



The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church

836 Park Avenue - Sikeston, MO 63801-2054

The Missouri District, LCMS



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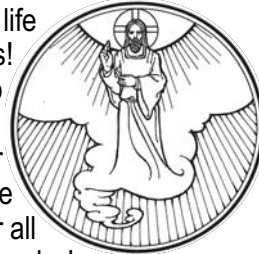
The Ascension of Our Lord

13 May 2010

7:30 p.m.

“ . . . Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places . . . ”

How sad that we who are earthbound find ourselves thinking that this life is the best and only thing for us! How amazing that we tend to chase after “the good life” as though that is the main thing for us and our children! The



Ascension of our Lord is a blessed reminder of the triumph of Christ over all sin and over every evil! He rules in heaven for the good of His holy church. In our baptism we have been given “every spiritual blessing” already. Be blessed this evening as Pastor preaches on **EPHESIANS 1:3-14** on the theme: **“Overwhelmingly Blessed!”** ✠

✠ Pre-Service Music

✠ The Ringing of the Bells & Lighting of the Candles

✠ Pastoral Welcome & Announcements

✠ The Call to Worship ~ At Pastor's invitation please stand.

P Tonight we remember the ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a day which comforts us! God Himself comes to us to give us Himself for our comfort and the building up of our faith! In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C (spoken) Amen.

P Jesus said, “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.” (Rev. 1:17-18)

C “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, Who was, & is, & is to come.” (Rev. 4:8)

WELCOME, GUESTS! We are delighted to have you join us for worship this evening. Please avail yourselves of the chance to “sign in” on our attendance pad. The people around you, and Pastor, look forward to meeting you! Please come and worship with us again!

We are:

“A Family of God's People Dedicated to Bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to Everyone!”

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Sunday School & Bible Classes: Sundays, 9:10 a.m.

DIVINE WORSHIP: Sundays, 8 & 10:30 a.m.

Many other worship, Bible study, and fellowship opportunities.

Worship Services **BROADCAST LIVE: Sundays, 10:30 a.m. on Radio KYMO FM 105.3**

THE LUTHERAN HOUR — Sundays, 8:00 a.m. on Radio KZIM 960 AM

P “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice He judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head are many crowns. He has a Name written on Him that no one knows but He Himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His Name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following Him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron scepter. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written: ‘KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.’” (Rev. 19:11-16)
(Please remain standing for the hymn.)

† **The Hymn** ~ “Crown Him with Many Crowns” — **LSB 525**

(The hymn concluded, please remain standing.)

† **The Psalm for Ascension Day** ~ **Psalm 47** (ESV)

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

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

P 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.

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

C God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

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

P 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.

P 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!

ALLL (spoken) **GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT; AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN. GOD HAS GONE UP WITH A SHOUT, THE LORD WITH THE SOUND OF A TRUMPET.** (Please remain standing.)

† **The Collect of the Day**

P The Lord be with you! **C** (spoken) And also with you!

P Let us pray . . . Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens,

C so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him,

P Who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,

C Now and forever. Amen. (Here all may be seated.)

† **The First Lesson** ~ **Acts 1:1-11** ~ After the Holy Spirit inspired him to write the Gospel according to Luke, Luke begins the book of Acts with the same event with which he ended the Gospel, namely, the account of our Lord's ascension!


¹ 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 To them He presented Himself alive 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.”

C *This is the Word of the Lord!* 

C **Thanks be to God!**

† God’s People Respond ~ “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” — LSB 493:1-2


1. ¹ A hymn of glory let us sing;
New songs thro’-out the world shall
ring Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascendeth to the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

2. ² The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
And with His followers they see
Jesus’ resplendent majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

† The Epistle Lesson ~ **Ephesians 1:15-23** ~ Jesus rules (!) “over all things to the Church.”

¹⁵ 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 a 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.

C *This is the Word of the Lord!* 

C **Thanks be to God!**

† **God's People Respond** ~ "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" — LSB 493:3-4

3. ♪ To whom the angels, drawing nigh,
 "Why stand & gaze upon the sky?
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 "This is the Savior," thus they say;
 "This is His noble triumph-day."
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia!

