June 11, 2017
9:00 AM

Connected at Home
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.

Today—Connected at Home

The closest relationships we often have are found in the confines of our homes. That is also why they can be the most challenging ones. Yet, God promises to work all things together for our good as the family stays connected to each other by staying connected to and serving the Lord.
DIVINE SERVICE II

Divine Service II is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. All are welcome to participate in the service as indicated. The parts of the service marked M are spoken by the minister, and the parts marked C are spoken by everyone in the congregation.

PLEASE STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

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: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

The congregation may kneel.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.
The Perfect Wisdom of Our God

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend

1. The perfect wisdom of our God revealed in all the universe. All things created by His hand and held together at His command. He know the mysteries of the seas; the secrets of the stars are His. He guides the planets on their way and turns the earth through another

2. The matchless wisdom of His ways, that mark the path of righteousness. His Word a lamp unto my feet; His Spirit teaching and guiding me. And O the mystery of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost so that the fool might shame the wise, and all the glory might go to through the trials I choose to say: "Your perfect will in Your perfect
LORD, HAVE MERCY

The expression “Lord, have mercy” is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church. After each prayer we ask for God’s mercy on us and others.

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
   For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lord God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on our families. Take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us. Unite us in bonds of love, and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your saving purposes; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father 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

Joshua 24:12-18
Joshua urges us all to throw away our false gods and worship the LORD.

I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow. 13 So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.' 14 "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15 But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." 16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! 17 It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. 18 And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God." (NIV)

SERMON HYMN

Love Is the Gracious Gift
Christian Worship 505
SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 3:12-21

Christ has made us alive and calls us to live accordingly inside and outside our families.

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. 18 Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. 20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. 21 Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. (NIV)
THE GOSPEL

Luke 7:1-10

Jesus is amazed at the centurion’s humble, yet confident faith in him.

When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. 2 There a centurion’s servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. 3 The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. 4 When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, “This man deserves to have you do this, 5 because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.” 6 So Jesus went with them. He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: “Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. 7 That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. 8 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” 9 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, “I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.” 10 Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN

Oh, Blest the House, Whate’er Befall
Christian Worship 506

SERMON:

Joshua 24: 12-18
NICENE CREED

The Creed is a summary and profession of the Christian faith.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

Our thank-offering to the Lord flows out of the thankful hearts that have received the forgiveness of sins though 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.

For your convenience, scan this QR code to give online.
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
The Lord invites our prayers and promises to listen and respond according to his will.

LORD’S PRAYER
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.

LORD’S SUPPER
Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, bear witness to the fellowship we share, and proclaim his death until he returns.

M: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
M: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to the Lord.
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is good and right so to do.
M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Christ destroyed death and destroyed the power of Satan. We join the saints and angels in a song of praise to our God.

1 O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of pow’r and might,
   Your glo-ry, earth and heav-en In count-less ways re-cite.
   Ho-san-na! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,
   in your grace and mer-cy Re-ceive our fer-vent cry.

2 Ho-san-na in the high-est! How tru-ly blest is he
   Who in God’s name is com-ing To set his peo-ple free!
   He comes to bring sal-
   liv-er us from bond-age—Ho-san-na, might-y Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen
O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

The words we sing are taken from John 1:29. Believers come as spiritual beggars and cry out to Christ, the Lamb of God.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

DISTRIBUTION

On the basis of what God’s Word says, we kindly ask that only confirmed members of Ascension Lutheran partake of Holy Communion this morning. We encourage those who would like to receive Holy Communion with us in the future to speak with the Pastor before doing so.
SONG OF SIMEON

This song is from Luke chapter 2 where we are told the Holy Spirit had revealed to Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Savior. When he saw Jesus, Simeon sang this song thanking God for allowing him to see his Savior. We sing these words to express our thanks for the gift of forgiveness we just received in his holy Supper.

1 O Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, assured: For I have seen your promised Son, All glory to the Father, All glory to the
2 All glory to the Spirit, For- car-nate, sav-ing Word— A Light that will en- ever three in one; For as in the be-
light-en All gloom where Gen-tiles dwell; The bril-liant, gin-ning, Is now, shall ev-er be, God’s tri-une
crown-ing glo-ry Of those in Is-ra-el! name re-sound-ing Through all e-ter-ni-ty.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: 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.

C: Amen.
CLOSING HYMN

Bless Our Loved Ones, Holy Father
Christian Worship 504

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.

WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE!

Music
This Sunday: Mary Kollmeyer

Ushers
This Sunday: Phil Stephenson Next Sunday: Craig Lokensgard

Cleaning
This Sunday: We Need Your Help Next Sunday: Mary Jo Hayes

Refreshments
This Sunday: Pat Werrell Next Sunday: Lange Family

Last Week Attendance
Worship: 68 Bible Class: Open Forum Sunday School: 15

ASCENSION
NEWS & NOTES

Our Week with the Lord: June 11—June 18, 2017

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

Wednesday: Soccer Camp..........................................................9:00 AM
           Starting Point: Bible 101.............................................6:30 PM

Thursday: Soccer Camp............................................................9:00 AM

Friday: Soccer Camp...............................................................9:00 AM

Sunday: Worship ........................................................................9:00 AM
        Family Bible Hour..........................................................10:20 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Today’s Lesson: Faithful Stephen

Summer Sunday School will start on June 25 and we are still looking for volunteers to
 teach. The list is below. Remember you will be provided with the materials for teaching
 and/or coaching. Please let Mary Kollmeyer or Pastor know if you are willing to do this.

June 25: God Answers Abraham’s Prayer
        July 9: Hannah Loves Her Son
        July 16: David and Music—Skip and Mary
        July 23: Hezekiah Prays for God’s People
        July 30: Jesus Makes a Sick Boy Well

August 6: Jesus Answers the Prayer of a Canaanite Woman
        August 13: The Garden of Gethsemane
Williamsburg Plantation Park

HELP NEEDED
♦ Snacks, water and Gatorade
♦ Greeters/floaters/set up and take down
♦ Hot dogs, buns and chips

Registration online at www.welsalc.com

This summer the ladies will be focusing on some fellowship gatherings that will include a devotional during the meeting. The first fellowship get together will be on June 24 with a trip to Airlie Gardens in Wilmington. We will meet at church at noon to carpool and have the devotional there.

Tickets are $9 for adults, $5 if you are a New Hanover county resident or have a military ID. We will also be discussing where we want to go in July; please come out and enjoy some fun in the sun and great friends along with it. Any questions, please contact Angela McKay.
Bible 101 is your opportunity to explore the greatest story ever told.

Bible 101 is the starting point in our church for anyone looking to learn more about God, anyone who wants to see for themselves what the Bible says, anyone who would like to receive the sacrament of holy communion, or anyone seeking membership in our church family.

It’s also a great refresher for anyone who’d like to review the Bible’s basic teachings.

*No previous Bible knowledge is needed or expected. All materials are provided free of charge.*

**Begin your Journey on June 14**
Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm

**Contact Pastor Doug to register**
pastor@welsalc.com / 910-937-0022 or 801-837-7289
Next Week @ Ascension

One of the things about the early church that stood out was their love for each other put into practice in very real and tangible ways. What if the church still looked like that today?
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

pastor@welsalc.com

www.welsalc.com