

Ascension Sunday



Prince of Peace

Dare to Live in Hope

Ascension Sunday May 16, 2021

Holy Communion in place

Prelude

Welcome

As Jesus prepares to leave the disciples, he opens their minds and blesses them. The result after he ascends is their return to Jerusalem with great joy and a desire for “continually” worshiping and blessing God in the temple. What happens when the “eyes of our hearts are enlightened?” We know the hope to which we have been called. As we wait for the Spirit with hope, we celebrate with abandon because we have no other ruler than the One who reigns with love and justice.

Call to Worship:

This is the call!

Ready yourselves for new life.

People: We lift up our heads to meet the day.

Get ready to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world.

We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.

Even when rain sets in, open those umbrellas of hope and set out anyway.

For we are called to live again!

Greeting

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Prayer

Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation! You are the restorer of life, the conqueror of all that is death-dealing in our hearts and in this world. Come with us, dazzle us with your brilliance, move us to wakefulness –so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray.

Amen.

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

We confess this day that we have been slow to join with Jesus in the dance that brings life to all, brings love to all, brings sustenance to all. ‘

In silence, let us lift up our prayers of confession... *(a time of silence)*

Hear this good news!
God has loved you from the very beginning.
The invitation of Christ is never-ending:
New life in Christ is yours right now.
The Holy Spirit is transforming you and
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God! Alleluia! Amen!

Prayer of the day

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

This we ask in your name.

Amen.

The Word

Children's Moment

First Reading: Acts 1.1-11

¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have 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, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set 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, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 47

¹Clap your hands, all you peoples;

shout to God with loud songs of joy.

²For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,

a great king over all the earth.

³He subdued peoples under us,

and nations under our feet.

⁴He chose our heritage for us,

the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah

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 is king 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 exalted.

Gospel Greeting (*sing it out!*):

Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Halle, halle, hallelu---jah!

Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Hallelujah, halle-lujah!

Gospel: Luke 24.44-53

⁴⁴Then he 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been 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 was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord!

(Gospel response, sing it out!)

Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Halle, halle, hallelu---jah!

Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Hallelujah, halle-lujah!

Message

Hymn of the Day: “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” 393 Text 735: Bede, 673-735 tr. LBW;

Music: Geistliche Kirchengesunge, Köln, 1623; © 1978 LBW, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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 whom 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! “Here-af-ter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5. O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia!
Alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, with father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

The Peace Announcements

Coming up- Non-perishable food drive to support the pantry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Edith Stein.



Let's Celebrate Together

PRIDE season is quickly approaching! This year ReconcilingWorks is excited to offer a Virtual PRIDE for everyone. In mid-May we will be launching a webpage

filled with weekly opportunities to engage with PRIDE events and support ReconcilingWorks. Amen to celebrating diversity! For more information about us visit <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/ric/aboutric/>



As people of faith, it is critical your voice be heard in matters of justice for the Body of Christ. As you watch the news and wonder what to do in times of unrest due to horrific mistreatment, violence, and death of our black and brown siblings, we are called to take a stand.

For our Reconciling in Christ (RIC) partner, connect with your pastors, synod leaders, and local community to find out the ways you can provide care and support. As individuals, help show your support in the larger work happening for our BIPOC siblings through reparations for black leaders in the ELCA by [purchasing a shirt or sweatshirt](#) – all proceeds (so far \$2,500) going to the #66thSynod Endowment

Prayers of the Church

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

(A brief moment of silence)

You call the whole church on earth to worship and bless you. Empower your church to bear joyful witness to your love made known in Jesus Christ.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the majesty of your love, you rule the world with justice and mercy. Give those in authority the spirit of your love, so that all who are hungry and poor receive food and resources, and all people flourish and live in peace.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You have gathered us in this congregation, enlightened our hearts, and given us a share of the immeasurable greatness of your power. Help us love one another, be reconciled where we are divided, and share the riches of your grace with our neighbors.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In raising Christ from the dead, you put your great power to work in the world. Raise us and all who have died in the faith with Christ. We remember saints in our lives and in our community. Thank you for their gifts among us.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

We who are many are one body as we share this one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

(We share in communion in place, during the meditation hymn)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer

Life-giving God, Christ has died and Christ is risen! You have fed us with your word and our hearts burn within us. Through this meal you have opened us to your presence. Now send us out to share the gifts of Easter with all in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your weeping into dancing.

May Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit Bless you, now and forever. **Amen!**

Sending Hymn: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” 392 Text: William Dix, 1837-98,alt.; Music Rowland Prichard, 1811-87; HYFRYDOL 8787D

1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus: his the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood: “Jesus out of ev’ry nation has redeemed us by his blood.”
2. Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o’er, shall our hearts forget his promise: “I am with you evermore”?
3. Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth’s redeemer, hear our plea where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
4. Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own; Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your foot-stool, heav’n your throne. As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh our great high priest, here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.
5. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood: “Jesus out of ev’ry nation has redeemed us by his blood.”

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Postlude

Thanks for joining us!

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