

PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

May 30, 2019

Pastor Mark H. Bernthal
Organist: Mrs. Karen Schaser

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 738: "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

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: Let us confess our sins:

All: Most holy and merciful Father, we confess in Your presence the sinfulness of our nature, and our shortcomings and offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned, in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, we who are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease You; and forgive us our sins, through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Forgiveness of Sins (as found in Romans 5:8, 10, 11)

P: God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life! Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation!

Responsive Reading – Psalm 47

P: Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples!

C: Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

P: For the LORD Most High is awesome;

C: He is a great King over all the earth.

P: He will subdue the peoples under us,

C: And the nations under our feet.

P: He will choose our inheritance for us

C: The excellence of Jacob whom He loves.

P: God has gone up with a shout,

C: The LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

P: Sing praises to God, sing praises!

C: Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

P: For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding.

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

P: The princes of the people have gathered together, The people of the God of Abraham.

C: For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is greatly exalted.

Hymn 212 (1-4): “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

Scripture Readings:

Ephesians 1:15-23:

What is the significance of Christ’s Ascension? It is a demonstration of God’s great power—the dominion of Christ over all things especially over the Church and it is the glorious assurance which this brings to every Christian. I too will ascend to be with Christ forever.

Acts 1:1-11

In this reading we have the most complete report of the Ascension of our Savior. We hear our Savior’s promise of the Holy Spirit and our Lord’s commission to be His witnesses. Luke also reports to us the comforting message of the angels--that Jesus will come again.

Confession of Faith: *from the Augsburg Confession, Article III*

“We believe and teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, took on man’s nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, so that there are two natures, the divine and the human, inseparably conjoined in one person, one Christ, true God and true Man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, died and was buried, that He might reconcile the Father unto us and be a sacrifice, not only for the original guilt, but for all actual sins of men. He also descended into hell, and truly rose again the third day;

afterward He ascended into heaven, that He might sit at the right hand of the Father, and forever reign, and have dominion over all creatures and sanctify those who believe in Him by sending the Holy Spirit into their hearts to rule, comfort and enliven them, and to defend them against the devil and the power of sin. The same Christ shall openly come again to judge the living and the dead, and so on, according to the Apostles' Creed."

HYMN 213: *"Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise"*

Sermon Text: Colossians 3:1-4

Sermon Theme: WHAT IS IN YOUR DASH? ----

I: Dead to Sin---Buried with Christ in your Baptism.

II: Alive in Christ---Set your mind on Heavenly Things.

III: Hidden with Christ---Your unseen Glory.

IV: Forever with Christ---Eternal Glory

The Offering of our Thankful Hearts

HYMN 223 (1, 3, 5): *"We Thank Thee, Jesus, Dearest Friend"*

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: Lord's Prayer---

The Benediction

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

C: Amen! Amen! Amen! (sung)

Closing Hymn 216: *"On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"*

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 and His call to go out and witness for Him, fill your heart to be martyrs for Christ. Come worship with us again. Please also sign our guest register.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Family Worship/Communion

Mon.-Tues.: Great Lakes' Delegate Conference

Monday: 7:00 p.m. Communion Worship

IN YOUR MAILBOX: June Calendar & Newsletter

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Ephesians 1:15-23

Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Acts 1:1-11

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 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, 3 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. 4 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; 5 "for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 "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." 9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked

steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by ther in white apparel, 11 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."

SERMON TEXT: Colossians 3:1-4

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.