

**PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
& SCHOOL**

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ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

May 29, 2014

Pastor Mark H. Bernthal

Organist: Ms. Pam Schulz

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: Let us confess our sins:

C: 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!

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

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 215: *"Draw Us to Thee"*

Sermon Text: Luke 24:44-53

Theme: Look to Our Heavenly Home!

I: Our Place is Assured.

II: The Way is Open to All.

III: Our Lord is Already There.

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 660: "I'm But a Stranger Here"

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: 7:00 p.m. Mallard's Baseball Outing

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Family Worship

11:15 a.m. Church Council

SERMON TEXT

Luke 24:44-53

Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. "And you are witnesses of these things. "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father

upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." 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. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.