



Ascension Lutheran Church



The Son of Man
came to serve

Mark 10:45

Welcome to Ascension Lutheran Church!

We are so glad that you're here and have chosen to worship with us.

Coming to a new church can be a bit overwhelming and we hope that you feel a warm welcome here at Ascension.

Worship styles vary from church to church, so we've created this worship bulletin in hopes that it simplifies your worship experience and helps you to experience God's presence.

Deacon Ellen Koester is our worship leader and she strives to make each worship experience meaningful and engaging.

Sunday, September 22, 2024
18th Sunday after Pentecost

Ascension Lutheran Church

720 S. Germantown Road | East Ridge, TN 37412
423-698-5047 | ThisIsTheFeast.org | office@ThisIsTheFeast.org

FAQs

Here are some answers to FAQs:

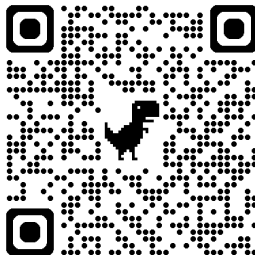
The Restrooms: Take a left as you leave the worship space. Our main bathrooms are on the right. Follow the signs around the corner for individual, accessible bathrooms.

Standing, Sitting & Kneeling: Traditionally worshipers stand when they sing, stand or kneel during prayer, and sit when they are listening. We give you prompts in the bulletin so you know what others might be doing, but please feel free to stand, sit or kneel at any time during the service.

Bulletin Guide: Congregational responses are in bolded text following the **C:**. Worship Leaders will say the words in regular text. Descriptions and prompts are in small italic text. Please let us know if there is any other information you think would be helpful.

Nursery: Children are always welcome in worship. We have coloring books and pages and crayons on a table in the lobby.

Guest Welcome: Please use the QR code to let us know who you are. Or, you can use the guest sign-in book in the lobby.



Gathering

Call to Worship—ringing of the church bell

Prelude—Ascension Organist Lynn Frye

Welcome—Deacon Ellen Koester

Standing Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Standing/Kneeling Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

Our Communion Service:

*The Holy Spirit comes to us in our **gathering** around the means of grace—the saving **Word** of God and the sacraments. From the **meal** at the communion table where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God **sends** us out to share the good news and to care for those in need.*

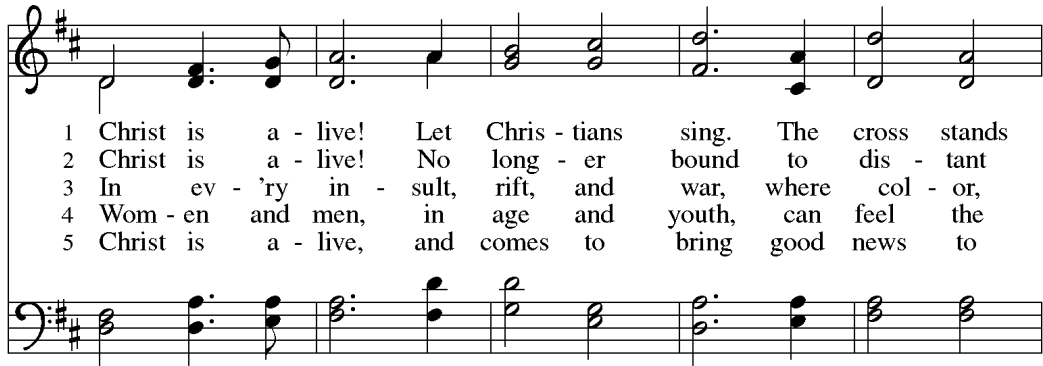
Confession:

We begin worship with confession. Because of God's mercy we are free to confess ways we have harmed God or one another. God's word of forgiveness boldly opens the door to be in God's presence.

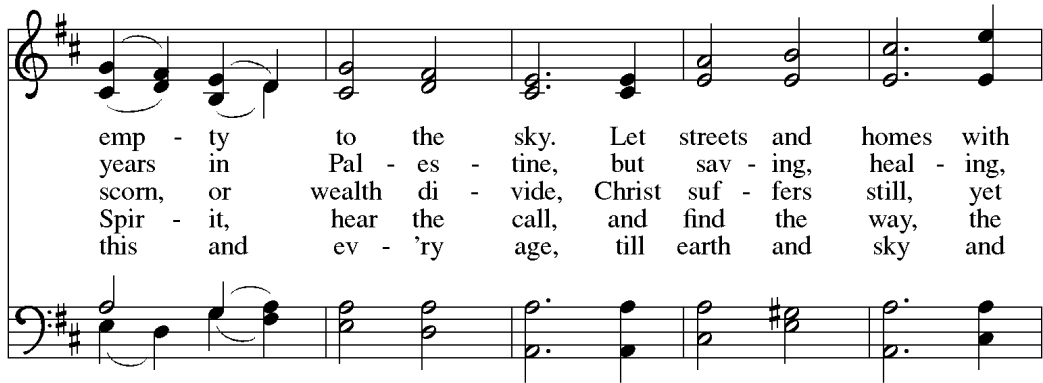
† We use the sign of the cross as a remembrance of baptism and to proclaim the gifts of God's promise in baptism.

