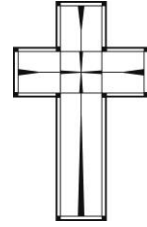


Ascension Lutheran Church

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



September 27, 2020
11:00 a.m.
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

“Resurrecting”

Verse 1: The head that once was crowned with thorns
Is crowned with glory now
The Savior knelt to wash our feet
Now at His feet we bow.

Verse 2: The one who wore our sin and shame
Now robed in majesty
The radiance of perfect love
Now shines for all to see.

Chorus: Your name
Your name
Is victory
All praise
Will rise
To Christ our king. (2x)

Verse 3: The fear that held us now gives way
To Him who is our peace
His final breath upon the cross
Is now alive in me. (Chorus)

Bridge: By Your spirit I will rise
From the ashes of defeat
The resurrected king
Is resurrecting me
In Your name I come alive
To declare Your victory
The resurrected king
Is resurrecting me. (2x)

Verse 4: The tomb where soldiers watched in vain
Was borrowed for three days
His body there would not remain
Our God has robbed the grave
Our God has robbed the grave. (Chorus)

Ending: By Your spirit I will rise
From the ashes of defeat
The resurrected king
Is resurrecting me
In Your name I come alive
To declare Your victory
The resurrected king
Is resurrecting me.

Chris Brown | Mack Brock | Matthew Ntlele | Steven Furtick | Wade Joye
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We Welcome God's Presence (Invocation)

Confession

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

C: **Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thoughts, words, and actions. 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)

Old Testament Lesson

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

18 The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

New Testament Lesson

Philippians 2:1-18

2 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his

good pleasure. ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:23-32

²³And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

Pulpit Song

"Stronger"

There is love that came for us
Humbled to a sinner's cross
You broke my shame and sinfulness
You rose again victorious.

Faithfulness none can deny
Through the storm and through the fire
There is truth that sets me free
Jesus Christ who lives in me.

Chorus

You are stronger, You are stronger
Sin is broken, You have saved me
It is written, Christ is risen
Jesus, You are Lord of all.

No beginning and no end
You're my hope and my defense
You came to seek and save the lost
You paid it all upon the cross. (Chorus)

Bridge

So let Your name be lifted higher
Be lifted higher, be lifted higher.

(4x)

(Chorus – 2x)

Ben Fielding | Reuben Morgan

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Sermon: "As One Without Authority"

Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers: Each petition concludes with "Lord in your mercy"
People respond with "Hear our prayer."

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.

The Blessing (Benediction)

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song

"Your Name is Power"

Verse 1: You're the only answer to the darkness
You're the only right among the wrong
You're the only hope among the chaos
You are the voice that calls me on

Pre-chorus: Louder than ev'ry lie
My sword in ev'ry fight
The truth will chase away the night

Chorus 1: Your name is power over darkness
Freedom for the captives
Mercy for the broken and the hopeless
Your name is faithful in the battle
Glory in the struggle
Mighty it won't let us down or fail us
Your name is power
Your name is power

Verse 2: I know it is written hope is certain
I know that the Word will never fail
I know that in ev'ry situation
You speak the power to prevail (Pre-chorus + Chorus 1)

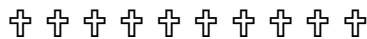
Bridge: When You speak You scatter darkness
Light arrives and heaven opens
Holy Spirit let us hear it
When You speak the church awakens
We believe the change is coming
Holy Spirit let us see it
(Repeat)

Chorus 2: Your name is power over darkness
Freedom for the captives
Mercy for the broken and the hopeless
Your name is faithful in the battle
Glory in the struggle
Mighty it won't let us down or fail us
Your name is power (over darkness)
Your name is power (in the chaos)
Your name is power

Chris Llewellyn | Gareth Gilkeson
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Ministers
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Deacon
Contemporary Worship Director
Lector
Acolyte

All members of Ascension
Rev. Len Brokenshire
Rev. Mike Badenhop
Dave Burrington
Elizabeth Wild
Vern Michel
Spencer Eldridge



Welcome to all who gather today as members and friends of God's family here at Ascension! May the Holy Spirit empower this service to be an inspiration and encouragement for all.

