

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

6881 S. 51st Street ~ Franklin, Wisconsin

Pastor Brian Adams ~ Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Welcome



We welcome all who worship with us this evening. Tonight we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Forty days after Jesus arose from the dead on Easter Sunday, He ascended into heaven. From heaven our ascended Lord is ruling over all things for His people. We celebrate Christ's Ascension by following the special order of service that is printed below. If you are visiting with us, we welcome you and invite you to join us again.

The Worship Service

The Opening Hymn "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"
Christian Worship #171, verses 1-4



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



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!



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

Hymn continues on next page →



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!



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!

Please Stand

The Call to Worship

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: (Spoken) **And also with you.**
- P: How awesome is the Lord Most High.
- C: (Spoken) **The great King over all the earth.**
- P: God reigns over the nations.
- C: (Spoken) **God is seated on His Holy Throne.**
- P: Sing praises to God, sing praises.
- C: (Spoken) **For God is the King over all the earth.**

Confession and Absolution of Sins

- P: Ascended Lord, we come to you this evening in humble awe and in heartfelt appreciation for all your many blessings. Yet, we confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and are not worthy of all the many blessings you have shown.
- C: **Dear Lord, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.**
- P: God, our heavenly Father has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Congregation Hymn "From All that Dwell Below the Skies"

Christian Worship #250



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
2 E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal is your



praise a - rise. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
glo - rious Word. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore Till



ev - 'ry land, by ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia!
suns shall rise and set no more. Al - le - lu - ia!



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



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

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens 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: *(Spoken)* Amen.

Please be Seated

Junior Choir Anthem "Good News of God Above"

*Good news of God above Is ours to tell abroad,
The Father's everlasting love In Christ the risen Lord.
For neighbors near and far The seed of life is sown;
Then spread the seed By word and deed To make the Savior known.*

*The love of Christ proclaim Who left His home on high;
To live our human life He came, Our human death to die.
The Father's only Son Became the sinners friend,
Our lot to share, Our sin to bear, And death's dominion end.*

*The Lord of Glory lives! From cross and death and grave
His own abundant life He gives To those He died to save.
His righteousness and peace Declare from sea to sea;
His praises sound The world around For Christ has made us free.*

*Hear now the Master's word To those who bear His name:
"So send I you; till all have heard, Make known, declare, proclaim!"
Go forth in all the earth; Embrace the path He trod
With Christ beside As friend and guide To bring good news of God.*

The First Lesson Acts 1:1-11

We see Jesus go to heaven visibly, and hear the comforting message of the angels that He will come again in the same way.

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ⁶ So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in

Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Congregation Hymn "Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise"
Christian Worship #175, verses 1-2

1 Hail the day that sees him rise To his
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits: Lift your
 throne a - bove the skies! Christ, the Lamb for
 heads, e - ter - nal gates. He has con - quered
 sin - ners giv'n, Re - as - cends his na - tive heav'n.
 death and sin; Take the King of glo - ry in!

The Second Lesson Ephesians 1:16-23
Christ's ascension shows God's power and the kingship of Christ over all things, especially the Church.

¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Senior Choir Anthem "Go Ye Into All the World!"

*Go ye into all the world! Go ye into all the world!
 Go ye into all the world with joy and preach my gospel of peace.
 Go ye into all the world! Go ye into all the world!
 Go ye into all the world with joy and preach my gospel of peace.
 These were the words of the Master to all the friends
 He gathered together: Know that my love is everlasting.
 Go forth and keep my commandments forever.
 Go with the power I give you, and make disciples of every nation.
 Know that I always will be with you from this day forth to the end of the ages.
 Go ye into all the world! Go ye into all the world!
 Go ye into all the world with joy and preach my gospel of peace.
 Go ye into all the world! Go ye into all the world!
 Go ye into all the world with joy and preach my gospel of peace!
 Go preach my gospel of peace! Go ye into all the world!*

Please Stand

The Gospel Lesson Luke 24:44-53
In our Gospel lesson, we see Jesus interpreting the past, predicting the future and ascending into heaven. He is truly the King of Kings.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told 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 so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Please be Seated

Congregation Hymn "On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"

Christian Worship #173

Introduction: Organ;

Verse 1: Congregation, ensemble and organ

Verse 2: Congregation and organ

Verse 3: Congregation, ensemble and organ



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
treasure 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.

Sermon.....Acts 1:1-11

Okay, So Now What?

The Offering & Offering Prayer

As the offering is gathered, everyone is invited to sign the Friendship Registers in the pews.

Please Stand

The Responsive Prayer

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

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

P: 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.**

P: O ascended High Priest, represent us before the Father as his own 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Benediction

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

C: **(Spoken) Amen.**

Please be Seated

