



# Ascension Day

✂ The Ascension of Our Lord ✂  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
May 29, 2025

## **WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME**

WELCOME to our guests and members as we gather for worship today! **Please place your names in our red “Record of Fellowship” books.**

## **RINGING OF THE BELL**

## **PROCESSIONAL – PLEASE RISE (6:30PM SERVICE ONLY)**

### **489 Hail Thee, Festival Day**

Refrain Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day to be hallowed forever;  
Day when our risen Lord  
Rose in the heavens to reign.

- 1 He who was nailed to the cross  
Is ruler and Lord of all people.  
All things created on earth  
Sing to the glory of God: Refrain
- 2 Daily the loveliness grows,  
Adorned with the glory of blossom;  
Heaven her gateway unbars,  
Flinging her increase of light: Refrain
- 3 God the Almighty, the Lord,  
The ruler of earth and the heavens,  
Guard us from harm without;  
Cleanse us from evil within: Refrain
- 4 Jesus, the health of the world,  
Creator of all and redeemer,  
Son of the Father supreme,  
Only-begotten of God: Refrain
- 5 Spirit of life and of pow'r,  
Now flow in us, fount of our being,  
Light that enlightens us all,  
Life that in all may abide: Refrain
- 6 Praise to the giver of good!  
O Lover and Author of concord,  
Pour out Your balm on our days;  
Order our ways in Your peace: Refrain

Text (sts. ref-e, ref-a, ref-p-1e, 1a, 1p-2e, 2a-6): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005811

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**☩ Service of the Word ☩**

**Introit**

*Psalm 110:1, 4-5; antiphon: Psalm 47:5*

P God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**C The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand,  
until I make your enemies your footstool."**

P The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind,  
"You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

**C The Lord is at your right hand;  
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.**

**ALL 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.**

**ALL God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**

## **Kyrie**

*LSB 152*

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray  
to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the  
Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the  
Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship  
and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **This Is the Feast**

*LSB 155*

**C This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood  
set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,  
blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.  
Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### **First Reading**

*Acts 1:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "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 had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed 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 and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the

earth.” <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle**

*Ephesians 1:15–23*

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup>having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup>that he 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 and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## *Stand*

## **Alleluia and Verse**

*LSB 156*

**C** **Alleluia.**

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 24:44–53*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup>Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and were continually in the temple blessing God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## **525 Crown Him with Many Crowns**

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns,  
The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king  
Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son,  
The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won  
Which now His brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic rose,  
Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows,  
The babe of Bethlehem.

### **6:30pm service: CHOIR ONLY**

- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.  
Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above,  
In beauty glorified.

No angels in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes  
At mysteries so bright.

- 4    Crown Him the Lord of life,  
      Who triumphed o'er the grave  
      And rose victorious in the strife  
      For those He came to save.  
      His glories now we sing,  
      Who died and rose on high,  
      Who died eternal life to bring  
      And lives that death may die.
- 5    Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,  
      Enthroned in worlds above,  
      Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n  
      The wondrous name of Love.  
      Crown Him with many crowns  
      As thrones before Him fall;  
      Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,  
      For He is king of all.

Text: Public domain

## **Sermon**

## **Offering**

## *Stand*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C    I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
      maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell. The third day He rose again  
from the dead. He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**



**the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting.  
Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠**

#### **Preface**

*LSB 160*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### **Sanctus**

*LSB 161*

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*LSB 161*

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with

Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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 Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

*LSB 163*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C Amen.**

### Agnus Dei

*LSB 163*

**C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Sit

## Distribution

*If you desire to commune, please speak to one of the pastors before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation.*

*Please note that “gluten free” communion wafers are available for those who need them. Please tell the Communion Assistant “gluten free” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail. Also, for those who desire, highly diluted wine is available in individual cups (one drop of wine in the cup of water). Please tell the Communion Assistant “clear” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail.*

**Distribution Hymns** (please refer to the hymnal)

**821 - Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

**537 - Beautiful Savior**

**680 - Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise**

*Stand*

**Thank the Lord**

*LSB 164*

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what  
He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His  
name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in  
joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Post-Communion Collect**

**P** Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have  
refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You  
that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the  
same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one  
another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who  
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Benediction – Adult Choir, “The Lord Bless You and Keep You”  
(6:30pm service)**

## Benediction

LSB 166

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

## 491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

- 1 Up through endless ranks of angels,  
Cries of triumph in His ears,  
To His heav'nly throne ascending,  
Having vanquished all their fears,  
Christ looks down upon His faithful,  
Leaving them in happy tears.
- 2 Death-destroying, life-restoring,  
Proven equal to our need,  
Now for us before the Father  
As our brother intercede;  
Flesh that for our world was wounded,  
Living, for the wounded plead!
- 3 To our lives of wanton wand'ring  
Send Your Spirit, promised guide;  
Through our lives of fear and failure  
With Your pow'r and love abide;  
Welcome us, as You were welcomed,  
To an endless Eastertide.

Stand

- 4 Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to see the Father's face!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!

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## ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

**Rev. Christian Gugel**  
**Rev. Patrick Niles**  
**Rev. Jeremy Hanson**

**Sandy Kasten**