

The Ascension of our Lord

May 17, 2026 at 8:45 & 11:15am



SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

THE GATHERING

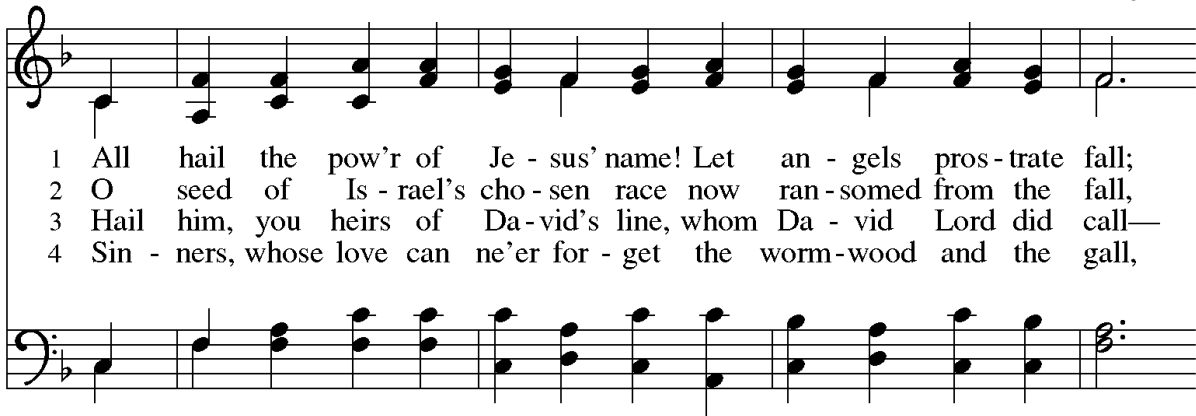
PRELUDE

Prelude in A Major, BWV 536
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

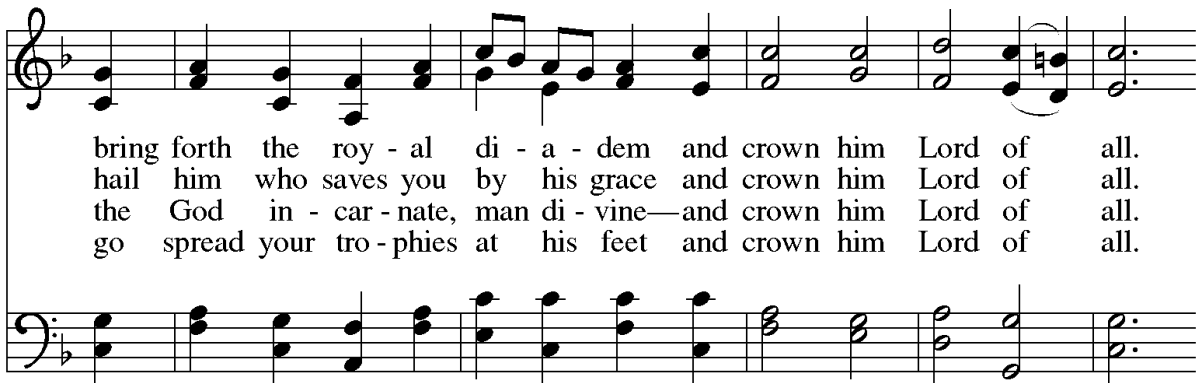
WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

ELW 634 – All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

(Continued on the next page)

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
 on this terrestrial ball
 to him all majesty ascribe
 and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 we at his feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Setting Ten

1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

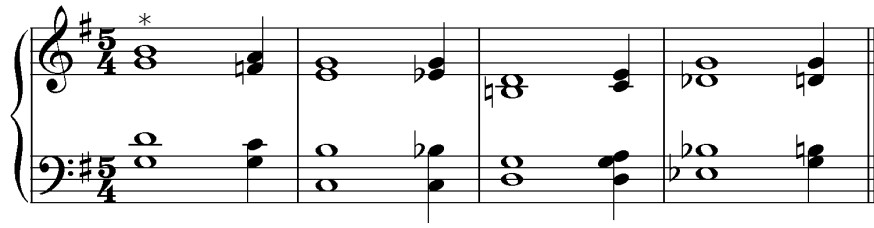
Acts 1:1-11

Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

[Luke writes:] In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After 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. While 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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But 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." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They 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.



- 1 Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a joyful sound.
- 2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared:
a great king over all the earth,
- 3 who subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet;
- 4 who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.
- 5 God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of the ram's horn.
- *6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.
- 7 For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with a song.
- 8 God reigns over the nations;
God is enthroned on high.
- 9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God, ' who is highly exalted.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 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 age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION


ELW Setting Ten



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:44-53

On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And 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.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Paschal Candle is now extinguished.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Zawistoski

Please stand as you are able.

