

**PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
& SCHOOL**

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ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

May 14, 2015

Pastor Mark H. Bernthal

Organist: Mr. Jarrod Lentz

Teacher: Miss Claire Abbas



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Opening Prayer

P: Almighty God, Your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended

far above all heavens that He might fill all things. Grant us faith to understand that even now, according to His promise, He abides with His Church on earth to the end of the age. In His eternally glorious name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 216: “*On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build*”

Opening Response

P: We open our Ascension service in the name of our Triune God:

C: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Confession of Sins

P: Today we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord, and yet our lives often proclaim our lack of faith in and love for the exalted Christ. Let us confess the sinful inconsistency between our faith and our practice:

C: Almighty God, You raised Jesus from the dead to life and crowned Him Lord of all. We confess that we have not fully bowed before Him or reflected His rule in our lives. We have often followed our own will or drifted along with the ways of the world and failed to glorify Christ. Forgive us and deliver us from our sins, that we may be Your faithful people, obeying Your commands and living under the merciful rule of our Lord and Savior who rules the world and is Head of the Church, His body. Amen.

Forgiveness of Sins (as found in Ephesians 2:4-7)

P: Hear the Good News: God, who is rich in mercy, out of His great love with which He loved us even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved---and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. In Christ, by God’s grace, we are saved. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Antiphonal singing of Psalm 2, pg. 30 in Worship Supplement

Hymn 223: “*We Thank Thee, Jesus, Dearest Friend*”

Scripture Reading – The history of our Lord’s Ascension (as compiled from Matthew 28, Luke 24, and Acts 1)

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after

His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.”

And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

And He led them out as far as Bethany. Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”

And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Now when He had spoken these things, He lifted up His hands and blessed them, and while they watched, He was parted from them and carried up into heaven, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

Then they worshiped Him, and returned with great joy to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet (which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey), and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

Confession of Faith: Nicene Creed, pg. 5 in Worship Supplement

HYMN 215: “*Draw Us to Thee*”

Sermon I---Text: Acts 1:8-9

Theme: Stopping for His Ascension!

HYMN 213: *“Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise”*

Sermon II---Text: Luke 24:50-51

**Theme: A Reminder of what Jesus has Done
and what He still Does!**

The Offering of our Thankful Hearts

HYMN 221 (1 & 5): *Hark! Ten Thousand Harps and Voices”*

Responsive Prayer

P: O Lord, arise, help us:

C: And deliver us for Your Name’s sake!

*P: O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have
declared unto us, the noble works that You did in their days, and in
the old time before them.*

C: O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for Your Name’s sake!

P: From our enemies defend us, O Christ:

C: Graciously behold our afflictions.

P: With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts:

C: Mercifully forgive the sins of Your people.

P: Favorably with mercy hear our prayers:

C: O Son of David, have mercy upon us.

P: Both now and forever be pleased to hear us, O Christ:

C: Graciously and mercifully hear us, O Lord Christ!

*P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You that You
raised Your Son from the dead, seated Him at Your right hand, and
placed all things under His feet that He might rule in majesty. You
have crowned Him with glory as our King of kings and Lord of lords.
Fulfill for us His promise that He would be with us always, even to the
end of the world. Fill us with His Spirit to carry out His commission to
make disciples of all nations as You have made us His disciples. Even
as You have drawn Him to Yourself, so draw us to Him. As He
returned to You to prepare a place for us, so take us to Yourself at His
coming again. We come to You boldly in prayer, in our Savior’s name
and we join in praying the confident prayer He taught us to pray...*

HYMN 222: *“Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious”*

P: The service is ended,

C: but our life in Jesus Christ goes on.

P: We go now, in His name, into all the world.

C: Let our light so shine and our joy be so obvious, so that all who see us will come to praise our Triune God!

P: Amen!

C: Amen!

The Benediction

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

C: Amen! Amen! Amen! (sung)

Closing Hymn 738: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU:

We praise our Ascended Lord and Savior that you are with us this evening. We pray this message of Jesus’ Ascension blesses you today and always. Jesus rules all things for the welfare of His Church, all believers! Come worship with us again. Please also sign our guest register.

Friday: Field Day at Faith, Markesan

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Last S.S./Bible Class

10:00 a.m. Family Worship

SERMON TEXT I

Acts 1:8-9

And He said to them, “...you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

SERMON TEXT II

Luke 24:50-51

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it

came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.