Gathering

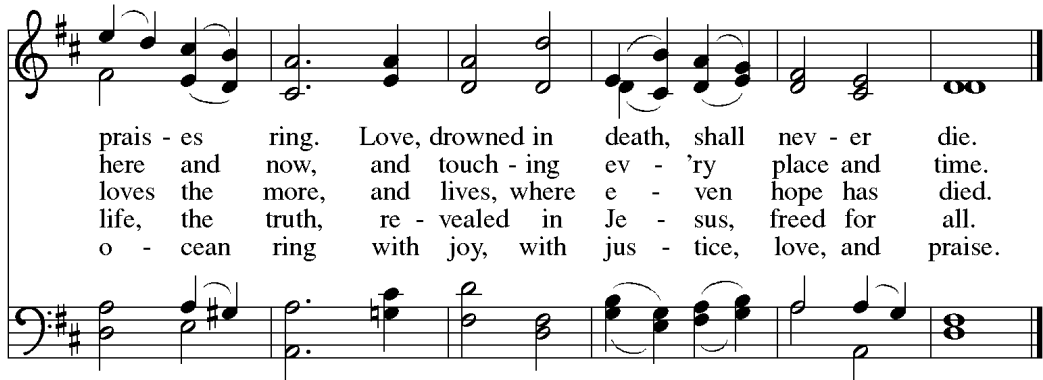
Standing Hymn 389 Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Gathering

Standing Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Standing Kyrie



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Gathering

Standing Canticle of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

Gathering/Word



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Standing Prayer of the Day

Please join me in praying the prayer of the day.

C: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Seated First Reading | Jeremiah 11: 18-20

¹⁸It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" ²⁰But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!

Word

Seated Psalm 54

Psalm Refrain:

God is my help - er; it is the
LORD who sus - tains my life.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain, with lyrics 'God is my help - er; it is the' written below. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'LORD who sus - tains my life.' written below. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

¹Save me, O God, | by your name;
in your might, de- | fend my cause.

²**Hear my | prayer, O God;
give ear to the words | of my mouth.**

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my
life,
those who have no re- | gard for God.

⁴**Behold, God | is my helper;
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life. (Refrain)**

⁵Render evil to those who | spy on me;
in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.**

⁷For you have rescued me from | every trouble,
and my eye looks down | on my enemies. **(Refrain)**

Seated Second Reading | James 3:13—4:3,7-8a

A reading from James

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there

Word

will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ⁴

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel | Mark 9:30-37

Standing Gospel Acclamation

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Word

The Holy Gospel according to Mark

C: Glory to you, O Lord

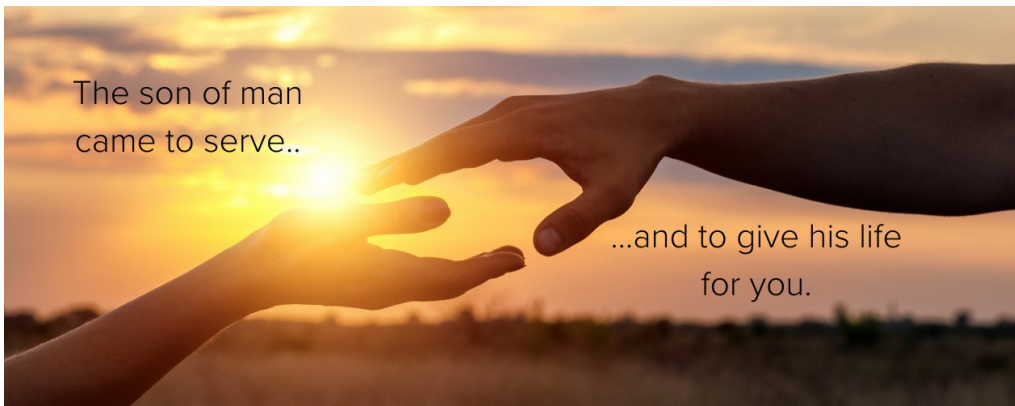
³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Seated Sermon—Deacon Ellen Koester

