

+DIVINE SERVICE III+  
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
+THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD+ 21 MAY 2023+

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## The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

[tgsicms.org](http://tgsicms.org)

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# The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

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- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
  - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
  - ❖ Mr. Jose Lopez, Congregational Chairman
  - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

## Welcome to our Divine Service!

*We are pleased that you are with us.*

### +Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the rubrics of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

**Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!** We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

**To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!**

### A Note From The Organist:

BWV 714 is from the Neumister Chorales, the early works discovered in 1985. It begins with a hymn-like introduction, then the chorale is heard in canon. The second half was previously known from other sources, but the introduction was found only in the Neumister collection.

Mark Sedio is Cantor at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, and a frequent recitalist and clinician. “See the Lord Ascends in Triumph” is a dramatic setting of the hymn, ending with the full organ.

# Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation

## 491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels



1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph  
 2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual  
 3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,  
 △ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the



in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,  
 to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther  
 prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure  
 Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -  
 As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our  
 With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as  
 Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.  
 world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!  
 You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.  
 al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

*Stand*

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

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

LSB 184

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand*

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

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 184*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## Absolution

*LSB 185*

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.**

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 47:1–2, 5, 8; antiphon: Acts 1:11*

Men of | Galilee,\*  
why do you stand looking into heaven? Alle- | luia.  
**This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,\***  
**will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alle- | luia.**  
Clap your hands, all | peoples!\*  
Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!  
**For the LORD, the Most High, is | to be feared,\***  
**a great king over | all the earth.**  
God has gone up | with a shout,\*  
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.

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

### Gloria Patri

LSB 186



**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Kyrie

LSB 186



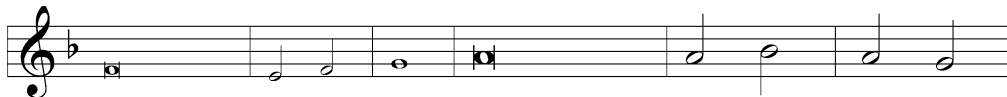
**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

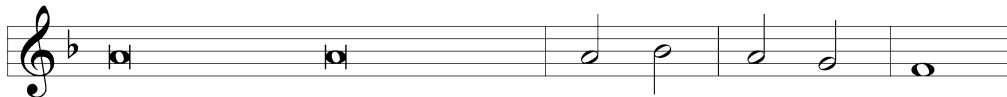
LSB 187



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



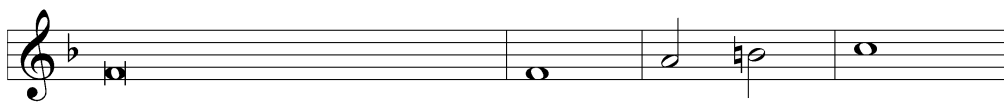
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



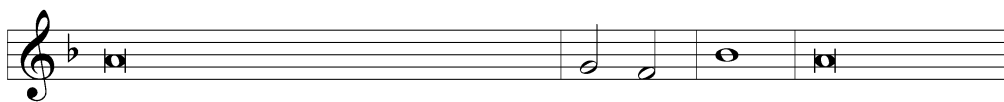
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



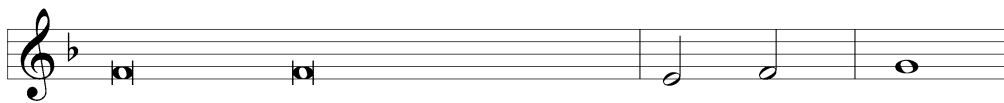
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

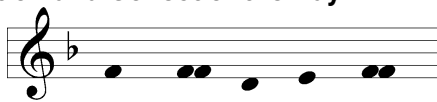


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** 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** A - men.

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Acts 1:1–11*

### The Promise of the Holy Spirit

<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.”**

### The Ascension

<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.

## Psalm

*Psalm 110; antiphon: v. 1*

### Sit at My Right Hand

<sup>1</sup>The LORD says to my Lord:  
“Sit at my | right hand,\*  
until I make your enemies your | footstool.”

<sup>2</sup>The LORD sends forth from Zion  
your mighty | scepter.\*  
Rule in the midst of your | enemies!

<sup>3</sup>Your people will offer themselves freely  
on the day of your power,  
in holy | garments;\*  
from the womb of the morning,  
the dew of your youth | will be yours.

<sup>4</sup>The LORD has sworn  
and will not | change his mind,\*  
“You are a priest forever  
after the order of Mel- | chizedek.”

<sup>5</sup>The Lord is at your | right hand;\*  
he will shatter kings on the day | of his wrath.

<sup>6</sup>He will execute judgment among the nations,  
filling them with | corpses;\*  
he will shatter chiefs  
over the | wide earth.

<sup>7</sup>He will drink from the brook | by the way;\*  
therefore he will lift | up his head.

## Epistle

*Ephesians 1:15–23*

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

<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

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

*Luke 24:44-53*

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



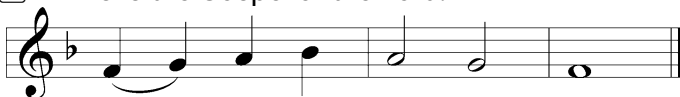
**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<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.”

