

"She Anointed Jesus' Feet"

Ascension Lutheran Church Landover Hills, Maryland Phone: 301-577-0500 www.alutheranchurch.com



Fifth Sunday In Lent

April 6, 2025

#### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### Welcome and Notices

Prelude

Prelude on the Hymn Tune 'Slane'
Paul Fey

# (Stand) Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

# (Sit/kneel)

P: Most holy and merciful Father:

C: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

P: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

- P: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
- C: Have mercy on us, Lord.
- P: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives, our inclination towards nit-picking and fault-finding,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who will come after us,
- C: we confess to you, Lord.
- P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
- C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I announce the forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

# (Stand) Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

# Gathering Hymn

ELW 338

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869 Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

- 1. Beneath the cross of Jesus
  I long to take my stand;
  the shadow of a mighty rock
  within a weary land,
  a home within a wilderness,
  a rest upon the way,
  from the burning of the noontide heat
  and burdens of the day.
- 2. Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.

  And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess: the wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.

3. I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss, my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### (Sit) The First Lesson

Isaiah 43.16-21

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: <sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

126: antiphon: v. 3

<sup>1</sup>When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

<sup>3</sup>The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.

<sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negeb!

<sup>5</sup>Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!

<sup>6</sup>He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

#### The Second Lesson

Philippians 3.4b-14

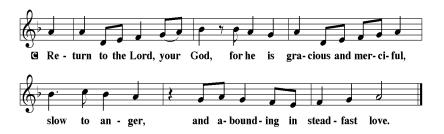
<sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, 11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have

made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

#### (Stand) Lenten Verse

"Return To The Lord" Reprinted under Augsburg license



## The Gospel Lesson

John 12: 1-8

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor? <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the

common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

(Sit) The Sermon

(Stand) **Hymn** ELW803

"When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

- When I survey the wondrous cross
   On which the prince of glory died,
   My richest gain I count but loss
   And pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

#### The Nicene Creed:

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

#### (Sit/kneel) The Prayers

#### "Hear Our Prayer"

Text: Paul Andress, b. 1956; 2006 Augsburg Fortress Music: Paul Andress, b. 1956: © 2006 Augsburg Fortress Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A-722315. All rights reserved



A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(after each portion of the prayers:)

A: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

(The prayers conclude.)

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

## (Stand) Sharing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

All may greet one another with a word of peace.

#### (Sit) The Gathering of Gifts

Any tithes or offerings may be placed into the offering plate by the entrance to the Sanctuary at the beginning or the end of service. For those who are worshiping with us via live-stream, please consider mailing your offering to the Church office or giving online through our website.

"Be Still, and Know That I Am God"

Roberta Bitgood

Annette Singletary

(Stand) **Presentation of Gifts** "Christ Have Mercy On Us All"

Text and Tune: Ray Makeever; © 1983, Augsburg Fortress

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1. Christ, have mercy on us all. Keep us steadfast e'er we fall.

Refrain: Break the bread, pour the wine, Come and dine.

- 2. God, be with us at the feast.
  Grant us wisdom, give us peace. Refrain
- 3. Holy Spirit, breathe again.
  Light the darkness, be our friend. Refrain
- 4. Bake a great loaf; give it time; Choose the best grapes from the vine. Refrain

## Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: In the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

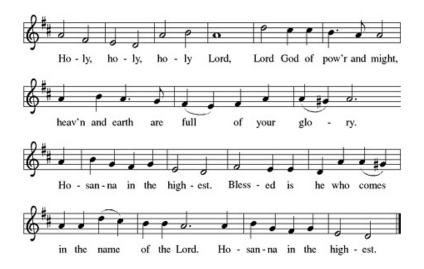
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up 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, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### The Eucharistic Prayer

P: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you. He is the one who was handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and in his resurrection, proclaimed his victory over sin and death.

In the night in which he betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ 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, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Take and drink, this is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in the remembrance of me."

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people. Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;

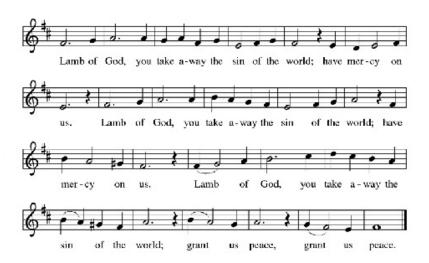
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### (Sit) Communion Distribution

Lutherans believe that in Holy Communion we are offered the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized adults who share this belief with us are welcome to come forward to receive Holy Communion. Others, including children, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Those communing may receive the wafer in their hand or upon their tongue. You may receive the wine by the common cup, individual cup, or by dipping the wafer into the wine. The ushers will direct you to communion.



