

WATER OF LIFE

LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

MAY 16, 2021 | 8 AM

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PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL † SEEK THE THIRSTY † TEACH THE WORD

† *As We Gather* †

"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, we heed His mission to make disciples and keep ourselves prepared for that day. We hold on to His promises by faith given, and we anticipate that joyful day when He will come again in the same way He was taken up into heaven.

Please pick up a hymnal at the back of the Sanctuary and return them at the end of the service. The service is printed in this service folder. Hymns will be sung from the LSB hymnals. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering box at the Sanctuary door as you exit.

† *Preparation* †

WELCOME

OPENING 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!

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
 And be our future great reward.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Then, throned with You forever, we
 Shall praise Your name eternally.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 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!

INVOCATION

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

People Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Hebrews 10:22

Pastor Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People Who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

Pastor I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

Pastor O almighty God, merciful Father,

People We confess to You all our sins and iniquities with which we have offended You. By nature, we are sinful creatures. In thought, word, and deed, we have continually transgressed Your Law. For this we justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways until the day when we ascend to the heavenly realm where we shall be in the presence of Christ forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor Jesus Christ, your ascended Lord, has heard your confession, and He alone has the power to forgive all sin. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

✠ *Service of the Word* ✠

INTROIT

Psalms 110:1, 4-5

Pastor God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**People The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool."**

Pastor The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind,
"You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

People **The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.**

ALL **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

KYRIE

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.

SALUTATION

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.

ALL 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.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

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

⁴And 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But 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." ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and 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."



Lector This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead

and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far 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. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Lector This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(Please rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel)

ALLELUIA & VERSE

LSB 205



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

People **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁴Then [Jesus] 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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."



in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,
 to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther
 prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure
 Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -
 As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our
 With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as
 Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.
 world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!
 You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.
 al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

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SERMON

Rev. Shawn Deterding

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

† *Service of the Sacrament* †

PREFACE

Pastor The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

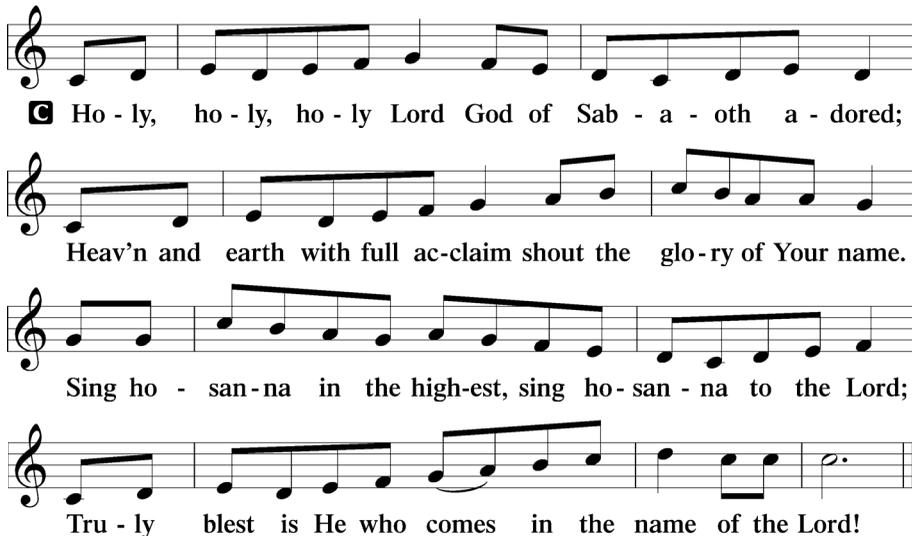
People It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their

sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor Blessed are You, almighty God, everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was born, lived a perfect life, sacrificially died, victoriously rose, and gloriously ascended into heaven. In His presence now at this Table, we ask that You grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Until the day Christ returns in the same way He went into heaven, gather us from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

Pastor Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION ~ *Welcome to the Lord's table.*

(Holy Communion will be distributed to one family unit at a time. An usher will direct you.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated

LSB 840



1 Christ high-as-cend-ed, now in glo-ry seat-ed, Throned and ex-
 2 Christ from the Fa-ther ev-'ry pow'r pos-sess-ing, Who on His
 3 Christ, who in dy-ing won for us sal-va-tion, Lives now the
 4 Christ in His splen-dor, all do-min-ion gain-ing, Christ with His
 5 As at His part-ing, joy shall ban-ish griev-ing, Faith in His



alt-ed, vic-to-ry com-plet-ed, Death's dread do-min-ion
 cho-sen lift-ed hands in bless-ing, Sends forth His ser-vants,
 first-born of the new cre-a-tion; To win dis-ci-ples
 peo-ple ev-er-more re-main-ing, Christ to all a-ges
 pres-ence strength-en our be-liev-ing; Filled with His Spir-it,



fi-nal-ly de-feat-ed, We are His wit-ness-es.
 still in faith con-fess-ing, We are His wit-ness-es.
 out of ev-'ry na-tion, We are His wit-ness-es.
 glo-ri-ous-ly reign-ing, We are His wit-ness-es.
 love and pow'r re-ceiv-ing, We are His wit-ness-es.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Your Table I Approach

LSB 628



1 Your ta-ble I ap-proach; Dear Sav-ior, hear my prayer.
 2 Lord, I con-fess my sins And mourn their wretch-ed bands;
 3 Your bod-y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
 4 Search not how this takes place, This won-drous mys-ter-y;



Let not an un-re-pen-tant heart Prove hurt-ful to me there.
 A con-trite heart is sure to find For-give-ness at Your hands.
 Are tak-en at Your ta-ble, Lord, In blest re-al-i-ty.
 God can ac-com-plish vast-ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

Pastor 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 ☩ give you peace.

People **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

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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Go in peace

- ✚ *Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering box at the Sanctuary door as you exit.*
- ✚ *Join us for our Adult Bible Study class in the Sanctuary at 9:30 AM following this service.*
- ✚ *Sunday School for children and youth begins at 9:30 AM in the upstairs classrooms.*

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ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers this week are given in praise and glory to God by Sam & Victoria T. in honor of their 6th wedding anniversary.



THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated at Water of Life often as commanded by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We believe that as we eat and drink the bread and wine that Christ's true body and blood are present. This is an invitation, not only from Christ, but also from this congregation, to all those who have been baptized in faith, repent of their sins, and who set aside any refusal to forgive and love just as Christ demonstrated to us through his death and resurrection.

Holy Communion is a confession of faith, therefore taking it in an unworthy manner can cause great spiritual harm. *(See 1 Cor. 11:27-29.)* For this reason, we ask that if you have not been instructed, have concerns, or believe differently from the beliefs of this congregation, and yet wish to partake in Holy Communion, please speak with our Pastor or an Elder.

Please kneel at the rail to receive the body and blood of Christ. All children, and adults not communing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed to receive a blessing.

** If you are unable to consume alcohol, please alert the pastor before the service. You may also receive diluted wine in the individual cups at the center of the tray.*

