August 21, 2016
9:00 AM

ENTER
THROUGH THE NARROW DOOR
LUKE 13:22-30
WELCOME – to all who have gathered to hear the Good News of Jesus!

VISITORS – We are so glad you chose to join us today! We understand that visiting a church can be an intimidating experience. We pray that Jesus blesses and nourishes your faith through the gospel proclaimed this day. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to ask. God bless your worship!

RESTROOMS – It is located in the back room.

SMALL CHILDREN – Small children are always welcome in our service no matter how fussy they may get or how much noise they make. It is a wonderful opportunity for them to learn about worship, observe their parents listening to God’s Word and, most importantly, hear about their Savior! If you should need to take your child out for any reason you can go in the back room and still watch the service on closed-circuit TV. Thanks for bringing your kids to hear about Jesus.

CONNECT WITH US – Please fill out the connection card you received when you came in today with as much info as you are comfortable. This helps us better serve you whether you are a guest, visitor or member. Thank you for worshipping with us.

THEME OF THE DAY – When it comes to eternity, there are only two paths: one that leads to the joys of heaven, the other one leads to destruction in hell. Every single human being will find himself on one or the other for all eternity. Thankfully, God has revealed to us the path to heaven which is the “narrow door” of Jesus and what he has done for us. Trusting in Jesus alone for forgiveness and life is the only way to heaven.
ORDER OF SERVICE

SERVICE OF THE WORD
The “Service of the Word” can trace its roots to the historic Christian Church. The parts of the service marked M are spoken by the minister, and the parts marked C are spoken by everyone in the congregation.

OPENING HYMN
By Grace I’m Saved
Christian Worship 384 verses 1-3

PLEASE STAND

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS
In the confession we acknowledge our sins and ask God to forgive them. The absolution stresses the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ for our sins and the sins of the world. In the absolution we are assured that Christ has forgiven us of all our sins.

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.
PRAYER AND PRAISE

After hearing the announcement of forgiveness, there is every reason for relief, joy, and thanksgiving. With that in mind, we sing this song of praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

This Is My Father’s World
Let All The People Praise You Songbook

1. This is my Father’s world, And
2. This is my Father’s world. The
3. This is my Father’s world. Oh,

to my listening ears, All nature sings and
birds their carols raise; The morning light, the
let me ne’er forget That though the wrong seems

‘round me rings; His grace to me ap-
lily white, Declare their Maker’s
oft so strong, God is the ruler—
praise. This is my Father's world. He
yet. This is my Father's world. Why—

rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of—
shines in all that's fair. In rustling grass I—
should my heart be sad? The Lord is King; let the

skies and seas; His hands these wonders wrought.
hear him pass; I see his hand ev'rywhere.
heavens ring. God reigns; let earth be glad!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reins with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.
THE WORD
This section is the heart and high point of our service. What follows is not the uncertain word of untrustworthy human beings. It is the Word of God that has called us to faith and strengthens our faith in Jesus as our Savior.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON — Isaiah 66:18-24

In the closing words of his prophecy, Isaiah foretold that people from every nation would be saved and those who rebelled against God would not.

“And I, because of their actions and their imaginations, am about to come and gather all nations and tongues, and they will come and see my glory. 19 “I will set a sign among them, and I will send some of those who survive to the nations—to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. 20 And they will bring all your brothers, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the Lord—on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels,” says the Lord. “They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the Lord in ceremonially clean vessels. 21 And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites,” says the Lord. 22 “As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me,” declares the Lord, “so will your name and descendants endure. 23 From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me,” says the Lord. 24 “And they will go out and look upon the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; their worm will not die, nor will their fire be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind.” (NIV)

Children’s Message

The children are invited up front for a message from God’s Word.
SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON — Hebrews 12:18-24

Approaching God by way of Mount Sinai can only lead to a terrified conscience. Approaching him by way of Mount Zion will lead to eternal life.

You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (NIV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The door to heaven, open to people from all nations, is Jesus Christ, the One who makes us right with God. Those who try to enter through any other door will be sent away.

Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. 22 Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?” He said to them, 24 “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. 25 Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’ “But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’ 26 Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’ 27 But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’ 28 There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. 29 People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 30 Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.” (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

SERMON HYMN

By Grace I’m Saved
Christian Worship 384 verses 4-5

SERMON:

When No Other Door Will Do!
APOSTLES’ CREED

The Creed is a summary and profession of the Christian faith. This is a confession of the whole Christian Church on earth concerning the teachings of Scripture and especially about the person of Jesus Christ.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Our thank-offering to the Lord flows out of the thankful hearts that have received the forgiveness of sins through a crucified and risen Savior. Please take a moment and fill out the connection card and place it in the offering plate as it goes by.