"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" ELW 337

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

- Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?
   Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?
- 2. Was it for sins that I had done he groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!
- 3. Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut its glories in when God, the mighty maker, died for his own creatures' sin.

- 4. Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears, dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt my eyes to tears.
- 5. But tears of grief cannot repay the debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give myself away: 'tis all that I can do.

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

ELW 339 Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605-1681 tr.

Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Music: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687

1. Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suff'ring, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.

2. You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently, even death by crucifixion, fully to atone for me; for you chose to be tormented that my doom should be prevented. Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.

3. Then, for all that bought my pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore, for the anguish in the garden, I will thank you evermore; thank you for the groaning, sighing, for the bleeding and the dying, for that last triumphant cry, praise you evermore on high.

# (Stand) Post Communion Blessing

P: May this, the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keeping you steadfast in your faith for life everlasting.

C: Amen.

#### Post Communion Canticle

"Praise to You, O God of Mercy"

ELW 208
Text and Tune: Now the Feast and Celebration,
Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc
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- 1. Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
  Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
- 2. From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!

  Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!

Bridge: Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love, rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

3. Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!

## Post Communion Prayer

A: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

#### Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn "Through The Night Of Doubt And Sorrow"

FLW 355

Text: Bernhardt S. Ingermann, 1789-1862; tr

ELW 355 Text: Bernhardt S. Ingermann, 1789-1862; tr.
Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924, alt.
Music: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944;

arr. Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

1. Through the night of doubt and sorrow Onward goes the pilgrim band, Singing songs of expectation, Marching to the promised land. Clear before us through the darkness Gleams and burns the guiding light; Pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim Stepping fearless through the night.

- 2. One the light of God's own presence On his ransomed people shed, Chasing far the gloom and terror, Bright'ning all the path we tread. One the object of our journey, One the faith which never tires, One the earnest looking forward, One the hope our God inspires.
- 3. One the strain that lips of thousands
  Lift as from the heart of one;
  One the conflict, one the peril,
  One the march in God begun.
  One the gladness of rejoicing
  On the far eternal shore,
  Where the one almighty Father
  Reigns in love forevermore.
- 4. Onward, therefore, sisters, brothers; Onward, with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its battle Till we rest beneath its shade. Soon shall come the great awak'ning; Soon the rending of the tomb! Then the scatt'ring of all shadows, And the end of toil and gloom.

### Sending

A: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

5 Variations on the Hymn
"O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden"
Paul Fey

#### **SERVING US IN WORSHIP**

PastorRev. Chris AgneAssistantAdam KampiaMusicianBen Harris

**Reader** Annette Singletary

**Greeters** Harry & Kathy Sessums

Altar Guild Wells Family, Ernestine Bivins,

Vivian Licorish, Dianne McGill

**Ushers** Dan Fulford, Jr., Carl Wilhoit,

Darrell Dockery

**Counters** Vivian Licorish, Morris Hymes, Jr.

### Acknowledgments

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## Prayer List

In order to keep the prayer list current the Board of Elders will edit the list once a month. If you have the name of a loved one that you would like to keep on the prayer list permanently, please contact Marj Nilsson @ 301-442-6253 marjorienilsson@hotmail.com.

#### Sunday @6

To the Homebound and Sick, we invite you to participate in Sunday @ 6, a weekly worship call. We have prayer, Scripture, a devotion and music. We invite, welcome and encourage you to join us in Christian fellowship every Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

The call is toll-free:(267) 807-9601 Sunday @ 6

Enter this code:773-431-475 #

For further information, call Alice Gaither at (301) 459-4194!

#### Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study began again on September 1<sup>st</sup>. All participants are meeting in the music room following service.

We are studying the book of Esther. If you are awaiting a miracle that has not come, feel inadequate, threatened, or pushed into overpowering situations, this is the study for you. We will explore the history of the Persian empire, the diaspora, and the plight of Israel during this period. We will look at other scriptures in both the old and new testaments that support and expand our understanding of Esther's story. We will learn how Esther's story has contemporary applications for our lives today. To include the most people possible, we will be meeting on Sundays when choir is not in rehearsal.

