

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

As Lutheran Christians, we are redeemed by Christ to be people of God,  
inviting all to faith-filled worship, challenging all to grow in faith,  
reaching out to all in faithful service and witness. (Ascension's vision statement)

www.ascensiongb.com

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The Season of Pentecost 10:30 a.m. September 12, 2021

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

### CELEBRATION SONG *Welcome Home* (based on Isaiah 56)

By John Ylvisaker (permission for use given)

Traditional Hebrew tune (public domain)



1. Come and serve the liv - ing God who dwells up-on the moun-tain. Come and  
2. Come and rest up-on the rock, the rock of our sal - va - tion, where the



wor - ship with-out an - y fear. Come and hear the ho - ly Word, the  
Lord wipes a - way ev - 'ry tear. Come and sing the joy - ful songs and



truth a-bout for-give-ness and the love that will al - ways be here. Wel come  
thank the God of heav-en for the love that will al - ways be near.



home, wel - comehome to the place you be-long, to the place where you'll al - ways be



free; Wel-come home, wel - comehome to the house of the Lord; come and



join in the great ju - bi - lee!

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Love Your Neighbor

### \*CONFESSION

*\*indicates when congregation stands*

P: Gathered by the Holy Spirit,

**C: We come before God in worship.**

P: Let us confess our sin and need for God's healing forgiveness.

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We often fail in loving You with our whole heart and in loving our neighbors as ourselves.**

P: God sees you in your brokenness, still loves you, and knows you need forgiveness. By God's grace through Jesus' atoning sacrifice on the cross, your sins are forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And with all who worship with us.**

## PRAISE SONG

### *Revelation Song*

#### Verse 1

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain

Holy holy is He

Sing a new song to Him Who sits on

Heaven's mercy seat

#### Verse 2

Clothed in rainbows of living color

Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder

Blessing and honor strength and glory

And power be to You the only wise King

#### Verse 3

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder

At the mention of Your name

Jesus Your name is power breath and living water

Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

#### Chorus

Holy holy holy

Is the Lord God Almighty

Who was and is and is to come

With all creation I sing

Praise to the King of kings

You are my ev'rything

And I will adore You

Jennie Lee Riddle

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PRAYER

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

SCRIPTURE READINGS

**FIRST READING - Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-8**

*Who belongs? All those whom God has gathered, from every tribe and nation. Even those who are far away from home can be greeted with these words in worship, “Welcome Home.”*

“Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. <sup>2</sup> Blessed is the one who does this— the person who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps their hands from doing any evil.”

<sup>3</sup> Let no foreigner who is bound to the LORD say, “The LORD will surely exclude me from his people.” <sup>6</sup> To the foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant— <sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

<sup>8</sup> The Sovereign LORD declares— he who gathers the exiles of Israel: “I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.”

**SECOND READING - 1 Corinthians 3:23**

*To whom do you belong? God’s Word answers that question.*

“You belong to Christ.”

SONG

*We Fall Down*

**Verse**

We fall down  
We lay our crowns  
At the feet of Jesus  
The greatness of mercy and love  
At the feet of Jesus

**Chorus**

And we cry holy holy holy  
And we cry holy holy holy  
And we cry holy holy holy is the Lamb

*Chris Tomlin*

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**GOSPEL – Mark 8:34-38**

*Belonging arises from believing and following.*

<sup>34</sup> Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

<sup>36</sup> For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?

<sup>37</sup> Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

<sup>38</sup> Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

GOSPEL RESPONSE:

P: The Gospel of our Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“Belong: You Belong to Christ”

Pastor Luther Swenson

SONG

Healer

Verse

You hold my every moment  
You calm my raging seas  
You walk with me through fire  
And heal all my disease

Pre-Chorus

I trust in You  
I trust in You

Chorus

I believe You're my healer  
I believe You are all I need  
I believe You're my portion  
I believe You're more than enough for me  
Jesus You're all I need

Bridge

Nothing is impossible for You  
Nothing is impossible  
Nothing is impossible for You  
You hold my world in Your hands

Mike Guglielmucci

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APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

**God of abundance, You cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept these, the gifts You have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world You love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

We pray using the response, **“Hear our prayer.”**

LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,  
On earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION

**P:** Sisters and brothers, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

**C: I will and I ask God to help me**

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Response:** Thanks be to God!

*(sending song on back page)*

SONG

*One Way*

**Verse 1**

I lay my life down at Your feet  
You're the only One I need  
I turn to You and You are always there  
In troubled times it's You I seek  
I put You first that's all I need  
I humble all I am all to You

**Verse 2**

You are always  
Always there  
Every how and every where  
Your grace abounds so deeply within me  
You will never ever change  
Yesterday today the same  
Forever 'til forever meets no end

**Chorus**

One way Jesus  
You're the only One that I could live for  
One way Jesus  
You're the only One that I could live for  
One way Jesus  
You're the only One that I could live for  
One way Jesus  
You're the only One that I could live for

**Bridge**

You are the Way  
The Truth and the Life  
We live by faith and not by sight  
For You  
We're living all for You  
You are the Way  
The Truth and the Life  
We live by faith and not by sight  
For You  
We're living all for You

*Joel Houston | Jonathon Douglass*

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