



**FAITH LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

*"Raising Up  
Families and Followers  
of Jesus Christ"*

**WORSHIP**

Traditional – 8:30 am

Contemporary – 11:15 am

Education Hour – 10:00 am

**CONTACT**

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**THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD  
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

May 24, 2020

*Ephesians 1:15-16 (NIV)*

*For this reason, ever since  
I heard about your faith  
in the Lord Jesus and your  
love for all the saints, I  
have not stopped giving  
thanks for you,  
remembering you in my  
prayers.*

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD**

May 24, 2020

9:30 AM Combined Service

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Though Christ is ascended on high and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling and reigning over all creation, there have been times when we have lived as though we rule and reign over our own lives. We have lived as though Christ were too far away to matter. But our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him, confess our sins, and receive His forgiveness.

*Silence for meditation.*

Leader: Heavenly Father,

**All: we confess to You that we are sinful and unclean. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we walk in Your perfect way and delight in Your perfect will. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. Christ is ascended, and all things are under His feet, including sin, death, and the devil. On account of Christ's saving work and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☐ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen. We are forgiven and restored.**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen and ascended!

**All: Christ is risen and ascended indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen and ascended!

**All: Christ is risen and ascended indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Today is a day of celebration, grief, and anticipation.

**All: We celebrate our Lord's triumph and reign.**

Leader: We grieve that He is not physically present with us.

**All: We anticipate the coming of the promised Holy Spirit on Pentecost.**

Leader: And we celebrate that His promise to always be with us remains and will never fade away.

**OPENING HYMN**     **“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”** LSB 492

On Christ’s ascension I now build – the hope of my ascension  
This hope alone has always stilled – all doubt and apprehension  
For where the Head is there as well - I know His members are to dwell  
When Christ will come and call them

Since Christ returned to claim His throne – great gifts for me obtaining  
My heart will rest in Him alone – no other rest remaining  
For where my treasure went before – there all my thoughts will ever soar  
To still their deepest yearning

O grant dear Lord this grace to me – recalling Your ascension  
That I may serve You faithfully – in thanks for my redemption  
And then when all y days will cease – let me depart in joy and peace  
In answer to my pleading

**DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE**

**SALUTATION** *p. 189*

Leader:       The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

All:           **And with thy spirit.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Leader:       Let us pray

Heavenly Father, Your Son sent us to the ends of the earth with the Gospel and promised always to be with us. Embolden us to spread the good news of Jesus’ death, resurrection, ascension, and return; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All:           **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** *Acts 1:1–11* (Jesus ascends into heaven and promises the Holy Spirit.)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> 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.” <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> 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.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Ephesians 1:15–23* (Christ is risen and ascended. All things are under His feet.)

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> 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, <sup>18</sup> 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, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 24:44–53* (Jesus is carried up into the heavens.)

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

All: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup> 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.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> 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.”

<sup>50</sup> And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them.

<sup>51</sup> While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup> and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**                    **“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”** LSB 493 vs. 1-4.6

A Hymn of Glory let us sing – New hymns through-out the world shall ring

Alleluia - Alleluia

Christ by a road before untrod – Ascends unto the throne of God

Alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia

The holy apostolic hand – upon the Mound of Olives stand

Alleluia - Alleluia

And with His faithful foll’wers see – their Lord ascend in majesty

Alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia

To them the shining angels cry – “Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”

Alleluia - Alleluia

“This is the Savoir” thus they say – “This is His glorious triumph day”

Alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia

“You see Him now ascending high – up to the portals of the sky”

Alleluia - Alleluia

“Here after Jesus you shall see – returning in great majesty”

Alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia – alleluia

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

**SERMON**                    *Ephesians 1:15–23*

Leader: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:7*

All: **Amen.**

**All:** 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

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

Dear heavenly Father, You sent Your Son into our world with a mission to seek and to save the lost. Thank You for His life, ministry, suffering, death, and resurrection. Most especially today we thank You for seating Him at Your right hand in His ascension. We thank You for we know that Christ is ascended. Lord, thank You for sending the promised Holy Spirit to guide us in all of our ways. Conform our lives to the Word of God and transform us by the renewing of our minds. We ask this with boldness for we know that Christ is ascended.

**All:** **He rules and reigns in glory.**

Leader: Lord, at the end of His earthly ministry, Jesus sent His disciples out to the ends of the earth with a mission to be witnesses of His resurrection. Strengthen us as we continue their faithful witness. Embolden all missionaries and evangelists by constantly opening a door for Your Word to be spoken. We ask this in faith for we know that Christ is ascended.

**All:** **He rules and reigns in glory.**

Leader: Lord, we live in a world with imperfect leaders, imperfect laws, and imperfect communities, but we know that all things are under Christ's feet, and He has all power and authority. So we ask for You to send Your perfect wisdom to our elected and appointed officials, instill Your perfect justice in our lawyers and judges, and bring Your perfect hope to our communities. We ask this in hope for we know that Christ is ascended.

**All:** **He rules and reigns in glory.**

Leader: Lord, we pray for those who are sick and recovering, those who are hospitalized and homebound. Especially those whom we name here... Strengthen them, and give them patience in their afflictions. Finally, Lord, we ask for Your comfort for all those who grieve the death of loved ones, Grant them peace as they hope in the resurrection to eternal life. We ask this knowing that Christ is ascended.

**All: He rules and reigns in glory.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER** *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

Leader: 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.**

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

**All: Amen.**

**OFFERING** *At this time we would normally collect an offering. Please take a moment to visit our church website, give + mobile or write a personal check to send your much appreciated tithe."*

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *p. 178*

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, 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. Graciously 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.

**All: Amen.**

**SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS** p. 201

Leader: The Lord be with you,

2 Timothy 4:22

**All: And with thy spirit.**

Leader: Bless we the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION** Numbers 6:24-26 p. 202

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

**All: Amen, amen, amen.**

**HYMN**

**“Jesus Name Above All Names”**

Jesus - name above all names -

Beautiful Savior - glorious Lord

Emmanuel - God is with us

Blessed Redeemer - living Word

Jesus - loving Shepherd

Vine of the branches - Son of God

Prince of Peace – Wonderful, Counselor

Lord of the universe - Light of the world

Jesus - Way of Salvation

King of kings - Lord of lords

The way the truth - and the Life

Mighty creator - my Savior and friend.

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**DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace, service the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**