### The Ascension

<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 be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**☐** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*



## Hymn of the Day

## 492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build



1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -  
 2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -  
 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and  
 tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er  
 cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I  
 rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There  
 my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.  
 all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.  
 me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, 1524, Wittenberg

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## Sermon

*Pastor Edward Killian*

*Stand*

## Offertory

LSB 192



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it  
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-  
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

**Offering** *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

**Prayer of the Church**

*The proper response is "Lord, have mercy."*

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
  
- P** For eyes of faith fixed on Jesus, who is seated at the Lord's right hand, ruling in the midst of His enemies, that we may have no fear of them but abide in Christ's peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the Church, over which Christ is head, that God would give pastors wisdom to hold fast to the message of repentance and the forgiveness of sins; and that He would open the ears of all who hear to rejoice in the fullness of Him who fills all in all, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our homes, that the God who established Jesus at His right hand would give Him as companion and consolation for those who live alone, strengthen the love of husbands and wives, and bless parents and children as they gather around His Word, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the rulers, authorities, powers and dominions of this world, that mindful of Christ who reigns far above them, they might govern with wisdom and integrity, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For those who serve in the medical arts, those who search for medicines and cures for our afflictions, those who care for the sick in their illness, and those who offer comfort while waiting with the dying, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For all communicants, that with penitent hearts they may receive the body and blood of Christ, who sits at God's right hand, ruling over all things, let us pray to the Lord:

**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.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



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



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



**P** Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



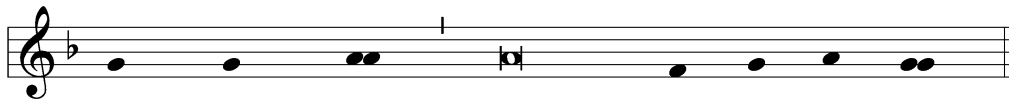
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197



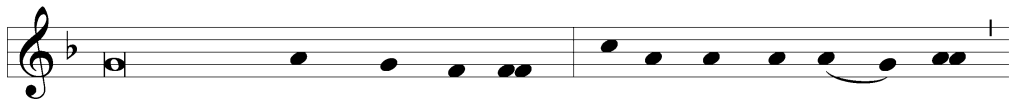
**P** Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\dagger$  bod - y, which is giv - en for you.



This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it



to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My † blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

### Pax Domini

LSB 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**G** A - men.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn

### 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal

our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go  
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love

Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthral;

You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
 Newborn souls in You to be.  
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days:  
 Three in One, Your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

**Distribution Hymn**

**616 Baptismal Waters Cover Me**



1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me As I ap -  
 2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, His bod - y  
 3 Lord, may Your wound - ed hand im - part Your heal - ing  
 4 From Your own mouth comes forth a word; Your shep - herd  
 5 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me; Christ's wound - ed

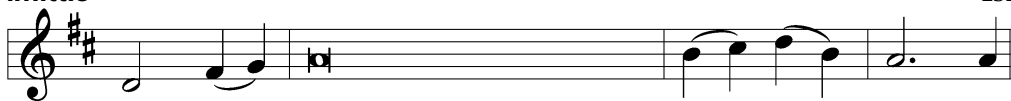


proach on bend - ed knee; My Fa - ther's mer - cy  
 bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore Him  
 to my bro - ken heart; Your love a - lone can  
 speaks, but You are heard; Through him Your hand now  
 hand has set me free. Held in my Fa - ther's



here I plead, For griev - ous sins of thought and deed.  
 all my sin, My dark - est se - crets from with - in.  
 form in me A heart that serves You joy - ful - ly.  
 stretch - es out, For - giv - ing sin, de - stroy - ing doubt.  
 strong em - brace, With joy I praise Him for His grace.

# Nunc Dimittis



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



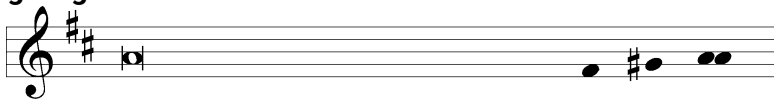
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



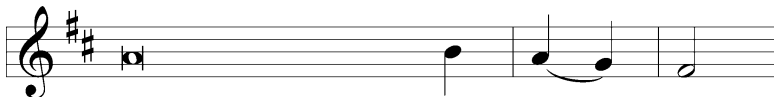
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## 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** A - men.

## Salutation

LSB 201



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

LSB 202



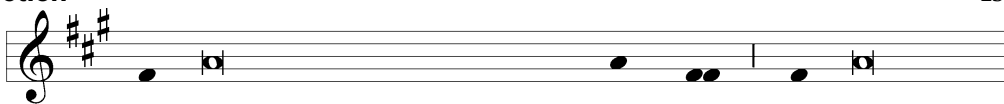
**A** Bless we the Lord.