4. ♪ "Again shall ye behold Him so
 As ye today have seen Him go,"
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 "In glorious pomp ascending high,
 Up to the portals of the sky."
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia!

† **The Gospel Acclamation** (At Pastor's invitation please stand.)

- P** Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor,
- C** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet. (Ps. 8:6)
- P** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.
- C** "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Alleluia. (Rom. 6:9; Matt. 28:20)



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

† **The Gospel Lesson** ~ **Luke 24:44-53** ~ Jesus opened the disciples' minds to see what all the holy Scriptures had already said about Him. Then they could and did rejoice at His ascending. (At Pastor's invitation, please stand.)

- P** The holy Gospel, written in the Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th Chapter: ☞

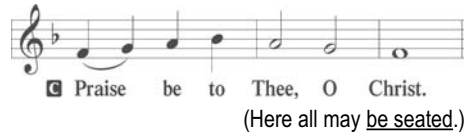


C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

44 Then [Jesus] 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 and 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** Then 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.

NOTE: The Gospel reading concluded, the Christ candle will be extinguished. The Christ candle was lighted on Easter morning and is intended to be a visual reminder of our joy in Christ's resurrection. It is also our joy when it is extinguished after the Ascension Day Gospel because it reminds us that Jesus, still with us by virtue of His eternal presence and by His Word and Sacraments, is also ruling all things in heaven and on earth at the Father's right hand. The Christ candle will be lighted again on the occasions of Christian baptisms and Christian funerals, a reminder that, for the Christian, our entire life is "bound up" in our Lord Jesus Christ. After the candle is extinguished, Pastor will continue over

P This is the Gospel of our Lord!



† **The Sermon Hymn** ~ “Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious” — LSB 495

† **The Sermon** ~ Text: **EPHESIANS 1:3-14**
Theme: “Christ’s Judgment: Our Certain Hope!”

† **The Offering** ~ DURING THE OFFERING, WE INVITE ALL OUR WORSHIPERS TO PLEASE PASS AND AFFIX THEIR NAMES TO THE ATTENDANCE PAD (located at the center aisle end of each pew), passing it down the pew for others to sign, and then returning it to the center aisle end again. Be sure to note those who are worshipping with you and greet them in the Lord! **Those who will attend the Lord’s Supper at this worship service are invited to please mark the appropriate column/space for that.** Visitors, we especially delight in your presence with us here — if you will kindly include your full mailing address, Pastor will send you a personal note. Do you desire a pastoral visit? Kindly check the appropriate column and include your telephone number, and Pastor will contact you. Members, please use this as a way to update your mailing address, telephone number, and/or e-mail address. Thanks to all for their help and cooperation!

† **The Offerings Dedicated** ~ As the offerings are brought forward, all stand to sing: “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” — LSB 492:1 (below)

1. **On Christ’s ascension I now build The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has ever stilled All hope and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well I know His members are to dwell
When Christ shall come and call them.** (Please remain standing.)

† **The Prayers of the Church** ~ led by Pastor. After each petition:
P Lord, in Your mercy . . . **H** Hear our prayer.

The prayers will conclude with THE LORD’S PRAYER, prayed in unison.
(The prayers concluded, please remain standing.)



The Lord’s Supper



† **A Brief Order of Confession & Absolution** ~ led by Pastor. Then...

ALL SING: (“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” — LSB 821:1-2)

1. **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev - ‘ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”**
2. **Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Tho’ the cloud from sight received Him
When the forty days were o’er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise:
“I am with you evermore”?**

† The Words of Institution ~ spoken by Pastor. Then . . .

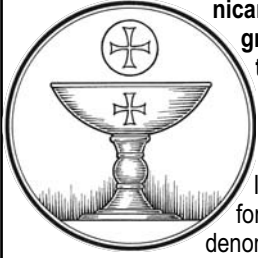
ALL SING: (“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” — LSB 821:3-4)

3. Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.
As within the veil You entered,
Robed in flesh, our great high priest,
Here on earth both priest & victim
In the eucharistic feast.

(Here all may be seated until ushered forward for the Communion Distribution.)

