

The Ascension of our Lord



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

“A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone”

Ascension Day - Thursday, May 14, 2026

ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

+ PREPARATION +

THEME: "NEVER ALONE"

AS WE GATHER: It is not over. Easter is not over. Christ's mission is not over. Peace and pardon are not over. Even as we gather to commemorate the ascension of our Lord, nothing ends today. It is not as if Christ ascends to heaven and takes all His blessings with Him! This world remains forever marked by His grace and love. And now, reigning over all things, our ascended Lord intercedes for us at His Father's right hand. Christ remains present for us in His Word and Sacraments, and Christ's Body, the church, continues the joyful proclamation that Christ is risen, and indeed, He is coming again!

PRELUDE

A Trumpet Chorale

Attr. J.S. Bach, arr. F.T. Simpson

Handbell Choir

WELCOME

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

LSB 493

- 1 A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand.
Alleluia, alleluia!
And with His faithful foll'wers see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 To them the shining angels cry,
“Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”
Alleluia, alleluia!
“This is the Savior,” thus they say;
“This is His glorious triumph day!”
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 “You see Him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia, alleluia!
“Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing, Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.,
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110004673

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 141:1–2

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P** O LORD, I call upon You; hasten to me!
- C** **Give ear to my voice when I call to You!**
- P** Let my prayer be counted as incense before You,
- C** **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Philippians 2:1–11

- P** Blessed Lord God, King of the universe, You rule and reign over all things.
- C** **And yet, we arrogantly elevate ourselves above others and above You.**
- P** You sent Your Son, Jesus, as a model of humility, as a servant of all.
- C** **And yet, we neglect the needs of others and prioritize our interests above Yours.**
- P** Jesus became human like us in all respects.
- C** **And yet, we refuse to see others' struggles, withholding our affection and sympathy.**
- P** Christ offered Himself as our substitute, giving His very life for us.
- C** **And yet, we stubbornly and selfishly hoard our gifts from others and from You.**
- P** Now exalted above all things, it is at the name of Jesus that every knee should bow.
- C** **And yet, it's our heart's sinful condition to seek its own glory.**

We take a moment of silence for reflection.

P We confess our sins:

C **Forgive our sins, O Lord. Make our ambitions model those of our Savior, Jesus, that our words and deeds might confess that He is Lord, to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, having all authority in heaven and on earth, has given Himself for you. Bearing the marks of His sacrifice in His own body, He has made a place for you in eternal glory, declaring your sins forgiven. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

+ THE WORD +

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11 (ESV)

L ¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. ³To them He presented Himself alive after His suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶So when they had come together, they asked Him,

C **“Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”**

L ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. ⁸But 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.” ⁹And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said,

C **“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.”**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 47 (ESV)



¹Clap your hands, all | peoples!*

Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!

**²For the Lord, the Most High, is | to be feared,*
a great king over | all the earth.**

³He subdued peoples | under us,*
and nations un- | der our feet.

**⁴He chose our heritage | for us,*
the pride of Jacob | whom he loves.**

⁵God has gone up | with a shout,*
the Lord with the sound of a | trumpet.

⁶Sing praises to God, sing | praises!*
Sing praises to our King, sing | praises!

⁷For God is the King of | all the earth;*
sing praises | with a psalm!

⁸God reigns over the | nations;*
God sits on his | holy throne.

⁹The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of | Abraham.*
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly ex- | alted!

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23 (ESV)

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that 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, ⁸having 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might ²⁰that He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far 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. ²²And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53 (ESV)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then [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." ⁴⁵Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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." ⁵⁰Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them.

⁵¹While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

(The Paschal Candle is extinguished.)

⁵²And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”

LSB 492

- 1 On Christ’s ascension I now build
The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled
All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well
I know His members are to dwell
When Christ will come and call them.
- 2 Since Christ returned to claim His throne,
Great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart will rest in Him alone,
No other rest remaining;
For where my treasure went before,
There all my thoughts will ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.
- 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling Your ascension,
That I may serve You faithfully
In thanks for my redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.

On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build, Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt., Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

“Majesty”

Majesty, worship His majesty.
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority
Flow from His throne Unto His own, His anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high The name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty.
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

Majesty, Hayford, Jack © 1981 Rocksmith Music. CCLI License No. 759893

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”

Robert Lau

Ascension Choir

*Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia!
To His throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals giv'n, re-ascends His home on high.
Alleluia!*

*See! The heav'n its Lord receives, Alleluia!
Yet He loves the earth He leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to His throne, still He calls the world His own.
Alleluia!*

*The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun: Alleluia!*

*There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ has conquered death and sin, take the King of glory in.
Alleluia!*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, King over all the earth, reigning over the nations from on Your holy throne: Graciously receive our prayers and praises. Subdue the devil, the world and our sinful flesh under the feet of Your people, that we may share in the victory Christ has won for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Merciful Lord, You have put all things under Jesus' feet and given Him as head to the Church. Have mercy on the congregations where You gather Your people. Give pastors wisdom and insight to hold fast to the message of repentance and the forgiveness of sins. Open the ears of all who hear, that we may rejoice to be Christ's Body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father of glory, You raised Your only begotten Son from the dead and established Him at Your right hand so that we might be part of Your household forever. Bless our homes as we await our day of resurrection. Be the companion and consolation of those who live in solitude. Strengthen husbands and wives, that their love would exemplify the love between Christ and His Church. Bless parents and children as they gather around Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, You have raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at Your right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion. Guide all such authorities on earth, that they may govern wisely, operate with integrity and maintain peace after Your good pleasure. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together 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, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

Our Father, which 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 debts
As we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory,
Forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION Psalm 47:5–6, 8; 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24

P God has gone up with a shout!

C **Christ died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again.**

P Sing praises to our King, sing praises,

C **for God sits on His holy throne.**

P Now may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

C **Amen.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

LSB 793



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
 2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
 3 Fa - ther-like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
 4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
 frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
 face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
 All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
 al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
 al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, Tune: John Goss, 1800–80, Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Ascension Lutheran Church

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Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission.”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God’s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God— the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God’s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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