

*Just as Jesus went up in the clouds,
He will return the same way.*



THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

"THE PROMISE"

REV. TIMOTHY D. SMITH

5PM SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021 & 11AM SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021

BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICE

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL, WAUSAU, WI

“THE PROMISE”

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FOCUS “I’ll see you soon!” So says the parent, spouse, or friend leaving for an errand or a short trip, with certainty that time together will soon be had again. “I’ll see you soon!” so says Jesus as He departs and ascends into heaven. And though it has not been hours or days or even weeks, rather nearly two thousand years later, we still hold to the certainty of His promise that we shall see Him again soon at His time. Until that day, though, we are wise to not stay looking up into the sky, as the disciples began to do long ago. Rather, we heed His mission to make disciples and keep ourselves prepared for that day. Even as we long to see Him soon, we know that Jesus is enough for us every day, and we take comfort in the fact that our ascended Lord Jesus remains present with us now, in this life, even amid troubles and trials. We hold on to His promises by the faith given, and we anticipate that joyful day when He will come again in the same way He was taken up into heaven.

WELCOME

OPENING SONG “Come Now is the Time to Worship”

Doerksen

Verse: Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Chorus: One day every tongue will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow. Still, the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now.

(Verse) (Chorus 2x)

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God.

Come. Come. Come, just as you are, come. Come.

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INVOCATION

L In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAISE THE LORD!

Psalm 47

L Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

C For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

L He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

C He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

L God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

C Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

L For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

C God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

L The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

C For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

PRAYER

SONG

“Even So Come”

Tomlin/Ingram/Cates

All of creation, all of the earth Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord
Jesus is coming soon

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame
Jesus is coming soon

Chorus: Like a bride waiting for her groom We'll be a Church ready for You
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing
Even so come, Lord Jesus come Even so come, Lord Jesus come

There will be justice, all will be new Your name forever faithful and true
Jesus is coming soon (*Chorus*)

So we wait, we wait for You God we wait, You're coming soon (*Repeat*)

Like a bride waiting for her groom We'll be a Church ready for You
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing (*Chorus*)

Even so come, Lord Jesus come Even so come, Lord Jesus come

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FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ 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; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed 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 and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ 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.”

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he 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 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. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Then he 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." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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." ⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.

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 worshipped 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.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE for the CHILDREN

SONG

“Saviour of the World”

Cantelon

God so loved, that He gave His Son, To lay down His life for the sake of us.
He bore the weight of our sin and shame. With a cry He said, "It is finished."
Christ the Lord overcame the darkness; He's alive: Death has been defeated.

Chorus: For He made us a way, By which we have been saved.
He's the Saviour of the world.
So, we lift up a shout for His fame and renown.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord: Jesus, Saviour of the world.

We must spread the word of His soon return To reclaim the world for His glory.
Let the church now sing of this coming King, Crowned with majesty: our Redeemer.
And He reigns, ruler of the heavens. And His name is Jesus, the Messiah. (*Chorus*)
(*Interlude*) Oh.

Bridge: Christ the Lord overcame the darkness; He's alive: Death has been defeated.
And He reigns, ruler of the heavens. And His name is Jesus, the Messiah.

(*Chorus*)

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Confession and Forgiveness

Psalms 47:2–3; 124:8

- L** For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.
- C** **He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.**
- L** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- L** Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious Lord.
- C** **We confess before God and before one another that we have failed to live in the image of Christ. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**
- L** We stand guilty before our Father in heaven and are in need of His forgiveness.
- C** **Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.**
- L** Because of and in Christ's continued presence through all our days,
- C** **renew us and strengthen us for Christlike living and service in Your kingdom until the day when we ascend to the heavenly realm where we shall be in the presence of Christ forever and ever.**