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Lord invites our prayers and promises to listen and respond according to his will.

LORD’S PRAYER

We join together in praying the prayer our Savior has taught us!

ALL: 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.
To God Be the Glory
Christian Worship 399

PRAYER AND BLESSING
Having seen and heard all that the Lord has done, we are prepared to go from here in peace, to live in harmony with each other, and serve our God with gladness.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

CLOSING HYMN
Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me
Christian Worship 439

A FEW MOMENTS FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND REFLECTION
Take a moment to reflect on today’s message, or a hymn during the service. Following the announcements, feel free to stick around and join us for a time of fellowship.

ASCENSION NEWS & NOTES

Our Week with the Lord: August 21—August 28, 2016

Today:  
Worship.................................................................................................................9:00 AM  
Sunday School Parents Meeting after Church  
Family Bible Hour.................................................................................................10:20 AM  
Sunday School Teachers Meeting after Bible Hour

Wednesday:  
Financial Peace University..................................................................................6:30 PM

Thursday:  
Bible Basics Class...............................................................................................1:00 PM  
Property Meeting..................................................................................................6:00 PM

Sunday:  
Worship w/Lord’s Supper......................................................................................9:00 AM  
Family Bible Hour................................................................................................10:20 AM

Keep in your prayers our members and friends who are Serving Overseas: Dan Seelhoff, Morgan & Scott Voigt, the Nelson family and the Greuel family.

Summer Sunday School

Today’s Lesson:  A Father Forgives His Son
Next Week:  Creation

Summer Sunday School has been a big success this year. As this program draws to a close, we would like to thank all the members who taught our little ones. It is such a blessing to be able to have God’s Word shared with our children throughout the whole year.
Property Meeting

The next property committee meeting will be this Thursday at 6pm. If you would like to become involved with this great team, please, plan on attending. The property committee will be nominating new committee leadership at this meeting.

Summer is winding down and the school year will be starting soon. What better way to get the school year off on the right foot than to bring your children to Sunday School! Because we live in a world which focuses on everything but Jesus, how important it is to give our young people a solid footing in the Word. Every week our youth will hear about the love of their Savior, Jesus. We will kick things off on August 28th.

UPCOMING DATES:

Parent Orientation: Today after church
Fall Sunday School Session Starts: Next Sunday

If you are interested in more information or would like to sign your child up, please speak to Sunday School Coordinator, Mary Kollmeyer or Pastor Lange.
Have you heard the buzz? Mornings with Mommy has added something new this year - an additional session to longer months with an extra Tuesday in them. So creep, crawl, or fly to this bonus session, "Bugs, Worms & Little Things," on August 30 at 10 am. This program is open to all children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. Registration is online at http://www.welsalc.com/. If you have any questions, or would like to get involved with this program in any way, please speak to Yuliya Lange or find us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/morningswithmommymommyascension.

Confirmation

The word “confirmation” means “strengthening.” Confirmation classes comprise a two-year period of instruction in the Christian faith for our young people. Jesus commanded his Church to “teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.” The purpose of confirmation class is to strengthen the faith of the students through instruction in the Word of God, and to prepare them to receive the Lord’s Supper.

Confirmation class for 2016-2017 begins for all children in 6th—8th grade. If you have any questions or want to register your child, please speak to Pastor Lange.
WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE!

Music
This Sunday: Mary Kollmeyer

Ushers
This Sunday: Mark Kemp             Next Sunday: Tod Goede

Refreshments
This Sunday: Colleen Kemp          Next Sunday: Hare Family

Cleaning
Coming Week: Downing Family

Following Week: We Need Your Help

Last Week Attendance
Worship: 76  Bible Class: 23  Sunday School: 15
MISSION STATEMENT
As a family of believers in our Savior Jesus Christ, we proclaim the Gospel in Word and sacrament to gather souls, nurture believers, and encourage Christian living within our community and throughout the world.

Ascension is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We invite you to visit our congregation’s website (www.welsalc.com) or our synod’s website (www.wels.net) for more information about our locations, beliefs, and practices.

Our Regular Sunday Morning Schedule:
Sunday Morning Worship — 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School — 10:20 a.m.
Bible Class — 10:20 a.m.

Ascension.WELS
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