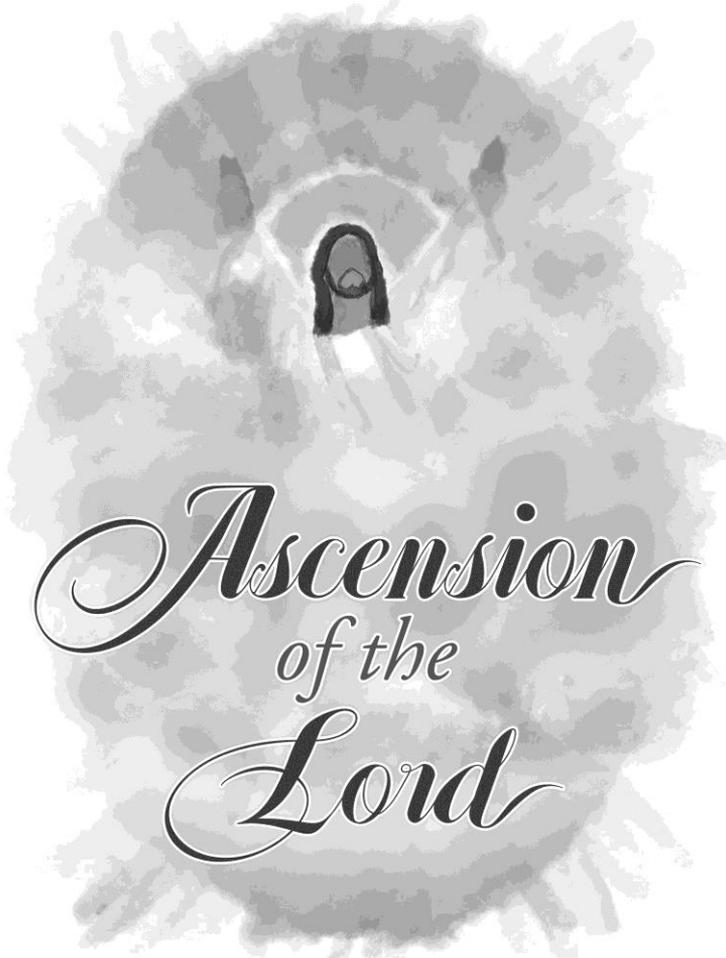




# OUR SAVIOR'S

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ascension Day, May 26, 2022



*Ascension  
of the  
Lord*

# Words of Welcome

## Opening Hymn

CW 476 sts. 1–2

- 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 shall 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.

Text: tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt.; Josua Wegelin, 1604–1640  
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*Stand*

## Opening Responses

The grace of our ascended Lord † Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

Clap your hands, all you nations!

**Shout to God with cries of joy!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Christ is ascended!

**He is ascended indeed! Alleluia!**

## Confession of Sins

Our ascended Lord is with us always, yet we doubt his presence, love, and care. Because we are by nature sinful, we often overlook Jesus' promise to be with us always. We do not live our lives ready for his coming, and we neglect to share the Good News of Jesus so that others may be ready for his return in glory. In repentance for these and all our sins, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God our heavenly Father, seeking his grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.  
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,  
For sins of habit and sins of choice,  
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,  
You should cast me away from your presence forever.  
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## Absolution

*Luke 24:46–47*

Jesus said to his disciples, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

As a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise

*CW 476 st. 3*

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.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Children's Anthem: By Faith

**CW 868**

*Children sing verses 1-3, congregation joins on v. 4-5*

## The Word

### Reading

### The Ascension of Our Lord

*A harmony based on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke  
and the Acts of the Apostles*

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day He was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles He had chosen. After His suffering, He presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that He was alive. Jesus appeared to the apostles over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

Soon after the resurrection, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore

go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

On one occasion, Jesus said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. Jesus told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

On another occasion, while he was eating with them, Jesus gave his disciples this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around Him and asked Him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up his hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight. And He sat at the right hand of God.

The disciples were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Then they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

## 472 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

All:           A hymn of glory let us sing!  
                  New songs throughout the world shall ring:  
                  Alleluia, alleluia!  
                  Christ, by a road before untrod,  
                  ascends unto the throne of God.  
                  Alleluia, alleluia!  
                  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Pulpit side:  The holy apostolic band  
                  upon the Mount of Olives stand,  
                  Alleluia, alleluia!  
                  and with his followers they see  
                  their Lord ascend in majesty.  
                  Alleluia, alleluia!  
                  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lectern side: 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!

Men:           “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

Women: 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!

All: 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: tr. composite; The Venerable Bede, 673–735, abr.  
Text: Public domain

## Ascension Day Devotion

*Stand*

### Confession of Faith

*Luther's Explanation of the Second Article*

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and death.**

**All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.**

Be seated

## Offering & Friendship Register

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. As the offering is gathered, please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed.*

Stand

## Prayer of the Church

O Lord, since your Son has gone up with a shout and the sound of a trumpet, ascended in triumph and is seated at your right hand, so open our lips to sing praises to our King, rejoicing and living in the truth of his victory for us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, your Son has commanded us to go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation. Bless the proclamation of Your Church, that many may believe, be baptized and be saved. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, preserve your Holy Church here and scattered throughout the world. Give steadfast faith to all Christians by the preaching of your Word and through the Holy Sacraments, and send laborers into Your harvest. Enliven the love of your saints to bear one another's burdens and to show mercy toward those outside of the Church. Quicken us in the hope of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Ascended Savior, continue to bless Christian education among us. May we continue to hold high the lamp of true wisdom, your Word, that the light of salvation shines in a world lost in the darkness of unbelief and sin. Continue to give us an intense desire to support the work of training our youth. Continue to move parents to understand that the one thing needful for their children can be found daily in a Christian school.

Continue to bless us with faithful teachers who will instruct our children in the ways of life and be examples of godly living. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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 so that their love exemplifies the love between Christ and his Church, and bless parents and children as they gather around your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

We end the school year the same way that it began:  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

### 930 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

CW 930

- 1 Go, my children, with my blessing,  
never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing,  
you are my own.
  
- 2 Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure.
  
- 3 Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
closer to me;  
grow in love and love by serving,  
joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
joyful and free.
  
- 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you  
and give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you  
and give you peace;  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, my children; I will keep you  
and give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

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***Thank you for worshipping with us!***

***Please join us for ice cream in the church basement  
fellowship room.***

## **We offer special thanks to our volunteers**

There's an incredible amount of behind the scenes work here at Our Savior's Church and School, and almost all of it is done on a volunteer basis. Thank you all for using your time and talents for our good and to God's glory!

## **Serving Today in Our Worship**

Minister – Pastor Jeff Mahnke

Organist – Marie Kurth

## **Preservice Piano**

We thank Eliana Screnock and Alli Ruether for using their musical gifts to praise God. Four other piano students played their pieces for our Talent Night on Monday.

## **Acknowledgments**

We thank Thrivent for providing funds for our ice cream social.

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# OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love*

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