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE is that we ordinarily offer the Lord’s Supper only to those who are communicant members of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or of congregations which are part of a church body which is in altar & pulpit fellowship with the LCMS. Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is to be a confession of a common faith (1 Cor. 10:17; Acts 2:42) and that those who are unprepared may do themselves spiritual harm (1 Cor. 11:23-32). We do not thereby presume to question another’s faith in Christ, but hold this historic position out of love for God’s Word and in care for souls. Inviting all Christians to Communion would imply a oneness which does not yet exist but for which we must all pray. Even as we try to respect the practices of other Christian denominations, so we ask others to please respect our practice. If there are some whom we do not commune who would like to come forward, they may do, crossing their arms over their chests — then the elders who distribute Communion will pass them by, but our Pastor will speak a blessing over those persons. Any who would like to discuss this practice at more length may make an appointment with our pastor to do so. ☩



† **The Communion Distribution** ~ *Both the individual cups and the common cup are offered to our communicants. One of our elders will distribute the bread; he will be followed by another elder with the individual cups; those who desire the common cup may simply let the elder with the individual cups pass by, and Pastor will follow with the chalice.*

† **The Distribution Hymn** ~ “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”
— LSB 493

† **The Post-Communion Hymn** ~ The Communion Distribution completed, all stand to sing: “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” — TLH 492:3 (below)

3. Oh, 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. Amen.

PLEASE NOTE: Here, weather-permitting, Pastor will dismiss the congregation for the worship service to conclude outdoors. Gathering on the parking lot on the south side of the Church, the worship service will conclude out of doors, as outlined below.

† **The Apostles' Creed** ~ spoken in unison

**I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.
AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS 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 INTO HELL. THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD. HE ASCENDED
INTO HEAVEN AND SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY. FROM THENCE HE WILL
COME TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.**

**I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE
FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.**

(Please remain standing.)

NOTE: The Apostles' Creed, dating from approximately 100 A.D., is a beautiful "tie" which the modern Church has with the Church of old. It is so named not because it was written by the apostles of our Lord, but because it is a true statement of apostolic (New Testament) doctrine. This creed, like the other creeds of the Church, was written as a response to false doctrines which were being circulated by false teachers who were trying to infiltrate Christendom. The earliest Creed of the New Testament Church was "Jesus is Lord" (1 Cor. 12:3).

† **The Ascension Day Introit** ~ read by Pastor

God has gone up | with a shout,*
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.
The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My | right hand,*
until I make Your enemies Your | footstool."
The LORD has sworn and will not | change His mind,*
"You are a priest forever after the order of Mel- | chizedek."
The Lord is at your | right hand,*
He will shatter kings on the day | of His wrath.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
God has gone up | with a shout,*
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet. (Antiphon: Ps. 47:5; Ps. 110:1, 4-5)

† **The Balloon Release**

† **The Benediction** ~ spoken by Pastor

† **The Common Doxology** ~ sung in unison without accompaniment

♩ PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW; PRAISE HIM, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW;
PRAISE HIM ABOVE, YE HEAV'NLY HOST: PRAISE FATHER, SON, & HOLY GHOST. AMEN.



Vivit!

(He lives!)



THE ORGANIST James Hailey

The Ascension of our Lord



*Remembering the Ascension of our Lord Jesus
eternal Son of God, and Son of Man, Savior of the World,
Ruler of the Universe, Intercessor before the Father
Who will come again as Judge of all.*

Concordia
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church

*Thursday
13 May 2010
7:30 p.m.*

Sikeston,
Missouri

A Sermon Outline

Theme: "Overwhelmingly Blessed!"

Text: Ephesians 1:3-14 — ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him Who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory. ¹³ In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory."

INTRO.: Do you remember an easy way to tell the difference what is Law and what is Gospel in the Bible? Check the _____ and who is in charge of them.

Example: The First Commandment: . . . Law or Gospel? _____
John 3:16: . . . Law or Gospel? _____

This text is all _____!

This text is like a multi-faceted jewel . . . _____

This goes wayyyy beyond what Dave Ramsey says when someone asks him how he is! ("_____") **What are the "every spiritual blessings" of which the apostle speaks?**

1. v. 4 & 5 — _____

2. v. 4, 6, 7, 8 — _____

3. v. 7 — _____

4. v. 8 & 9 — _____

5. This is God's plan, v. 10, for _____

6. v. 12 — _____

7. v. 13-14 — _____