Registration

Proposed repair cost for the swing gate

Congregation Minutes for prior meeting on Dec. 14, 2025

This Week @ Ascension

Sunday (June 14th)

9:00 AM Bible Study
10:00 AM Fellowship
10:30 AM Worship



Monday (June 15th)

Church Office Closed

9:00 AM Set up for VBS

Tuesday (June 16th)

9:00 AM to 12 PM VBS (Day 1)
6:30 PM Boy Scouts (L)
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study (FH)

Wednesday (June 17th)

9:00 AM to 12 PM VBS (Day 2)
11:00 AM Sit and Sew (FH)

*(NOTE: There is no Ladies Night Out this month because of VBS.
It will resume on July 15th.)*

Thursday (June 18th)

9:00 AM to 12 PM VBS (Day 3)

Friday (June 19th)

9:00 AM to 12 PM VBS (Day 4)

Saturday (June 20th)



June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 31	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6
9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am Church Potluck Day of Trinity & Kids' Sunday	Church Office Closed 9:00 am-12:00 pm June 1st-4th Preschool Summer Camp (Week 1)	9:00 am Winkie's Meeting (Pastor out of office in a.m.) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (L) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (FH)			2:00 pm Bella Montgomery & Sebastian Velasco Meer Wedding Ceremony (reception to follow in FH)	
June 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship w/Communion.	Church Office Closed 9:00 am-12:00 pm June 8th-11th Preschool Summer Camp (Week 2)	9:00 pm Worship Action Team Meeting 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (L) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	8:00 am Sit and Sew (FH) 3:00pm Elders Meeting (FH)			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship	Church Office Closed 9:00 am Set up for VBS	9:00 am-12 pm VBS (Day 1) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (FH) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (L)	9:00 am-12 pm VBS (Day 2)	9:00 am-12 pm VBS (Day 3) 3:00pm- July newsletter due in office	9:00 am-12 pm VBS (Day 4)	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship w/Communion. Father's Day (Root Beer Floats in fellowship hall)	Church Office Closed	6:30 pm Boy Scouts (L) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	8:00 am Sit and Sew (FH)			
28	29	30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4
9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship	Church Office Closed	6:30 pm Boy Scouts (L) 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	8:00 am Sit and Sew (FH)			4th of July (Independence Day)



- Rahel Meraz 6/04
- Lauren Wagner 6/04
- Kelley Walker 6/06
- Fallon Willadsen 6/11
- June Chacon 6/12
- Gage Fredericksen 6/12
- Barbara Spott 6/16
- Leticia Behl 6/19
- Robin Wiegert 6/21
- Aurora Fredericksen 6/24
- Emma Valdes 6/25
- Evelyn Karl 6/27
- Ryden Richardson 6/27
- Lindsay Morales 6/28
- Aydin Miller 6/29

I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Psalm 139:14e

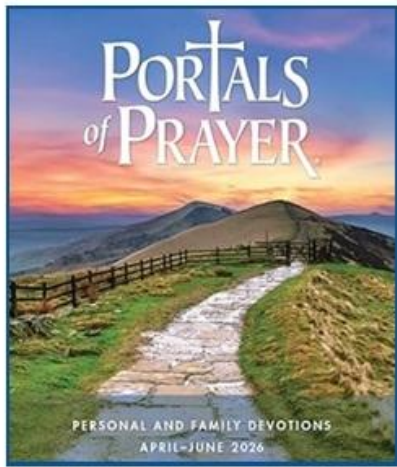


- Mike & Charlene Radach 6/10
- Daren & Kelley Walker 6/12
- Raul & Dawn Yruralde 6/23
- Don & Robin Wiegert 6/25
- Rick & Maritza Schtak 6/29

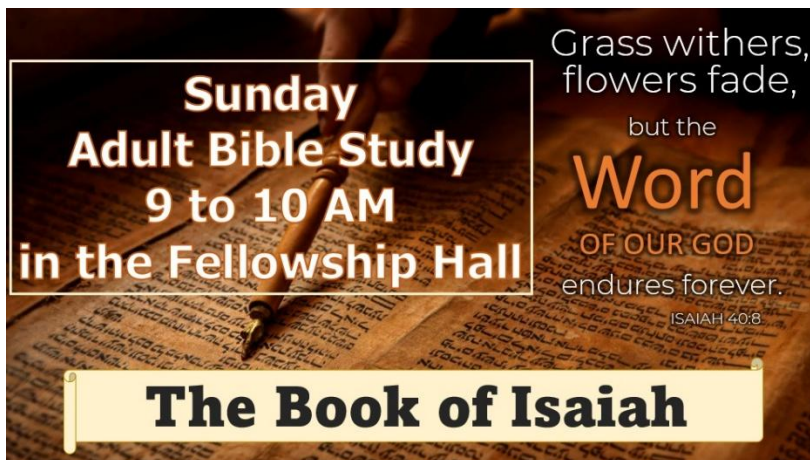
And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13.

Legend
(FH) – Fellowship Hall
(L) – Library
(S) – Sanctuary
(PO) – Pastor's Office

June 2026 Calendar and Portals of Prayers (April-June 2026) are both available for pick-up in the narthex entrance of the church.



(There will be no Sunday School class during the months of June and July. It will resume again in August.)



**Sunday
Adult Bible Study
9 to 10 AM
in the Fellowship Hall**

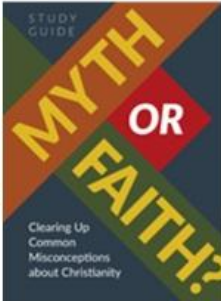
Grass withers,
flowers fade,
but the
Word
OF OUR GOD
endures forever.
ISAIAH 40:8

The Book of Isaiah

TUESDAY NIGHT Men's Bible Study
in Ascension's Church Fellowship Hall
at 7 p.m.

Currently studying *Myth or Faith | Clearing up
Common Misconceptions about Christianity*
(Concordia Publishing House)

Contact Elliott Werner (915-603-7497) for more information



(Both Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study and Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study will resume in September.)

