

Concordia Lutheran Church & St. Mary's Episcopal Church
THE FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER
The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord
May 24, 2020

Topic: Ascension Sunday

Time: May 24, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82324470555?pwd=Z3dCRVpwSlpjaTRZXQvRHpmaUhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2447 0555

Password: 0000

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Pastor Barclay

OPENING SENTENCE

God has gone up with a shout,

The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

THE INVITATORY

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Leader and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Rev Johnson leads

Friends in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God. Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

Reader from Concordia

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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 towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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.’

Reader from St. Mary's

Psalm 47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.

**2 For the LORD Most High is to be
feared; ***
**he is the great King over all the
earth.**

3 He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.

4 He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he 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 all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples have
gathered together *
with the people of the God of
Abraham.

**10 The rulers of the earth belong to
God, ***
and he is highly exalted.

Reader from Concordia

THE EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23

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. I pray 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 know 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE CANTICLE

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power and riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his
reign. Alleluia.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon Fedorchak reads

THE GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to his disciples, "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 Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

Mary Covello

HYMN: Beautiful Savior

1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the wood lands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise adoration, now and forever more be thine!

Deacon Mark Winzler leads

A LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is gracious:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

God has loved us from all eternity:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

And remembered us when we were in trouble:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

God became incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made human:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

By Christ's cross and passion Christ has redeemed the world:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

And has washed us from our sins in Christ's own blood:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

On the third day Christ rose again:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

And has given us the victory:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

Christ ascended into heaven:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

And opened wide for us the everlasting doors:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

And ever lives to make intercession for us:

All for God's mercy endures for ever.

All Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever.

Amen.

Deacon Fedorchak leads

For the gift of the Spirit:

All blessed be Christ.

For the catholic Church:

All blessed be Christ.

For the means of grace:

All blessed be Christ.

For the hope of glory:

All blessed be Christ.

For the triumphs of his gospel:

All blessed be Christ.

For the lives of the saints:

All blessed be Christ.

In joy and in sorrow:

All blessed be Christ.

In life and in death:

All blessed be Christ.

Now and to the end of the

ages:

All blessed be Christ.

Pastor Barclay leads

THE PRAYERS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All say the Lord's Prayer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Deacon Winzler leads

Let us pray to God,
who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For all who are affected by coronavirus,
through illness or isolation or anxiety,
that they may find relief and recovery:

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are guiding our nation at this time,
and shaping national policies,
that they may make wise decisions:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,
that through their skill and insights

many will be restored to health:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the vulnerable and the fearful,
for the gravely ill and the dying,
that they may know your comfort and peace:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.
Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**
Amen.

Pastor Barclay COLLECT FOR ASCENSION DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Reverend Johnson A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor Barclay A COLLECT FOR THIS TIME

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Intercessions and thanksgivings follow.

Now I invite your prayers for all the needs of the world God so loved, silently or aloud.

After each petition we pray,

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our Prayer.

Reverend Johnson leads

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING (*Leader and People*)

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen.*

SENDING RITE

Pastor Barclay

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reverend Johnson

As we wait in silence, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we listen to your word, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we worship you in majesty, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your refreshing, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your renewing, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your equipping with every good gift, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your empowering, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

THE BLESSING

God the Father,
who has given to his Son the
name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim
Christ Jesus as Lord.

Amen.

God the Son,
who is our great high priest
passed into the heavens,

plead for you at the right
hand of the Father.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant
gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful servants
of Christ our King.

Amen.

And the blessing of God
almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain
with you always.

Amen.

HYMN: Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

1 Lord, enthroned in heav'nly splendor, first be gotten
from the dead, you alone, our strong defender, lifting
up your people's head. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus, true and living bread! Jesus, true and living
bread!

2 Though the lowliest form now veil you as of old in
Bethlehem, here as there your angels hail you, branch
and flow'r of Jesse's stem. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
We in worship join with them; we in worship join with
them.

3 Paschal Lamb, your offering, finished once for all
when you were slain, in its fullness undiminished shall
forever more remain. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Cleansing souls from ev'ry stain; cleansing souls from
ev'ry stain.

4 Life imparting heav'nly manna stricken rock with
streaming side, heav'n and earth with loud hosanna
worship you, the Lamb who died. Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia! Ris'n ascended, glorified; ris'n ascended
glorified!

Deacon Winzler dismisses the assembly

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

NOTES:

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DAILY READINGS FOR May 25-30, 2020

Monday

Psalm 99
Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24

1 Peter 4:1-6

Tuesday

Psalm 99
Numbers 16:41-50
1 Peter 4:7-11

Wednesday

Psalm 99
1 Kings 8:54-65

John 3:31-36

Thursday

Psalm 33:12-22
Exodus 19:1-9a
Acts 2:1-11

Friday

Psalm 33:12-22
Exodus 19:16-25

Romans 8:14-17

Saturday

Psalm 33:12-22
Exodus 20:1-21
Matthew 5:1-12