1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you

preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
 this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,

and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
 dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
 all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the

to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
 world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:
 mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

(Continued on the next page)

Refrain

With the Spir-it's gifts em-pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

After each portion of the prayers:

God of life,
receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The risen Christ stood among the disciples and said, “Peace be with you.”
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*All may share a sign of Peace.
Please be seated.*

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us or place it in the offering plate, or use this QR code with your device to securely give your Offering.

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lift Up Your Heads
Emma Louise Ashford (1505–1585)

The offering is received and is presented at the altar. Please stand.

OFFERING HYMN

ELW 531 – The Trumpets Sound



The trum-pets sound, the an-gels sing, the feast is read-y to be-gin. The gates of
heav'n are o - pen wide, and Je - sus wel-comes you in-side. Sing with thank-ful-ness
songs of pure de-light. Come and rev-el in heav-en's love and light. Take your place at the
ta - ble of the King. The feast is read-y to be-gin, the feast is read-y to be-gin.

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." (Staff 1), "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." (Staff 2), "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." (Staff 3), and "It is right to give our thanks and praise." (Staff 4).

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ; who, enthroned forever at your right hand, intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Setting Ten

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might," (Staff 1), "heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est." (Staff 2), "Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -" (Staff 3), and "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." (Staff 4).

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Please pray in your own preferred language.

**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.**

**Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the feast of victory of our God
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

*All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.
Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.
(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)*

Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you. / The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Setting Ten



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.

e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 496 – One Bread, One Body



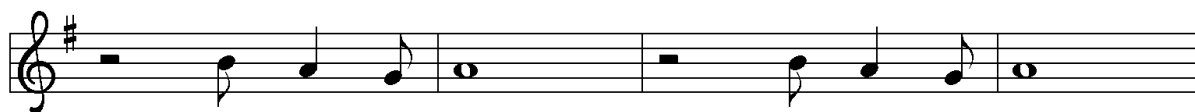
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1	Gen - tile	or	Jew,	ser - vant	or	free,
2	Man - y	the	gifts,	man - y	the	works,
3	Grain for	the	fields,	scat-tered	and	grown,



wom-an	or	man,	no	more.
one in	the	Lord	of	all.
gath-ered	to	one	for	all.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 207–Thankful Hearts & Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God bless us with the knowledge that Jesus has ascended into heaven.

Amen.

May we be lifted up and guided by Christ's intercession at God's right hand.

Amen.

At Christ's promised return, may we be found blameless and welcomed into the joys of God's eternal kingdom.

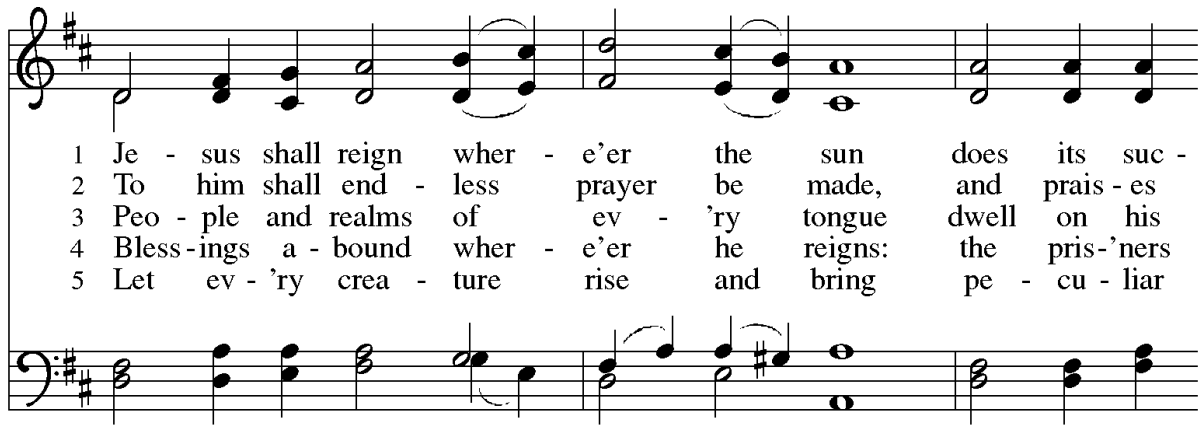
Amen.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

