



And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

Luke 24:50-51

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

MAY 12, 2024

11:00A

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, CONOVER

AS WE GATHER Ascension Day is an opportunity for God’s people to celebrate Christ the King taking His throne in glory, honor, and authority at God the Father’s right hand. Like the ancient believers, who clapped their hands and shouted praises to God at the coronation of their king, we rejoice in the victory King Jesus earned for us, His people, by means of His death and resurrection. Our praises keep rolling from our Easter celebration some forty days ago, all the way to today and even beyond, as we witness Jesus now seated in glory and majesty. Shout your praises to God! The same King who is exalted over all things in heaven and on earth is the King who stoops to serve us as we gather to worship Him!

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

OPENING HYMN “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” 493

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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.

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 declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **T** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Oh, for a Shout of Sacred Joy”

Oh for a shout of sacred joy
To God the sov’rign King!
Let ev’ry land their tongues employ,
And hymns of triumph sing.

Jesus, our God, ascends on high;
His heav’nly guards around
Attend Him rising through the sky,
With trumpets’ joyful sound.

While angels shout and praise their King,
Let mortals learn their strains;
Let all the earth His honors sing;
O’er all the earth He reigns.

Rehearse His praise with awe profound,
Let knowledge guide the song;
Nor mock Him with a solemn sound
Upon a thoughtless tongue.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748. Public domain

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.

We sit.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM “O All Ye People, Clap Your Hands” Tremain/Johengen

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15–23

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

We stand.

ALLELUIA & VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

We sit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Christ the Eternal Lord”

829

SERMON

“The Downs and Ups”

Pastor Michael Geml

We stand.

APOSTLES’ CREED

Inside back cover of LSB

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Heavenly Father, we thank You for the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who rescued us from sin and death, providing for us the way to life forever with You. We praise You for His resurrection triumph and draw strength from His ascension to His throne of victory, where He now sits in authority at Your right hand. Gather Your people from every corner of the earth that we may sing Your praises and receive the mercy of our King. For to You alone, O God, we give our heartfelt thanks and endless praise.

C Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Cor. 11:26; Rev. 22:20

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Almighty and everlasting God, with thanksgiving we recall before You all that our Savior accomplished for our salvation: His incarnation and birth, His obedient life, His holy cross and passion, His mighty resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, His seat at Your right hand in power, and His glorious coming again as Lord and judge of all. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

We sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious" 495

"Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated" 840

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” 477

POSTLUDE