The Ascension of Our Lord

May 16, 2021

**Faith Lutheran Church Online Georgetown, TX 78628**

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 *(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)*

# WELCOME

# INVOCATION:

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

People: Amen.

# EASTER ACCLAMATION:

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

# CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 47:1-2, 5-6*

Pastor: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

People: For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great King over all the earth.

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

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

# OPENING HYMN: “See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph” (LSB, #494, verses 1, 2, and 5)

See, the Lord ascends in triumph;

Conqu’ring King in royal state,

Riding on the clouds, His chariot,

To His heav’nly palace gate.

Hark! The choirs of angel voices

Joyful alleluias sing,

And the portals high are lifted

To receive their heav’nly King.

Who is this that comes in glory

With the trump of jubilee?

Lord of battles, God of armies,

He has gained the victory.

He who on the cross did suffer,

He who from the grave arose,

He has vanquished sin and Satan;

He by death has crushed His foes.

He has raised our human nature

On the clouds to God’s right hand;

There we sit in heav’nly places,

There with Him in glory stand.

Jesus reigns, adored by angels;

Man with God is on the throne.

By our mighty Lord’s ascension

We by faith behold our own.

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# CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Christ Jesus is risen from the dead and has ascended into heaven. He sits at God’s right hand and wields the scepter of divine power with mercy and grace. He is mighty to save and tender to forgive. Confident of His favor, we confess our sins to our triumphant Redeemer:

People: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we sing our alleluias to You, the God of pardon and peace. We have fallen grievously short of Your glory because we are sinful by nature. Our descent is complete. We sin against You moment by moment and day by day. In thought, word, and deed we disobey Your commands, utterly failing to love God with all our heart, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Cleanse and renew us, that we may honor You with lives of faith; and daily attend us by Your Spirit, that we may not waver in our devotion to You but daily be strengthened in it.

Pastor: Rejoice, dear friends. Our heavenly Father takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but wills that they turn away from evil. To this end He sent His Son Jesus Christ to wrest life from death and declare innocent the guilty. You are marked with the cross of Christ and are washed in His blood. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord Jesus and by His command, I, therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Grant, we pray, almighty God that even as we believe Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to have ascended into heaven, so may we in heart and mind ascend and continually dwell there with Him; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# THE FIRST READING: *Acts 1:1-11*

 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, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 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.” 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, “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.”

**RESPONSORY:** Psalm 47:7-8

*Lector: God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!*

People: God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

# EPISTLE READING: *Ephesians 1:15-23*

 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that 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, 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 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. And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all.

**RESPONSORY:** Psalm 47:9

*Lector: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.*

People: For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted.

*Lector: Please rise, as you are able.*

*Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter:*

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

# GOSPEL READING: *Luke 24:44-53*

 Then [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.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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.”

 Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

*Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the* *Nicene Creed*

# CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!**

# CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

The Children’s Message will return to its regularly scheduled place when we are able to increase the length of the worship service. Until then, it is available online at [www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons).

# HYMN: “Christ Is the World’s Redeemer” (LSB, #539, verses 1, 2, 3)

Christ is the world’s Redeemer,

The lover of the pure,

The font of heav’nly wisdom,

Our trust and hope secure,

The armor of His soldiers,

The Lord of earth and sky,

Our health while we are living,

Our life when we shall die.

Christ has our host surrounded

With clouds of martyrs bright,

Who wave their palms in triumph

And fire us for the fight.

Then Christ the cross ascended

To save a world undone

And, suff’ring for the sinful,

Our full redemption won.

Down through the realm of darkness

He strode in victory,

And at the hour appointed

He rose triumphantly.

And now, to heav’n ascended,

He sits upon the throne

Whence He had ne’er departed,

His Father’s and His own.

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# SERMON: “Dynamite” *(Acts 1:1-11)*

# OFFERTORY:

While the Coronavirus may have changed the way we come through the front doors of church, thanks be to God it has not prevented us from coming to Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and giving today at [www.flcms.org/index.php/give](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/give/).

OFFERTORY HYMN: “**Christ the Eternal Lord**” (LSB, #829, verse 5)

Christ the ascended King

Exalted high above,

Whose praise unending ages sing,

Whom yet unseen we love;

When mortal life is past

Your voice from heaven’s throne

Shall call Your children home at last

To know as we are known.

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# PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

# THE LORD’S PRAYER:

**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.**

# EASTER GREETING:

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

# BENEDICTION: (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Pastor: May the God of peace, Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will,

People: and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

# CLOSING HYMN: “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (LSB, #493, verses 1, 5, and 6)

A hymn of glory let us sing!

New hymns throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, by a road before untrod,

Ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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!

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!

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# DISMISSAL:

Please be seated
and kindly wait for an usher to dismiss your row.

† **†** †

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**In Christian Service:**

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

*with*

Proclaimer – Rev. Bill Crowe

Liturgist – Rev. Walt Pohland

Musicians:

Adam Perez and Austin Angerman

Lay Readers:

Online Reader – Nicky Shepherd