Silence for Reflection

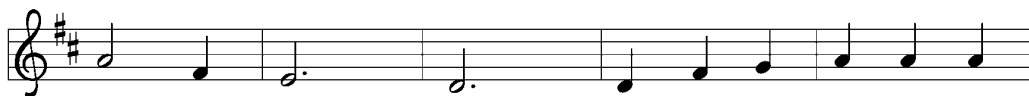


Word

Standing: Hymn 815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Word

Standing Apostles' Creed

Let us join together in the words of the Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Kneeling/Standing Prayers of Intercession

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

After each prayer...Hear us, O God, **C: Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

Standing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Let us share with one another the Peace.

For the offering, An usher will pass a plate around for anyone wishing to contribute. Financial support is a spiritual practice for disciples.



Meal

Seated The Offering

Standing: Hymn 595 Jesus Loves Me

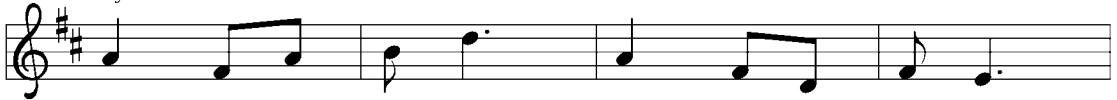


1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Offering Prayer **C: Amen**

Meal

Standing The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....

...We praise your name and join in their unending hymn.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Meal

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed... we pray as Jesus taught us,

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

Deacon Ellen will explain to all how communion will be offered and you can proceed to the front when you're ready. All are welcome at the communion table. If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. If you have any questions on communion at Ascension, please feel free to speak with Deacon Ellen.

Come to the table for all is now ready.

Seated Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Seated Distribution of Communion

Sending

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen**

Standing Prayer after Communion **C: Amen**

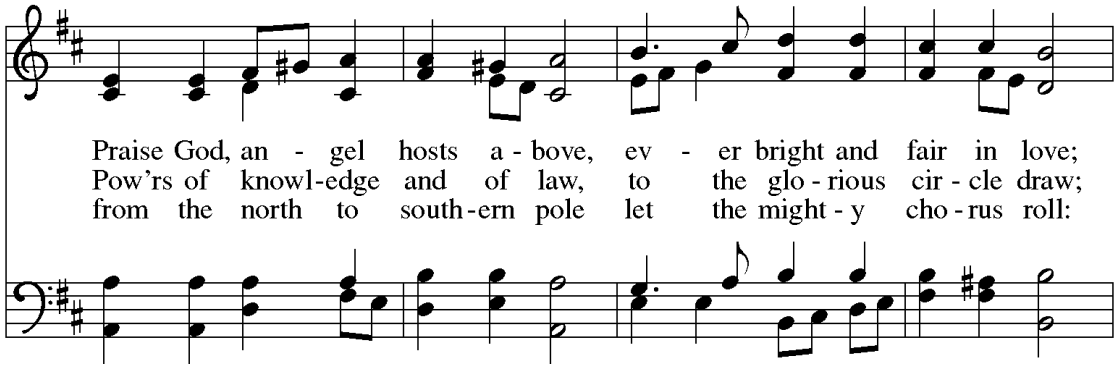
Standing Blessing **C: Amen**

Standing: Hymn 631 Let the Whole Creation Cry

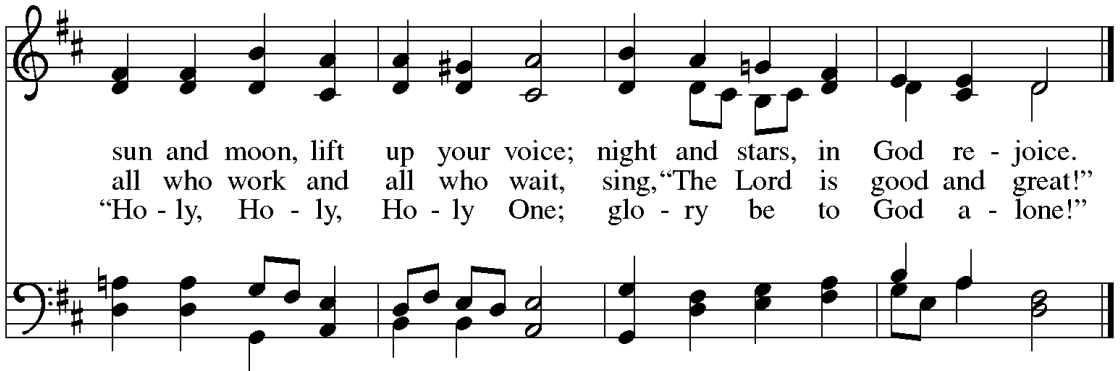
1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Sending



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - jice.
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Dismissal Go in Peace and Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude Deacon Ellen will leave the Sanctuary and will be in the entrance hall to chat with folks.. Some congregational members will leave the Sanctuary right away and some will stay to listen to the Postlude. Please feel free to do what is comfortable.



