



LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

The Ascension of Our Lord





LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

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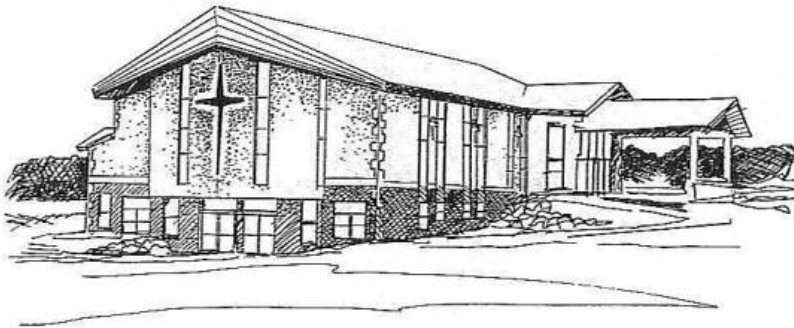
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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling.*

**“I rejoiced with those who said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’”**

Psalm 122:1



Lord of Love Lutheran Church

May 13, 2021

OPENING HYMN (CW 171 v. 1-4)

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through -
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up - on the
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high Up to the
5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, As - cends un -
And with his fol - low - ers they see Their Lord as -
"This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his
"Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see Re - turn - ing
Then, throned with you for - ev - er, we Shall praise your



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
name e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

A DIALOGUE FOR THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

M: Christ is arisen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy!

C: **Let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.**

M: 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."

C: **We believe and are sure that he is the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

M: God raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

C: **At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

M: Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

C: **Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.**

M: When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

C: Never again will we hunger; never again will we thirst. The sun will not beat upon us, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

HYMN (CW 171 v. 5-6)

A Hymn of Glory of Glory Let Us Sing

**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!**

**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: The Venerable Bede, 673–735, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN (888 888 with Alleluias) *Ausserlesene, Catholische, Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Köln, 1623, alt.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: 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.

C: **Amen.** (*spoken*)

Be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:1-11

I I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching² until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.³ After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴ Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me.⁵ For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they were together with him, they asked, “Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority.⁸ 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.”

⁹ After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them.¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:16-23

¹⁶ I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.¹⁷ I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully.¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is,¹⁹ and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe.²⁰ It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,²¹ far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion, and above

every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² *God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church.* ²³ *The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.*

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age. Alleluia.

GOSPEL OF THE DAY

Luke 24:44-54

⁴⁴ *He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to 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."*

⁴⁵ *Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.* ⁴⁶ *He said to them, "This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."*

⁵⁰ *He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.*

HYMN OF THE DAY (CW 175)

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise



1 Hail the day that sees him rise To his
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits: Lift your
 3 See, the heav'n its Lord re - ceives, Yet he
 4 See, he lifts his hands a - bove; See, he
 5 Still for us he in - ter - cedes; His pre -



throne a - bove the skies! Christ, the Lamb for
 heads, e - ter - nal gates. He has con - quered
 loves the earth he leaves; Though re - turn - ing
 shows the prints of love. Hark! His gra - cious
 vail - ing death he pleads. He, the first of



sin - ners giv'n, Re - as - cends his na - tive heav'n.
 death and sin; Take the King of glo - ry in!
 to his throne, Still he calls man - kind his own.
 lips be - stow Bless - ings on his Church be - low.
 all our race, Near him - self pre - pares a place.

6 There we shall with you remain
 Partners in your endless reign,
 There your face unclouded view,
 Find our heav'n of heav'ns in you.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, abr., alt.

Tune: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS (77 77) Pierre de Corbeille, d. 1221, adapt.

The Blessing Never Ends!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Confident of our Lord's return, let us approach our Father's throne of mercy on behalf of the Church and of all people.

Gracious Lord God, amid shouts of joy we celebrate your Son's ascension into heaven where he is now seated in majesty at your right hand. Grant your Church steadfastness in these gray and latter days that she may hold to the truth and boldly confess the saving name of Jesus.

C: As the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh seek to silence our witness to the truth, grant us courage to believe in our hearts and confess with our lips that Jesus is Lord.

M: Even as your beloved Son intercedes on behalf of his Church, so has he commanded us, his kingdom of priests, to pray for others.

