

First Lutheran Church Ascension Day 2021 May 13, 2021 6:00 PM

(*indicates please stand if you are able)

Opening Prelude Welcome and Announcements

AS WE GATHER

("I'll see you soon!" So says the parent, spouse, or friend leaving for an errand or a short trip, with certainty that time together will soon be had again. "I'll see you soon!" so says Jesus as He departs and ascends into heaven. And though it has not been hours or days or even weeks, rather nearly two thousand years later, we still hold to the certainty of His promise that we shall see Him again soon at His time. Until that day, though, we are wise to not stay looking up into the sky, as the disciples began to do long ago. Rather, we heed His mission to make disciples and keep ourselves prepared for that day. Even as we long to see Him soon, we know that Jesus is enough for us every day, and we take comfort in the fact that our ascended Lord Jesus remains present with us now, in this life, even amid troubles and trials. We hold on to His promises by the faith given, and we anticipate that joyful day when He will come again in the same way He was taken up into heaven.)

INVOCATION

- C: Amen.

READING Acts 1:1–11

P: Our First Reading, the account of Christ's ascension, from Acts, the first chapter:

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked Him,

C: "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

P: He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. 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."

HYMN (vs 1 & 2).....On last two pages "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"

- P: 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. And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said,
- C: "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."

HYMN (vs 3 & 4).....On last two pages "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"

- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Psalm 47:2–3; 124:8

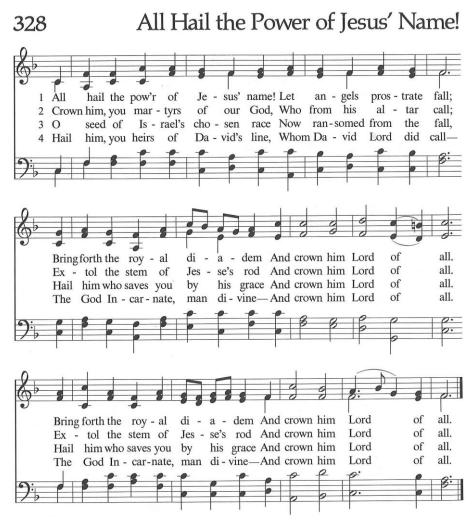
- P: For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.
- C: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.
- P: Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- C: who made heaven and earth.
- P: Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious Lord.
- C: We confess before God and before one another that we have failed to live in the image of Christ. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.
- P: We stand guilty before our Father in heaven and are in need of His forgiveness.
- C: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- P: Because of and in Christ's continued presence through all our days,
- C: renew us and strengthen us for Christlike living and service in Your kingdom until the day when we ascend to the heavenly realm where we shall be in the presence of Christ forever and ever.

HYMN (vs 5-7)..... On last page "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"

P: Jesus Christ, your ascended Lord, has heard your confession, and He alone has the power to forgive all sin. His presence and grace are enough for us in this time and eternally. God has promised His merciful forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus, to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him in faith. As a called and ordained servant of

- C: Amen.
- P: God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you in ways of faith and obedience, and finally bring you to live with Him forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" CHRISTIAN HOPE



5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget The wormwood and the gall, Go, spread your trophies at his feet And crown him Lord of all. 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe On this terrestrial ball To him all majesty ascribe And crown him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at his feet may fall!We'll join the everlasting song And crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, alt. Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

🕸 WORD 🕸

SALUTATION

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray.
- C: Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CORONATION 868686

⁸ God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

⁹ The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

GRADUAL *adapt. from* Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6 L: Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor, He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

Epistle Ephesians 1:15–23 (Thanksgiving and prayer through our risen and ascended Savior)

VERSE.....Romans 6:9; Matthew 28:20b

- L: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Alleluia.
- P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.
- C: Glory to You, O Lord.
- HOLY GOSPEL.....Luke 24:44–53 (Jesus fulfills all Scripture.)
- P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY.....On next two pages "Crown Him with Many Crowns" CHRIST THE KING

Crown Him with Many Crowns 170 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne; Hark, 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born, Whose 3 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and side, Rich 4 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri-umphed o'er the grave And how an - them drowns All the heav'n - ly mu - sic but its own. A those crim - son tro - phies won Which now his arm brow a - dorn: Fruit wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In glo - ri - fied. beau-ty No the vic - to - rious strife For rose in those he came to save. His Of wake, my soul, and sing him who died for thee, And of the Yet of mys - tic rose, that rose the stem, The ful - ly an - gels sky Can But in the bear that sight, died glo - ries now we sing, Who and Who rose on high, ന hail him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni ty. root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le hem. down-ward bend their burn - ing eyes At mys-ter - ies SO bright. died, e - ter - nal life to bring, And lives that death may die. 8

Crown him the Lord of peace, 6 Crown him the Lord of years, 5 The potentate of time, Whose pow'r a scepter sways From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Creator of the rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime. Absorbed in prayer and praise. All hail, Redeemer, hail! His reign shall know no end, For thou hast died for me; And round his pierced feet Thy praise and glory shall not fail Fair flow'rs of paradise extend Throughout eternity. Their fragrance ever sweet.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893 DIADEMATA S M D

| HOMILY | . Pastor | Chuck | Mann |
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CATECHISM Explanation of the Second Article

- P: Jesus fulfilled all Scripture as the Word made flesh. Forty days after His victory over sin, death, and the devil by His rising from the dead, He ascended into heaven. Believing in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, as our Lord and Savior and humanity's redemption and source of all salvation, we focus on the Small Catechism's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, which we confess together:
- C: 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.
- P: What does this mean?
- C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

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 Numbers 6:24–26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and \blacksquare give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMNOn next page "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

721

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



Text: Jaroslav Vajda, b. 1919 Music: Welsh Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda AR HYD Y NOS 84848884

DISMISSAL

- P: With the power He has given through His Spirit, as His loved and forgiven people and as His witnesses here, nearby, and to the ends of the earth, go in peace as you serve our risen and ascended Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING MUSIC

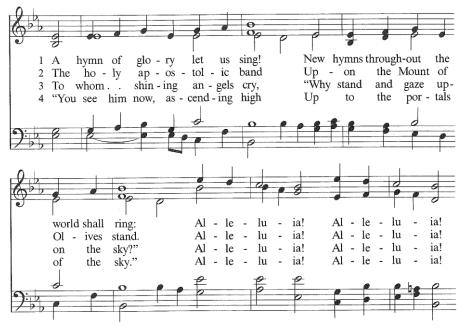
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| TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS & | VOLUNTEERS – THANK YOU! |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| PASTOR | Pastor Chuck Mann |
| READER | Donna Sommer |
| ORGANIST | LeAnn Richard |
| STREAMING SYSTEM | Matt Gardner |

ASCENSION

1.57

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!





- 5 O Lord, our homeward pathway bend, That our unwearied hearts ascend. Alleluia! Alleluia! Where, seated on your Father's throne, You reign as King of kings alone. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 Give us your joy on earth, O Lord, In heav'n to be our great reward. Alleluia! Alleluia! When throned with you forever, we Shall praise your name eternally. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia! Alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!