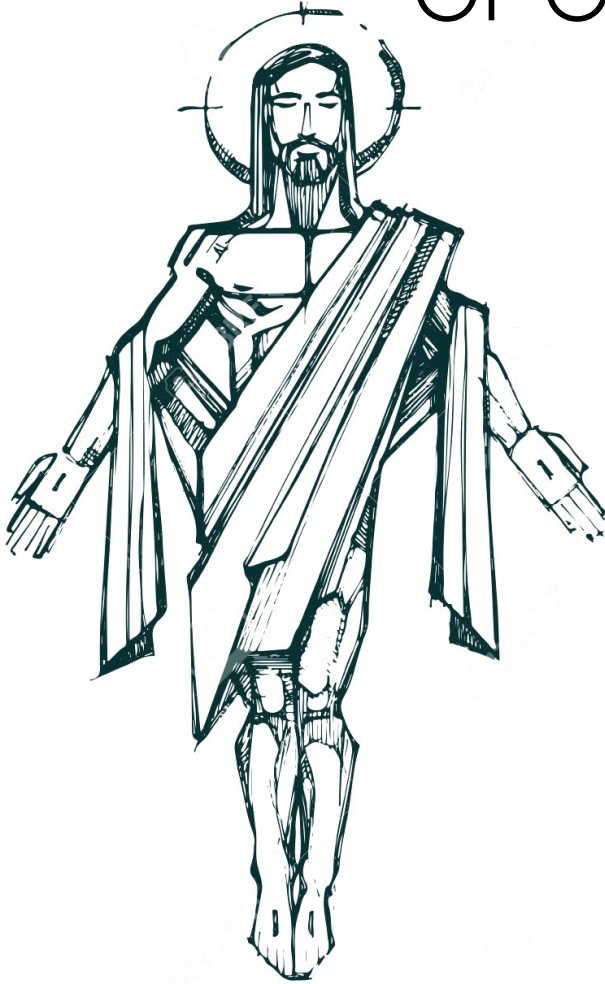


# ASCENSION OF OUR LORD



St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
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**MAY 13<sup>th</sup> — 2021**

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OUR ASCENDED LORD REIGNS!

## 169

## Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on earth our  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;



His the vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace -  
 Flee to you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, Friend  
 Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight



ful Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
 of sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea Where the  
 re - ceived him When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 songs of all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?"

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, abr., alt.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY (87 87 D) Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, alt.

## INVOCATION

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

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## ABSOLUTION

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**LORD, HAVE MERCY**<sup>† Mark 10:47</sup>

## *Kyrie*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

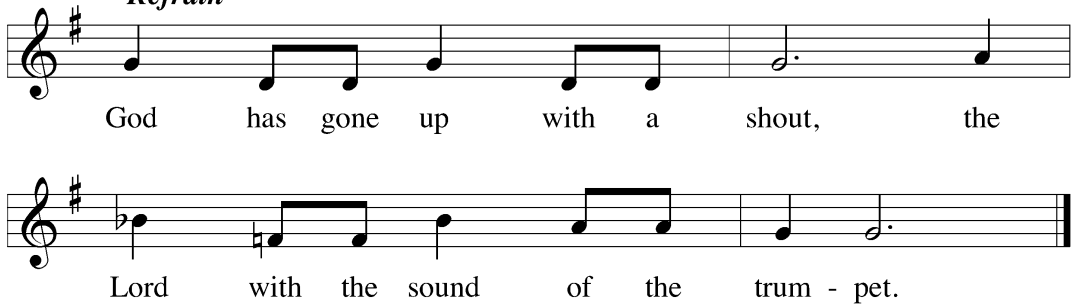


## **FIRST LESSON — Acts 1:1-11**

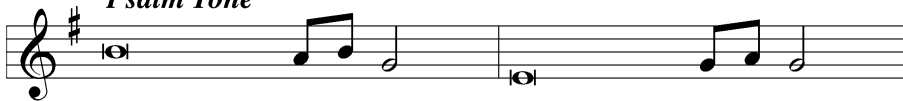
I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching <sup>2</sup>until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>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. <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 were together with him, they asked, "Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set 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, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. <sup>11</sup>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."

# Psalm 47

## *Refrain*



## *Psalm Tone*



How awesome is the LORD Most High,  
the great King over all the earth!

God reigns over the nations;  
God is seated on his holy throne.

