

Ascension Lutheran Church
The American Association of Lutheran Churches
Greenhill Road and Maynard Avenue
Waterloo, Iowa (319) 233-1358



September 12, 2021
8:30 a.m.
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Worship
Sunday School Rally
Radio Broadcast (AM 1540)

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
9:45 a.m.
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.



WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting & Announcements

Opening Hymn: "Evening and Morning"No. 465

Invocation

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of God's Forgiveness (Absolution)

WE SPEAK TO GOD

Kyrie (Lord)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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 mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign.
Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also, with you.**

Prayer of the Day

O God, You declare Your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace, that, pursuing what You have promised, we may share Your heavenly glory; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-10

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. ¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

New Testament Lesson

James 3:1-12

³Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body,

setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:14-29

Response before Gospel: “Glory to you, O Lord”

¹⁴ And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵ And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. ¹⁶ And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷ And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸ And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” ¹⁹ And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” ²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” ²³ And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶ And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸ And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁹ And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

Response after Gospel: “Praise to you, O Christ”

Pulpit Hymn: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”No. 559

Sermon: “A WORD FOR THE WEARY”

Hymn: “Rise, Shine, You People!”No. 393

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Nicene Creed

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. 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 forgiveness of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Offertory

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all,
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

GOD'S GIFT TO US (THE EUCHARIST)

Preface to Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary...

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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.

“Lamb of God”

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Distribution Hymns/Songs

“Come to the Table”

Come to the table of mercy;
Prepared with the wine and the bread;
All who are hungry and thirsty,
Come and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord's invitation,
Receive from His nail-scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation;
Drink of the blood of the Lamb. (repeat)

Claire Cloninger, Martin J. Nystrom

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“Let Us Break Bread Together” No. 212
 “I Come, O Savior, to Your Table” No. 213
 “Just as I Am, Without One Plea” (vv. 1-4) No. 296

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Song

“Thank the Lord”

Thank the Lord and sing his praise;
 tell everyone what he has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord
 rejoice and proudly bear his name.
 He recalls his promises
 and leads his people forth in joy
 with shouts of thanksgiving.
 Alleluia. Alleluia.

Post Communion Prayer

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

Benediction (The Blessing)

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song

“Go Now In Peace”

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
 God will go with you each hour of every day.
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
 Know He will guide you in all you do.
 Go now in love, and show you believe.
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will be there watching from above.
 Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

Don Besig & Nancy Price, CCLI #663226

Postlude



Ministers
 Senior Pastor
 Organist
 Pianist
 Lector
 Acolyte

All members of Ascension
 Rev. Mike Badenhop
 Candis Smith
 Kathy Schuhmacher
 Mike Heindl
 Brady Beier



Welcome to all who gather with the Ascension family for this service of worship and Holy Communion! Those who believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament and who have made preparation through self-examination and repentance are welcome at the Lord’s Table. If this is your first time here, we’d love to get to know you better. Please fill out a *Connect Card* located in the pew rack. You may also list any prayer requests you might have. Cards may be handed to an usher or placed in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Please keep the following Ascension members in your prayers: Maria Drewes, Ivy Gibbons, Helen Green, Marilyn Haag, Dennis Hilmer, Len Hogelucht, Gary Horak, Earl Jacobson, Lenora McDermott, John McNally, Traci McNally, Connie Moss, Ron Potter, Mike Sullivan, Dana Walker and Donna Willig.

Congratulations to all those who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries this week:

- ☺ **Birthdays:** Tony McNally, Sam Olsen, Preston Gibbons, Tim Harris, Jerry Helgerson, Sandy Barnes, Drake Klemensen, Dean Boyce
- ☺ **Anniversaries:** Brandon & Alana Bogardus, Mitchell & Samantha Karr, Ed & Lorrie Billings, Eddy & Janice Haag

The mowing team for this week is:

- ✓ Entire "Back 40" – (September 13-15) – Marvin Deerfield, Ed Kleiner
- ✓ Church Grounds – (September 16-18) – Dean Boyce, Chris Foster

In order to determine eligibility to vote at our annual meeting, please notify the church office (233-1358 or alcwloo@mchsi.com) if you have communed at a church other than Ascension. Please remember to fill out your communion card and hand it to the ushers.

"The Encouraging Word" Radio Ministry is on the air each Sunday morning at 8:00 and 10:00 on KXEL (AM 1540). The announcer will indicate those in whose memory or honor the radio program is being sponsored. The cost is \$80.00 per program. **Today's radio broadcast is being sponsored by the Holman family in memory of Joyce Karr.** If you desire to sponsor a program on a specific date, please contact the Parish Office (233-1358) or sign up in the narthex. Please let the office know two weeks in advance. Thank you.