Please keep the following Ascension members in your prayers: Rose Beier, Joel Burgess, Dennis Bush, Sherry Cox, Ivy Gibbons, Marilyn Haag, Bob Prins, Ruth Prins, Dana Walker, Marv Wente and Donna Willig.

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

- ☺ **Birthdays:** Gabe Dengler, Heather Henry, Dakota Ingham, Eddie Michel, Haley Clark, Dennis Hilmer, Jean O'Bryon, Joshua Boyce, Joshua Ingham
- ☺ **Anniversaries:** Shelby & Brandon Bedard, Tom & Karen Stone

Congratulations to Jean O'Bryon who celebrates her 97th birthday on September 30.

The mowing team for this week is:

- ✓ Entire "Back 40" (September 28-30) – Ken Burrington, Tom Stone
- ✓ Church Grounds (October 1-3) – Dave Else, Scott Loder

Family Night Drive-In Theater – Saturday, October 3, in the parking lot. Movie will start at 7 p.m. Students please arrive at 6:30. This is a Colorado fundraiser so we (the youth) will be selling hot dogs/chips/soda. The youth will be wearing masks when they take orders and deliver to cars. You will be able to pull up your car and tune in the radio to hear the movie. We will be watching *Woodlawn* which is rated PG.

Daily Text Devotions – Join Pastor Len and Beth in the new sanctuary on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 for devotions. This 15-minute devotional time will be based off the Daily Texts, Bible texts selected annually by the Moravian church and shared worldwide since 1731. The Moravian Daily Texts were prized by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and used in his daily devotions. By asking the four TRIP questions of the biblical texts, come take a journey with the Lord that can bring change, hope, and renewal in your life as well.

Any veterans in our congregation, please call the church office to make sure we have your name on our veterans list.

Gently used comforters needed!! Ascension has recently partnered with LOVE INC. of the Cedar Valley to provide care for those in need in our community. We will maintain the Good Samaritan Fund for member needs and the food pantry. We will be referring all other requests to LOVE INC. who will in turn, refer those in need to churches who have agreed to provide for their specific needs. Ascension will be providing gas cards and bedding. We will be purchasing the sheets and pillowcases but would invite anyone with gently used comforters to donate them for distribution.

Valley Lutheran News

Valley Lutheran is filling the position of Admission and Recruitment Director. This is a part time position. For more information or to fill out an application, please email Mr. L'Heureux at brian.lheureux@vlscrusaders.org

Valley Lutheran needs volunteers for concessions during our sporting events. If interested in helping out, email Coach Jo at brian.jo@vlscrusaders.org.

The 2020 Crusader Golf Classic was held Friday, September 18 at the Waverly Golf Course. The weather was absolutely perfect for the 16 teams who enjoyed an afternoon on the golf course. Thank you to all the sponsors, golfers and volunteers that helped to make the day awesome for everyone. Mark your calendar for next year ... Friday, September 17, 2021! Same time. Same location.

Calendar

Mon., Sept. 28	1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	Grace Bible Study Zoom Bible Study (The Psalms)
Tues., Sept. 29	10:00 a.m.	Daily Text Devotions
Wed., Sept. 30	9:00 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Ladies' Bible Study Youth Group Hang Time AWANA Confirmation CIA
Thurs., Oct. 1	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study Daily Text Devotions
Sun., Oct. 4	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship w/ Comm. (Chapel) Sunday School Contemporary Worship w/ Comm. (Sanctuary)

Statistics – Sunday, September 20, 2020

Attendance

8:30 a.m.	88
11:00 a.m.	101

Offering

Worship	\$6,615.00
Building Fund	\$1,460.00