## *Refrain*

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,  
the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;  
sing to him a psalm of praise.

**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.**

## *Refrain*



## SECOND LESSON — Ephesians 1:16-23

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<sup>16</sup>I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is, <sup>19</sup>and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. <sup>20</sup>It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God 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, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church. <sup>23</sup>The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**Verse of the Day:** Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age. Alleluia. (Matthew 28:20b)



## GOSPEL — Luke 24:44-53

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<sup>44</sup>He said to them, “These are my words, which 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.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” <sup>50</sup>He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup>And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup>They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

## SECOND ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES CREED: Large Catechism

M: Let this be the summary of this article, that the little word “Lord” simply means the same as Redeemer, that is, he who has brought us back from the devil to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and now keeps us safe there. The remaining parts of this article simply serve to clarify and express how and by what means this redemption was accomplished—that is, how much it cost Christ and what he paid and risked in order to win us and bring us under his dominion.

**C: That is to say, he became man, conceived and born without sin, of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin, that he might become Lord over sin; moreover, he suffered, died, and was buried that he might make satisfaction for me and pay what I owed, not with silver and gold but with his own precious blood. All this in order to become my Lord.**

M: For he did none of these things for himself, nor had he any need of them.

**C: Afterward he rose again from the dead, swallowed up and devoured death, and finally ascended into heaven and assumed dominion at the right hand of the Father.**

M: The devil and all powers, therefore, must be subject to him and lie beneath his feet until finally, at the last day, he will completely divide and separate us from the wicked world, the devil, death, sin, etc.

**C: Indeed, the entire Gospel that we preach depends on the proper understanding of this article. Upon it all our salvation and blessedness are based, and it is so rich and broad that we can never learn it fully.**

## 173

## On Christ's Ascension I Now Build



1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of  
 2 Since Christ re - turned to claim his throne, Great gifts for  
 3 Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing



my as - cen - sion. This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled  
 me ob - tain - ing, My heart shall rest in him a - lone,  
 your as - cen - sion, That I may serve you faith - ful - ly,



All doubt and ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the  
 No oth - er rest re - main - ing, For where my  
 A - dorn - ing your re - demp - tion; And then, when



head is, there as well I know his mem - bers  
 trea - sure went be - fore, There all my thoughts shall  
 all my days will cease, Let me de - part in



are to dwell When Christ shall come and call them.  
 ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.  
 joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt.

Tune: NUN FREUT EUCH, LIEBEN CHRISTEN (87 87 887) *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524.

**Sermon:** Acts 1:6-11

### “THIS SAME JESUS”

**I. Rose**

**II. Reigns**

**III. Returns**

**Offering**



## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:**

M: Blessed Jesus, you ascended to the right hand of your Father's majesty, power, and glory and now reign as the eternal King of kings and Lord of lords.

**C: We praise you for your victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell.**

M: O ascended Prophet, equip your Church to proclaim the precious gospel message of God's love for all the world.

**C: Give courage to our hearts, power to our words, and success to our efforts.**

M: O ascended High Priest, represent us before the Father as his own dear children and heirs. Defend us against Satan's every accusation. Ask for the Father's rich blessings in our everyday lives.

**C: Plead for his mercy and grace on our behalf.**

M: O ascended King, direct the affairs of governments and nations that they may serve the best interest of your Church.

**C: You are our Lord, Master, and King.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: As the disciples lifted their eyes to watch your ascension, so lift our eyes daily to look for your coming again in glory.

**C: Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be sent obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

M: In peace Lord, you let your servant now depart, according to your word.

**C: For my eyes have seen your salvation which you prepared for every people.**

M: a light to lighten the Gentiles

**C: and the glory of your people Israel.**

### **BENEDICTION:**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.

**C: Amen**

**CLOSING HYMN:** A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing .....171

Verse 1: All                      Verse 2: Men                      Verse 3: Women

Verse 4: Pulpit side      Verse 5: Lectern side      Verse 6: All, please stand

## 171

## A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through -  
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up - on the  
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and  
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high Up to the  
 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our



out the world shall ring; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, As - cends un -  
 And with his fol - low - ers they see Their Lord as -  
 "This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his  
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see Re - turn - ing  
 Then, throned with you for - ev - er, we Shall praise your



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 name e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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!

Text: The Venerable Bede, 673–735, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN (888 888 with Alleluias) Ausserlesene, Catholische, Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623, alt.