Calendar of Events

Wednesdays
7:00 PM
Community Room

Prayer Service. All are welcome for this midweek refreshment.

Congregational Vitality Training
Saturday, Sept. 21
Noon—3:00 PM

Ascension is undertaking a 6-month program to help discern our future—what is our mission and how will we live that out. See Deacon Ellen for details.

Harvest Jam!
Sunday, Sept 29 at 2:00 PM

We'll take time to celebrate the Gardens & Fridge at the Harvest Jam. A little music, a little food, a lot of fun.

SAVE THE DATE
Retirement Party for Ray
Sunday, Oct 6—following the service

Ray Stewart is retiring as Caretaker of Ascension. Of course, as he's a member, he won't go far! Come by for cake and other goodies.

Prayers & Concerns

Our full Member Concerns list can be found in the newsletter.

- Alli Mae Hudson, great niece of Wanda and Steve Vipond
- Miller Creel, son of East Ridge police officer Josh Creel
- Jim Adams, former member of Resurrection Lutheran Church
- Hannelore Donhowe
- George Kurien
- Dianna & the Moore Family—cousin of Wanda Vipond
- Phyllis Wade as she recovers & rejoices after the WELCA Convention
- Arlene Halvorsen
- Shiela Creech, friend of Phyllis Wade
- Beverly & James Bauman, friends of Deacon Ellen
- Delphia, mother of Marsha Bock
- Bobbie Tucker, husband of Christy Spiesser's Aunt Sherri Tucker
- Ann Humberger, sister of Lynn Frye
- Richard Nichols, brother of Sarah Nichols



Ways to Participate

Classes & Worship: Best way to get to know the congregation:

- Bible Study every Sunday at 10:00 AM in the Community Room. It's a join in anytime program.
- Wednesday night prayer service—a little lift in the middle of the week. We alternate between a traditional spoken evening service, and a Taizé service.
- Sunday Service—Traditional service using the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

Outdoor Food Ministries: We partner with Hope Community Fridge and others to maintain a free pantry and refrigerated groceries for all. We need lots of volunteers to make it happen.

- We need volunteers to help stock the pantries and fridge
- Water, weed and harvest in the gardens
- Fridge check-in volunteer

Welcome Home Chattanooga: Every few months we get together and bring a meal to Welcome Home Chattanooga. We're always looking for volunteers to help coordinate these meals.

Worship Volunteers:

- Readers
- Ushers
- Singers/Musicians
- Other ideas? See Deacon Ellen.

Birthdays

Wanda Vipond 9/8
Arlene Halvorsen 9/9

Susan Kurien 9/21
Joyce Caldwell 9/29

Newsletter

We publish a short, weekly newsletter with details on upcoming events, information for next week's services, and other community information.

Use the QR code to view our current newsletter and to sign up.





Ascension Lutheran Church

Deacon Ellen Koester considers herself a Michigan girl and a Southern woman. She lives with Elmo, her loud and rambunctious canine companion who she is certain is part velociraptor. She came to consider the South her home as she served congregations in Tennessee, Georgia, and North Carolina. She also served with Lutheran Services in Tennessee. She is a graduate of the University of Dayton in Dayton, OH and Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, OH. Seeing individuals of all ages grow in their faith and life and helping them discover ways to use their gifts to share God's love are what she loves in ministry. If you are visiting with us today, she would enjoy the opportunity to chat with you.

Deacons in the ELCA are ordained ministers of Word and Service. They serve at the intersection of church and world, bringing a sharper focus to how the church responds to the needs of the people.

To contact Deacon Ellen, call the church office at 423-698-5047 or by email at office@thisisthefeast.org.

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing: Text: Brain A. Wren, b. 1936; Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789; Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm Refrain: Psalm 54:4; Psalm Refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Gospel Acclamation, Alleluia! Lord and Savior: Text: Gracia Grindal, b. 1943; Music: UNSER HERRSCHHER, Joachim Neander, 1650-1680. Text © Augsburg Fortress.

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light: Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934; Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson; Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Jesus Loves Me!: - Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.; Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

Let the Whole Creation Sing: Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832-1916, alt.; Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622-1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, adapt.

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