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex for anyone wishing to provide flowers for our Sunday morning worship services. Don't forget to sign up today to reserve a spot for your special occasion (birthday, anniversary, etc.). Please notify the church office during the preceding week as to how you would like the announcement worded in the bulletin. Flowers must be purchased by the person providing the flowers and should be delivered to the church no later than Friday afternoon. Thank you.

Secret prayer partners are needed for the following confirmands: Elijah Coan, Melinda Edsill, Lena Kearney Ledesma, Oliver Olsen, Charlie Stewart and Josie Voss. If you would be willing to remember them on their birthdays and special holidays and pray for them on a regular basis, please call the parish office (233-1358). This opportunity only comes once a year!

Attention ladies! Grace Bible study will begin meeting again on Monday, 9/13, 1:30-3:00 p.m. We will start a new study on *Psalms and the Books of Wisdom*. Books are \$12. We meet the 2nd and 4th Monday every month. We would love to have you join us! If you have any questions please contact me by phone, text or email. I hope to see you there! Traci McNally [REDACTED]

Women! Join us for a time of fellowship and some campfire singing September 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Bring your chair and beverage and we will supply the campfire snacks! Bring a friend, too! Please sign up to help us plan snack numbers. In case of rain or extreme wind, we will be indoors.

New Short-Term Sunday School Class – We all come from different backgrounds regarding Bible reading. Some of us grew up with God's Word in our hands regularly all our lives, while others of us are newer to the study of God's Word. This Sunday School class is meant for those who want to know more about different ways to study God's Word. There isn't one "right way" - there are many methods, and in this class, we will walk you through a few methods and encourage you to try them and find what works well for you. The goal is to encourage us to get in our Bibles more and more comfortably. The class will meet for 4 weeks September 19 - October 10. Bring your Bible and join us in the Oasis! Questions? Please contact Shanda Knight.

Attention Men! We will be hosting a Men's Recharge here at Ascension on Saturday October 9, 2021. Men ages 10 and up are invited to eat, fellowship, worship and grow together at this first ever Men's Recharge at Ascension! Speakers will challenge us in practical ways as we "recharge" our spiritual tanks. You will be encouraged as you continue to grow as a man of God in this world that often challenges us. Cost is only \$5.00, lunch and snacks provided. Call if cost is a problem. Please register by September 29 if you want a t-shirt. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tom Knight.

Valley Lutheran News

2021 Crusader Golf Classic – Get your team ready for the 2021 Crusader Golf Classic! The event is scheduled for Friday, September 17 at the Waverly Golf Course. Join us for lunch at 12:00 p.m. before you head out onto the greens for a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$60 per player or \$240 for a team of four. The cost includes lunch, golf cart and 18 holes of golf. Registration deadline is Monday, September 13. Don't wait; get your team together today! Contact Anne Meyer-Schmitz at 266-4565 or anne.meyerschmitz@vlscrusaders.org.

Valley Lutheran is now enrolling students for the 2021-22 school year. Please contact April Schriever at 266-4565 or april.schriever@vlscrusaders.org for more information or to schedule a personal tour.

Valley Lutheran's Craft Show will be November 6 and they are looking for more vendors. If interested, please contact Denise Oler at deniseoler@yahoo.com.

Color Me Crusader – It's official, the Color Me Crusader 5K & Kids 1 Mile is back! Grab your family and friends and join us as we take to the trails on October 2. We have another awesome event coming with color, prizes, food and family fun galore. Trust us, you won't want to miss it! So, get yourself registered today, and while you're at it, don't forget to head over and like our Facebook event page (facebook.com/colormecrusader5K) for announcements, deals and information. Go to runsignup.com/Race/IA/CedarFalls/ColorMeCrusader to register (this can also be found all over the event page).

September

Mon., Sept. 13	1:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Grace Bible Study Deacons' Committee Meeting
Tues., Sept. 14	4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir All Committee Meeting Night
Wed., Sept. 15	9:00 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Ladies' Bible Study 7 th & 8 th Grade Confirmation AWANA Sr. High Hangout 9 th Grade Confirmation C.I.A.
Thurs., Sept. 16	9:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Fri., Sept. 17		Newsletter Submission Deadline
Sun., Sept. 19	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Traditional Worship Sunday School Contemporary Worship Women of Life Campfire

Statistics – Sunday, September 5, 2021

Attendance

9:30 a.m.

131

Offering

Worship

\$7,393.00

Building Fund

\$365.60