

The Ascension of Our Lord

May 21, 2023

Faith Lutheran Church

512-863-7332

Georgetown, TX 78628

flcms.org

(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)

WELCOME

INVOCATION:

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

People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION:

Vicar: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

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

Vicar: 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.

Vicar: 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!

Vicar: 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: “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (Lutheran Service Book, #493)

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!

The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount 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 Savior," 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!

"Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty."

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!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

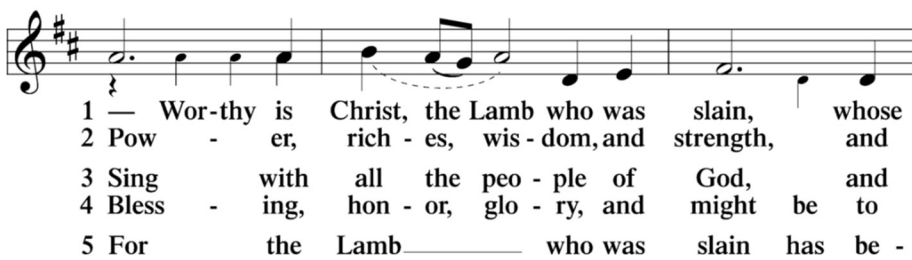
Vicar: Beloved in the Lord! Christ Jesus is risen from the dead and has ascended into heaven. He sits at God's right hand and wields the scepter of divine power with mercy and grace. He is mighty to save and tender to forgive. Confident of His favor, we confess our sins to our triumphant Redeemer:

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.

Vicar: 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 one Christian to others I joyfully announce to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit that your sins are forgiven.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "This Is the Feast" LSB, page 155 (sung)





blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

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.

HANDBELL ENSEMBLE: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (LSB 411), arranged by John A. Behnke, © 1970 Celebration and Concordia Publishing House.

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, with Alleluias

Lector: Alleluia. Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

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, with Alleluias

Lector: Alleluia. Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

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 Apostles' Creed.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

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!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: "See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph" (LSB, #494)

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.

While He lifts His hands in blessing,
He is parted from His friends;
While their eager eyes behold Him,
He upon the clouds ascends.
He who walked with God and pleased Him,
Preaching truth and doom to come,
He, our Enoch, is translated
To His everlasting home.

Now our heav'nly Aaron enters
With His blood within the veil;
Joshua now is come to Canaan,
And the kings before Him quail.
Now He plants the tribes of Israel
In their promised resting place;
Now our great Elijah offers
Double portion of His grace.

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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SERMON: "Ascended for Action" (*Psalm 47:5, 8*)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

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.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

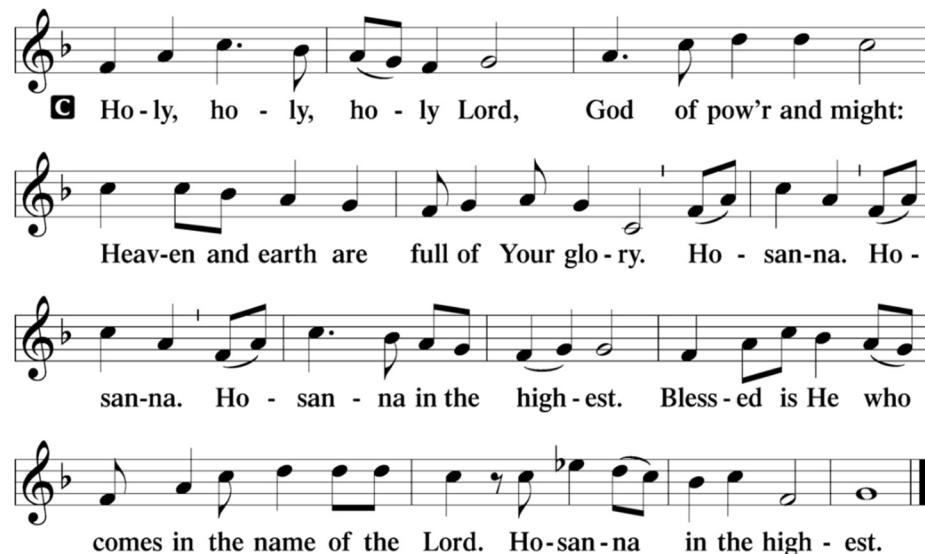
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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 singing:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

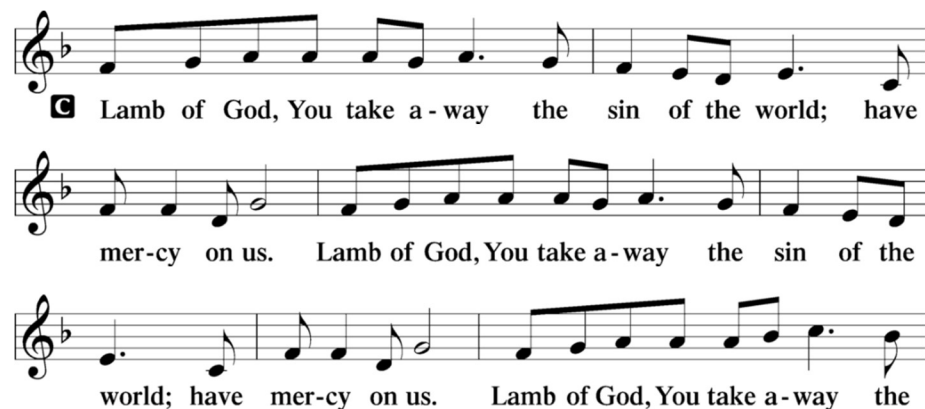
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper will be distributed at the altar rail. Please follow the ushers' directions.

DISTRIBUTION SONG: "Living Hope"

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

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DISTRIBUTION SONG: "How Can I Keep From Singing"

My life goes on in endless song
Above earth's lamentations,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear that music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth!
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night He giveth!

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am His,
How can I keep from singing!

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face" (LSB, #631)

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the_ eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need
Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "Wide Open Stand the Gates" (LSB, #639)

Wide open stand the gates adorned with pearl,
While round God's golden throne
The choirs of saints in endless circles curl,
And joyous praise the Son!
They watch Him now descending
To visit waiting earth.
The Lord of Life unending
Brings dying hope new birth!

He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless:
"This is My flesh and blood!"
He bids us eat and drink with thankfulness
This gift of holy food.
All human thought must falter—
Our God stoops low to heal,
Now present on the altar,
For us both host and meal!

The cherubim, their faces veiled from light,
While saints in wonder kneel,
Sing praise to Him whose face with glory bright
No earthly masks conceal.
This sacrament God gives us
Binds us in unity,
Joins earth with heav'n beyond us,
Time with eternity!

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COMMON DISMISSAL:

Vicar: Now may this true body and blood our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in faith unto life everlasting.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Vicar: Let us pray:

People: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, after Your resurrection You appeared openly to Your disciples and in their sight were taken up into heaven. Include us in the roster of Your followers, we pray, that in this life we may share in Your ministry and in the next life bask in the fullness of Your glory; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION:

Vicar: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

BENEDICTION: *(Hebrews 13:20-21)*

Vicar: 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: “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (LSB, #525)

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.

Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.

Text: Public domain

DISMISSAL:

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Go in peace and serve the Lord!

In Christian Service:

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

with

Liturgist: Vicar John Cotner

Proclaimer: Rev. Walt Pohland

Musicians: Adam Perez, Lauren Brezina, and Amanda Theilen

Organist: Adam Perez

8:15 Lay Reader: Warren Matson

11:00 Lay Reader: Mike Whittaker

Children's Message: DCE Austin Angerman