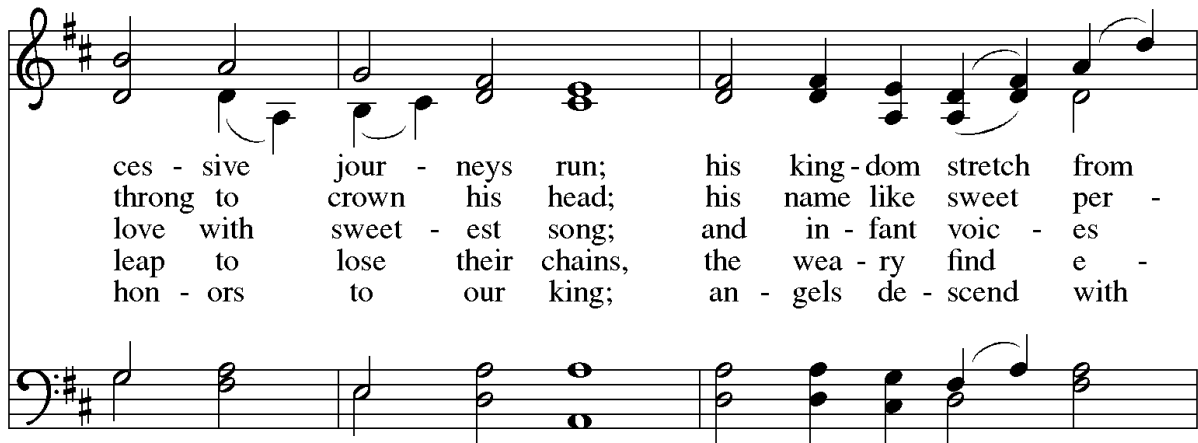
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 434 – Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 thron - e to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - or to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim the resurrection.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

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WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller
Senior Pastor

PREACHING MINISTER

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski
Confirmation Pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield
Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries

COMMUNION SERVER 8:45

Melissa Groen
Director of Children's Ministries

CRUCIFER

Becky Unkenholz 8:45

READERS

Barbara Sanders 8:45
The Rev. Gary Nuss 11:15

MUSICIANS

Adam Scott Graham
Director of Music

Schola Cantorum

Barbara Sanders
Carillon Guild

WELCOME GATHERING

Chapel 10:10 a.m.

Are you interested in hearing more about Saint Luke or even joining the congregation as a member or associate member? Join Pastor Miller in the chapel (next to the sanctuary) at 10:10 this morning.

LET'S TALK

10:10 a.m. Fireside Room

A Lutheran Army Nurse: Liberation of Dachau

Come and experience a Lutheran nurse's first-hand witness of the liberation of Dachau. She rendered such care. How did faith have an impact?
A multi-media presentation with Parish Nurse, Ruth Manchester

ASCENSION SUNDAY

Today, we celebrate a major church festival, The Ascension of our Lord. Forty days after Easter marks this event, which means it always falls on a Thursday. In order to commemorate this major day with a wider assembly, many congregations lift it up on the Seventh Sunday of Easter, which we do today. The promise of Christ's resurrection and ascension reminds us of the awesome breadth and depth of God's love, a love deeper than we can imagine. THE PASCHAL CANDLE is extinguished today after the reading of the Gospel. It will be returned to its place by the baptismal font and will be lighted for baptisms and funerals.

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 24 FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST IMPORTANT REMINDER

Next Sunday, don't forget to wear something red to church if you have it. It is the festival of Pentecost when we celebrate the fire of the Holy Spirit. Also we begin the Summer Schedule for Sunday morning worship, one morning worship service at 10:00 a.m.

Please pass the word – thank you.

TODAY'S MUSIC

ELW 634

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726-1792, sts. 1-4; J. Rippon,

A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5-6

Music: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844

Tune: CORONATION

ELW 579

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH

ELW 531

The Trumpets Sound

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Tune: THE FEAST IS READY

ELW 496

One Bread, One Body

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: John Foley, SJ

Tune: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

ELW 207

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and Music: ©1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress

ELW 434

Jesus Shall Reign

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Tune: DUKE STREET

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, May 17–Ascension Sunday

7:30am Tech Rehearsal
8:00am Schola Cantorum
8:45am Worship (Hybrid)
10:00am The Gathering
10:00am Sunday School
10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00am Up For Discussion
10:10am Welcome Gathering
10:10am LET'S TALK
11:15am Worship (Hybrid)
1:00pm Worship (Spanish)
2:00pm The Gathering
3:00pm Girl Scouts MCOGL
Recognitions Ceremony
5:00pm Girl Scout MCOGL Reception

MONDAY, May 18

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am CDS Playful Poses & Movement
1:30pm CDS Aftercare

TUESDAY, May 19

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am CDS Music
1:30pm CDS Aftercare
1:30pm Program Staff Meeting
5:00pm Piano Lessons
7:00pm Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, May 20

7:00am Faith Connections (Zoom)
9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am CDS Chapel
10:00am Women in Community
1:30pm CDS Aftercare
6:30pm VBS Volunteers' Meeting
7:00pm Finance Committee (Zoom)
7:30pm Schola Cantorum

THURSDAY, May 21

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am CDS Playful Poses & Movement
1:30pm CDS Aftercare
7:30pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)

FRIDAY, May 22

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am CDS Closing Worship Service
& Reception
11:30am All Staff Gathering
6:00pm AA

SATURDAY, May 23

9:30am AA
11:00am Al-Anon
8:30pm AA

SUNDAY, May 24–Pentecost Sunday

8:30am Tech Rehearsal
9:00am Schola Cantorum
10:00am Worship (Hybrid)
11:00am The Gathering