Adult Bible Study Schedule -Esther April 13; May 4,18; June 1,15

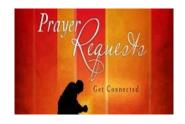
#### **Easter Flowers**

Flowers to decorate our altar on Easter Morning can be ordered now. Sign up on the bulletin board for your selections.

Azaleas \$10.00 each Tulips \$ 6.50 each Hydrangeas \$18.00 each Lilies \$ 6.00 each

Payment is by the honor system. If paying by check, please include a memo "For Easter Flowers". The online payment offers a place to include the same information.

Please remember which flowers or plants you purchased.



# Ascension Lutheran Church

**Prayer Request**Please put your prayer requests in the
Prayer Diary at the rear of the Sanctuary so we can
add your need to our prayers.

Lewis Powell, prayers for comfort and healing

Alice McNeil, prayers for comfort and healing

Kathy Greer upon the recent passing of Keith Greer

Helen Riley, Prayers for strength and healing.

Thersa Snuggs and family upon the recent passing of Lisa Snuggs, wife of Donald Snuggs

The Ojurongbe /Osho Family, upon the recent passing of Abidemi "Demi" Ojurongbe

Ernestine Hayes, Prayers for healing.

Jannie Goldston, prayers for healing.

Jenny DeMaio, Prayers for healing.

Marj Nilsson, Prayers for healing.

Calvin Lee, Prayers for healing.

Herman McNeil, Prayers for comfort and healing.

Zachary Plue, Prayers for continued healing.

Susie Nilsson, Prayers for continued healing.

Joyce Bailey, Prayers for continued healing.

Helen Bell, Prayers for healing

Alice Gaither, Prayers for healing.

Kent & Walt Nilsson, Prayers for improved vision.

#### Ascension Homebound:

John DellaGatta; Lois Flemming; Olivia Powell; Arthur & Mildred Smith, Helen Rilev.

# Ascension Weekly

Ascension Lutheran Church 7415 Buchanan Street Landover Hills, MD 20784 Phone: 301-577-0500 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Email: office@alutheranchurch.com www.alutheranchurch.com Fax: 301-577-9558

## **Information & Notices**

**April 6, 2025** 

## **Services**

#### **Divine Worship**

Sunday at 9:00 am

**Holy Communion** is celebrated in most services.

#### **Holy Baptism**

Arrangements for Baptism can be made with the Church Office.

### Weddings

Weddings for active Ascension members are arranged with the Church Office

#### **Please Note**

Adult Bible Study: Bible study meets on Sundays after worship, at 10:30 am.

#### Staff:

Rev. Chris Agne Pastor Gwen Neal Office Mgr. Ben Harris Parish Musician

Office open Mon-Fri., 8-4:30 Closed Holidays.

Please allow us to share Church News with you via email. Send your email address to the Church Office at office@alutheranchurch.com Sunday, Sunday, April 6

Lent V

9:00 am Worship

6:00 pm Sunday @ 6

Wednesday, April 9

Mid Week Lenten 12:00 pm

Service

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday

9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Study

Sunday @ 6 6 6:00 pm

# **Altar Flowers Presented By**

Please Note that flowers will only be provided when they are sponsored by members. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the Church Office Wing.



**Altar Flowers** 

Altar Flowers \$50.00 Sanctuary Lights \$ 5.00

# Ascension Lutheran Church: Becoming Caring Servants who Extend Life in Christ to Diverse people



Saturday, May 31 Mid-Atlantic Lutherans In Mission

Stepping Forward - Conference Pursuing Racial Justice In Our

Walk With Jesus

Sunday, June 15 Education Sunday

Sunday, June 22 Voter's Meeting-Election

Friday, Sept. 19-21 LWML Christian Life Retreat

# Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Brendan Wallace, Sally Hiller, Rebekah Yohe-Lawrence, Constance Deas, Jessica Fields, Mary West, Sandra White, Gretchen Savoy

Mary & Wisson West Bill & Yueland Johnson Sharron & Robert Oesby

## SERVING US IN WORSHIP, Next Sunday, April 13

**Pastor** Rev. Chris Agne Assistant Annette Singletary

MusicianBen HarrisReaderDoakes FamilyGreetersGloria Malachi

Altar Guild Cheryl Townsend, Carolyn Plue,

Mary Tipton, Bose Osho

**Ushers** Calvin Lee, Ronnie Townsend,

Cris Bonner

**Counters** Andy House, Dwight Mitchell,

Adam Kampia