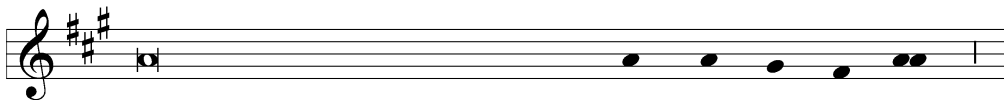
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

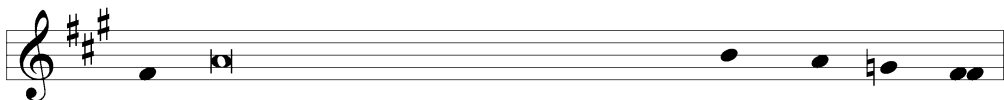
LSB 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Hymn to Depart

## 493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New  
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -  
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why  
4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,  
on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,  
stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,  
to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers  
al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they  
al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of  
see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -  
say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph  
see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,  
And be our future great reward.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Then, throned with You forever, we  
Shall praise Your name eternally.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- △ 6 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!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401

Tune: Public domain

**See The Lord Ascends In Triumph**

*Mark Sedio (b. 1954)*

#### Acknowledgments

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## ✝ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✝

### Announcements

+ **Last Sunday's Attendance:**

+ **Altar Guild Set Up:** May 21<sup>st</sup> Jill  
May 28<sup>th</sup> Maurine

**Cleanup for May:** Sydney and Onja

+ **Ushers for May:** Dick Huhn and Olaf Teitell

+ **The Ladies of the Altar Guild will be taking down the Easter decorations after service. If you can help, working together makes the job get done quickly!**

+ **All are invited into the Assembly room after service for a light luncheon, provided by the lovely ladies of the LWML! LWML Spring Meeting will convene after the lunch; all ladies of the congregation are welcome to stay!**

### May Birthdays

Jay Rogers 19<sup>th</sup>

Leon Tarr 20<sup>th</sup>

### A Snippet From 1517

*We confess the ascension of Christ every Sunday  
in the words of the both the Apostles' and the Nicene Creed.*

The appointed readings for the Ascension come from [Acts 1](#), [Ephesians 1](#), and [Luke 24](#), and historically these three sections of Scripture have served as the basis for our confession of the Ascension. From both his Gospel and Acts, we hear Luke's historical retelling of the events after Jesus' resurrection: that Christ appeared to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and also to the Eleven, teaching them, and delivering to them the promise of the Holy Spirit. He says, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem...Behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you" ([Luke 24:46-47, 49](#)) and after this he takes them out

to Bethany, blesses them, and “while he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven” ([Luke 24:51](#)) or as it says in Acts, “he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight” ([Acts 1:9](#)).

These passages from Luke and Acts help greatly with both the “what?” and the “why?” First, Christ is taken, body and soul, as God and man in one person, and is received into heaven by a cloud. The testimony of the angels in Acts confirms this when they ask the disciples, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus... was taken up from you into heaven” ([Acts 1:11](#)). Not only is he in heaven, but [Mark 16](#) and [1 Peter 3](#) add that Christ is “at the right hand of the Father” which we hear also reflected in our creeds.

Christ promises at the end of Matthew that he would “be with us always” and this remains true – especially in light of the Ascension.

The “why?” Luke provides in part, namely, that everything which had to be fulfilled by Jesus in his earthly ministry was fulfilled. It was necessary for Christ to come, die, and rise, and these very things Jesus did and was standing before them live-and-in-person to testify to that fact. The promise of the Holy Spirit or the “promise of my Father” and the preaching of the Gospel play another part in answering why. The giving of the Spirit and the preaching of the Gospel hint that Jesus is not ascending into heaven with the result that he is absent from us or that he is no longer with us. Christ promises at the end of Matthew that he would “be with us always” and this remains true – especially in light of the Ascension.

[Ephesians 1](#) and 4 help further clarify what Luke hints at saying that Christ “ascended up far above all heavens, that He might *fill* all things” and that God “set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places” to have “power, and might, and dominion” so that “all things are under his feet.” Paul confesses that Christ’s Ascension is not Christ’s absence, but real presence. Because of Christ’s ascent to the right hand of God he is not constrained to one place, but is, as God and man, filling all things. In light of these verses, we confess the right hand of God, not to be a seat of rest, locally fixed in heaven, but Christ’s authority *over* all creation *in* all creation. His authority is everywhere. Even though Christ is “out of sight” as it says in Acts, Christ is yet present, and not only in power, but physically in his body and blood in the Lord’s Supper.

As a person, God and man, Christ was crucified, dead, and buried, and as a person, God and man, Christ ascended into heaven and is therefore present for you today as a person, God and man, concretely, tangibly, and physically. In this there is no greater comfort and glory for God. Because of Christ’s Ascension, Christ himself absolves me of my sins through the mouth of a pastor. Because of Christ’s Ascension, Christ himself has baptized me and made me his own. Because of Christ’s Ascension, Christ himself serves me at the table with his very own body and blood for the forgiveness of my sins. And because of Christ’s Ascension, the ruler of this world has been cast out and Christ alone reigns in glory over all creation. *Philip Bartlet, 2021*