C: Hear us, O Lord, as we implore you to show mercy to those in need:

M: to the sick, the lonely, and the depressed grant relief;
to the dying and those who mourn bring comfort;
to the hungry, the homeless, and the unemployed send your help;
to the elderly, give joy for living life to the full;
to the young send patience to wait for the fuller life to come;
to husbands and wives and their families, to single parents who raise their children alone grant wisdom and strength.

C: Pour out your blessings to all who depend on your power and grace.

M: Almighty Father, you are the good Giver of all that we have. In your mercy continue to grant us daily bread, supplying us with what we need before we even ask.

C: Teach us to be thankful and content, whether we have plenty or are in need.

M: O Lord, heavenly Father, we here remember the sufferings and death of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising 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, we pray, 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.

C: Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

THE SACRAMENT

CONFESSION OF SINS & ABSOLUTION

M: As penitent children of God, let us confess our sins.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, 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.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

LAMB OF GOD

M: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us, and grant us your peace.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ’s body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with a pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 174)

See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

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174 See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph



1 See, the con - qu'ror mounts in tri - umph; See the
 2 Who is this that comes in glo - ry With the
 3 While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, He is
 4 He has raised our hu - man na - ture On the



King in roy - al state, Rid - ing on the
 trump of ju - bi - lee? Lord of bat - tles,
 part - ed from his friends; While their ea - ger
 clouds to God's right hand; There we sit in



clouds, his char - iot, To his heav'n - ly pal - ace gate.
 God of ar - mies, He has gained the vic - to - ry.
 eyes be - hold him, He up - on the clouds as - cends.
 heav'n - ly plac - es, There with him in glo - ry stand.



Hark! The choirs of an - gel voic - es Joy - ful
 He who on the cross did suf - fer, He who
 He who walked with God and pleased him, Preach - ing
 Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels; Man with



al - le - lu - ias sing, And the por - tals high
 from the grave a - rose, He has van - quished sin
 truth and doom to come, He, our E - noch, is
 God is on the throne. By our might - y Lord's



are lift - ed To re - ceive their heav'n - ly King.
 and Sa - tan; He by death has crushed his foes.
 trans - lat - ed To his ev - er - last - ing home.
 as - cen - sion We by faith be - hold our own.

SONG OF SIMEON

M & C: Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin and set our minds on things above. Grant that we who are reborn to new life in him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, proclaiming his love to those who do not know him by faith, and longing for him to reappear in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.** (*spoken*)

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C. **Amen.** (*spoken*)

CLOSING HYMN (CW 169)

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
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1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on earth our
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;



His the vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace -
 Flee to you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, Friend
 Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight



ful Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 of sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea Where the
 re - ceived him When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by his blood."
 songs of all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?"

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, abr., alt.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY (87 87 D) Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, alt.

The Recession of the Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle is the large candle attached to the baptismal font in our chancel. Paschal, meaning "having to do with the Passover," is a word associated with Easter, for it was at the conclusion of the Jewish Passover Festival, the "Pasch," that Jesus rose from the dead and proved himself to be the true Passover Lamb whose blood removes the threat of death (Read Exodus 12 and 1 Corinthians 6:6-8).

The Paschal Candle is lighted every Easter morning to symbolize that Christ is alive and lives among his people. It is then lighted for every service during the 40-day period that follows Easter as we celebrate the resurrection, the greatest of God's miracles and mercies. By doing so we remember the reality that "if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17) and we rejoice to know that "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep!" (1 Corinthians 15:20).

At the Festival of the Ascension the Paschal Candle is carried from the chancel to symbolize that Jesus did not remain with his Church in a visible form but returned to his heavenly Father's right hand in glory. The recession of the Paschal Candle does not imply that Jesus is no longer present among us, for he promised, "Where two or three come together in my name, there am I among them" (Matthew 18:20). Wherever his Word and Sacraments are, there Jesus is truly present. The recession of the Paschal candle helps us to remember that Jesus does not himself carry the gospel in Word and Sacraments to the world, but has appointed us to "go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:20). With Jesus' power and presence, we are indeed witnesses of grace.

Serving us this evening:

- Preaching Pastor: Joel Jenswold • Presiding Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Ushers: *Needed*
- Altar Guild: Candace Saidler/Erica Willitz • A/V & Recording: Jen Olson

