

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Bangor, Wisconsin*

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

**LIVE STREAM SERVICES DURING THE COVID – 19 CRISIS
ARE BROADCAST AT WWW.STPAULSBANGOR.COM
[Sunday Services Are Broadcast At 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.]**

The Ascension Of Our Lord**May 21, 2020**

Personal Prayers For Worship: Pages 10-11 & 134-139 (front of hymnal)

Opening Duet – ***“Draw Us to Thee”***

Liturgy – Page 38 (abbreviated “Service of the Word”)

Hymn - 171

Scripture Lessons: Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 68:17-18;
Acts 1:1-11 Luke 24:36-53

***All Scripture lessons are from the Evangelical Heritage
Version (EHV)***

SERMON – Luke 24:36-53 – *MUCH MORE TO COME*

Dr. Martin Luther's Explanation To The Second Article

Prayer – Lord's Prayer - Benediction

Closing Hymn – 169

DR. MARTIN LUTHER'S EXPLANATION TO THE SECOND ARTICLE

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.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, 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.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

Daniel 7:13-14

¹³ I kept watching the night visions, and there, in the clouds of heaven, I saw one like a son of man coming. He came to the Ancient of Days, and he was brought before him. ¹⁴ To him was given dominion, honor, and a kingdom. All peoples, nations, and languages will worship him. His dominion is an eternal dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

Psalm 68:17-18

¹⁷ The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands. Among them the Lord has come from Sinai into his sanctuary. ¹⁸ You ascended on high. You led captivity captive. You received gifts among men, so that even among the rebellious the Lord God might dwell.

Acts 1:1-11

¹ I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ² until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God. ⁴ Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶ So when they were together with him, they asked, "Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into

heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Luke 24:36-53

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷ But they were terrified and frightened and thought they were looking at a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While they still did not believe it (because of their joy), and while they were still wondering, he said to them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³ He took it and ate in front of them. ⁴⁴ He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: ⁴⁷ The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” ⁵⁰ He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God.

8th GRADE GRADUATION will be briefly observed in 2nd service on Sunday, May 31. Congrats to our grads!

CONFIRMATION will be on Sunday, June 21, 10:00 a.m.

Pictures will be taken at 9 a.m. sharp that day.
(Confirmation practice at 9 a.m. on June 14).

PASTORAL VISITATIONS

Nursing homes and hospitals are restricting regular access at this time. For the safety of everyone and for the protection of our shut-ins, usual pastoral visits will

be delayed. **In urgent circumstances, do not hesitate to phone the pastor (486-2754) and he will be happy to minister to you on a personal basis.**

OFFERINGS & FINANCES

Our online giving app is now up and running! Simply go the home page at **www.stpaulsbangor.com** and click on the offering button. We are also receiving **offerings by mail**, or as you may wish, **by bringing offering envelopes to the parsonage**. Our treasurer continues to make regular deposits.

REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICES RESUME MAY 31 & JUNE 1

Following a consensus with other WELS pastors in our immediate area (circuit), and with the approval of our Church Council, **we will resume regular worship services on Sunday, May 31 at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. and on Monday, June 1 at 7:00 p.m. God-willing, this will be the regular schedule throughout the summer. Those for whom age or compromised health poses a greater risk need not feel constrained to attend until conditions indicate greater safety.** Livestreaming of our worship services will continue through the summer for such individuals.

In resuming our worship services, we will seek to balance God's own guidelines for us in the 3rd commandment, gladly hearing and learning God's Word. The psalmist said: "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord' " (*Psalm 122:1*). Even as we do so, we will seek to be mindful of health guidelines provided by our leaders (4th commandment), and with loving consideration for the bodily welfare of others (5th commandment). To minimize risk and anxiety, we will take the following common sense steps:

- ☐ Ushers will ask you to fill in from the front and will usher you out from the back of church, thereby avoid unneeded passing by folks.
- ☐ Responsible distancing (Every other pew in somewhat staggered fashion will be the general pattern. Families may sit together)
- ☐ If there is over-flow, services will be broadcast to the basement.
- ☐ Following each service, the pews which are blocked off will be switched to avoid immediate surface contact with hymnals, etc.
- ☐ No passing of the offering plate (offering plates are at the back of church. The offering will still be brought forward to the altar).
- ☐ Please pick up your own bulletin and take it home with you.
- ☐ Hand sanitizer will be available.
- ☐ Railings, door handles, etc. will be disinfected before each service.
- ☐ Feel free to wear a face mask if you wish
- ☐ Length of service may be somewhat abbreviated. Some guidelines advise no singing in order to guard against spreading germs. We wish to be upfront – we will sing hymns – but perhaps 3 instead of 4.
- ☐ On communion Sundays we will follow a similar way of distributing communion as we did during the rotating communion

services we offered during Holy Week and in May. Instructions will be provided at that time. Ushers will assist you.

- Pastor plans to stand in the narthex and greet you as you leave. He will not plan on shaking hands to avoid cross-contamination.

This is more for your safety than his. 😊

This may seem like quite a list, but most of it will just happen naturally. Please follow the guidance of our ushers as we seek to show love for each other and for the wider community as we rejoice to return to the house of the Lord! See you May 31 & June 1.