

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD



This Ending Is a New Beginning

May 12, 2024

Everyone is asked to silence or put their **cell phones** on vibrate, while attending church services.

For those leaving for the summer the new *Portals of Prayer* (blue) are on the tables by the doors. In mid-June they will be put out for everyone else.

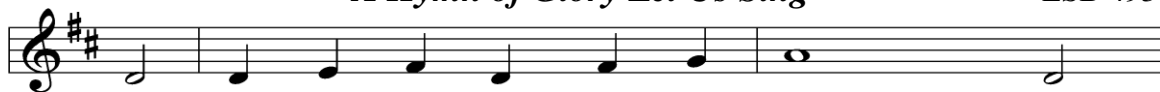
AS WE GATHER

While the Ascension is often underappreciated, it is a very important feast, and its message is deeply profound. We tend to think of Jesus' ascension as an ending point, and no one likes to wave goodbye. Even the apostles felt a sense of apprehension. But our Lord prepared them by opening the Scriptures to them so that they might know where to hear His voice even as His visual appearance would not be with them. We know that they understood this, because they returned with joy and not fear, celebrating this event as a new beginning and not an end.

HYMN

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

LSB 493



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why
4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,
stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,
to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers
al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they
al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection and examination

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \times Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

LSB 493

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And
 Δ 6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, All

be our fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia,
 praise to You let earth ac - cord: Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Then, throned with You for - ev - er,
 al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less a - ges

we Shall praise Your name e - ter - nal -
 run, With Fa - ther and with Spir - it

ly. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, to whom our Savior ascended in His glory and from whose right hand He works to supply His church with the fruits of His redeeming work, keep us in faith that we may be sustained by His mercy and brought to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen**

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, **2** until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3** He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from

Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" **7** He said to them, "It is not for

you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own

authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were

gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his

power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these

things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

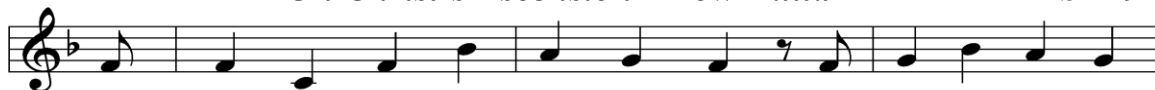
⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

LSB 492



1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -
2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -
3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

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SERMON

APOSTLE'S CREED

C 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Risen, ascended, and glorified Lord, hear the prayers of Your people and grant us grace that we may recognize Your presence in Word and Sacrament and receive there the fruits of Your redeeming work until You come again to deliver us into Your presence on high. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Sustain Your church, O Lord, that she may be faithful in all that You have given her to do and be kept in unity of doctrine and life through the days of trial until at last the church in heaven and the church on earth are one in Your presence on high. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Order all things on earth by Your Word that those entrusted with the leadership of the nations may fulfill Your purpose in the pursuit of peace, justice, and godliness on behalf of all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Supply to the sick and those who suffer the grace to sustain them in the day of their trouble and give comfort to the dying and those who mourn. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**
Pastor: By Your Spirit bring us to repentance and to faith in Your Word and promise, that we may approach Your altar with confidence and receive for our benefit Your body and blood given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Help us by Your grace to lead a holy and godly life, worthy of our calling as Your own people by Baptism and faith, and help us to give witness to the hope that is within us before a world in darkness. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Accept the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we bring with our lips and the tithes and offerings of our hands as the worship acceptable in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Having in remembrance all those who have loved Your appearing and who now rest in Your mercy, we pray for that day when we shall join with them in the marriage feast of the Lamb in Your kingdom without end.
People: **Glory, honor, blessing, and praise to You, O risen and ascended Lord. Amen.**

OFFERING / OFFERTORY

LORD'S PRAYER

People: **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.**


BENEDICTION

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


People: Amen.

HYMN


Alleluia! Sing to Jesus LSB 821



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om -
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the




scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the
nip - o - tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of
scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the




tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.
Mar - y, Earth Your foot - stool, heav'n Your throne.
tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.



Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der
As with - in the veil You en - tered, Robed in
Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der



like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
flesh, our great High Priest, Here on earth both
like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of



ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."
priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."

For with you is the fountain of life;



in your light we see light. Psalm 36:9

Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod

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Service Times

Sunday

Chancel Choir Practice 8:30 am

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Bible Study 11:15 am

Tuesday

Mid-week Bible Study 10:00 am

3rd Tuesday Men's Breakfast/Royal Cafe 8:30 am

Wednesday

Quilters 9:00 am

Thursday

1st and 3rd week

Permission to Grieve Group 10:00 am

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday (9am-2pm)

Closed Friday

Fountain of Life Lutheran Church