L Jesus Christ, your ascended Lord, has heard your confession, and He alone has the power to forgive all sin. His presence and grace are enough for us in this time and eternally. God has promised His merciful forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus, to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him in faith. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, in His stead and by His command, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Ascended Lord, Jesus Christ, we rejoice as we bring our prayers to Your throne of grace. We pray for the whole Christian Church, that through it the will of God be done among us on earth and that in it we may rejoice in hearing the Good News of the Gospel. Risen and Ascended Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L As all things on this earth are under Your feet, we pray for the nations of the world and for those who lead them, that justice, security, and peace be known around the globe by Your mercies, provisions, and grace. Risen and Ascended Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L We pray for all those with special needs facing trial and troubles in spirit or body, and all those whose cares and challenges are of concern to us, [*especially . . .*]. Assure them and us of Your continuing presence in their lives and in our lives also. For the times in our lives when we wonder if Jesus is enough, remind us that because of Christ's ascension, His presence remains each day as He continually pours out His gifts of grace, mercy, and forgiveness. Risen and Ascended Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L In the hope of new life in You, O Christ, we raise our prayers, trusting in Your never-ending mercy and love to hear us for Your sake.

C Amen.

The LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION— ** Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

COMMUNION SONG “O Come to the Altar” *Brown/Brock/Furtick/Joye*

Are you hurting and broken within, Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling

Have you come to the end of yourself, Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

Chorus: O come to the altar, The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with, The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes, Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling

Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy, From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling (*Chorus x2*)

Oh what a Savior Isn't he wonderful Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him For he is Lord of all Sing alleluia Christ is risen (*Repeat*)
(*Chorus*)

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BLESSING

SERMON

“The Promise”

Rev. Timothy D. Smith

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

- L** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- L** Christ is risen, ascended, and glorified!
- C** **He sits at the right hand of the Father, enthroned in power and glory.**
- L** Go in peace. Serve our risen and ascended Lord!
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

CLOSING SONG

“Lion of Judah”

Mark

You’re the Lion of Judah, the Lamb Who was slain,
You ascended to Heaven and evermore will reign;
At the end of the age when the earth You reclaim,
You will gather the nations before You.
And the eyes of all men will be fixed on the Lamb Who was crucified;
With wisdom and mercy and justice You’ll reign at Your Father’s side.

And the angels will cry, “Hail the Lamb
Who was slain for the world, rule in pow’r.”
And the earth will reply, “You shall reign
as the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords.”

There’s a shield in our hand and a sword at our side,
There’s a fire in our spirits that cannot be denied;
‘Cause the Father has told us, for these You have died,
for the nations who gather before You.
And the ears of all men need to hear of the Lamb who was crucified;
Who descended to hell, yet was raised up to reign at His Father’s side.

And the angels will cry, “Hail the Lamb
Who was slain for the world, rule in pow’r.”
And the earth will reply, “You shall reign
as the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords.” *(Repeat)*

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor*

LITURGIST: *Rev. Zach J. Holdorf, Senior Pastor*

ELDERS: *5pm—Seth Sneider; 11am—Troy Pagel*

ACOLYTES: *5pm—Andrew Bolin; 11am—*

TECH: *5pm— ; 11am—*

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

BLENDDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday & 11am Sunday

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

8am & 9:30am Sunday

WORSHIP SCHEDULE—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

LARGE PRINT—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex, or you may ask the usher for one.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS—for ages 3-6 years & 7-12 years old, are available on the table in the Narthex.

NURSERY—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery located near the Narthex will be available for parent use on Sunday mornings. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 9:30am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 9:30am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8 School, our Childcare (*infant—13 years*), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.

RESTROOMS—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.

JOINING TRINITY—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.

VISION STATEMENT:

To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



501 STEWART AVENUE, WAUSAU, WI 54401
CHURCH: 715-842-0769 SCHOOL: 715-848-0166 FAX: 715-843-7278
EMAIL: TRINITY@TRINITYNET.ORG WEB: WWW.TRINITYWAUSAU.ORG

BLENDDED WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY