

May 29, 2022

7th Sunday of Easter

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Caleb Moorehead

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne



Ascension



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“The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; The Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place. You have led captivity captive; You have received gifts among men, even from the rebellious, That the LORD God might dwell there. Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, the God of our salvation!”

Welcome, Dear Friends in the Name of Jesus! This past Thursday was Ascension Day on the calendar of the Christian Church. Psalm 68, by King David, celebrates the Lord’s ascent to His throne in Jerusalem, which represented His throne in heaven. In His victory over His enemies of that day, the Lord “received” or took “gifts” from them – even from His rebellious captives! When Paul refers to this passage in Ephesians 4:8, he speaks of the Lord’s conquering of our spiritual enemies through His victory on the cross (He “led captivity captive”). Christ took from His enemies their freedom to accuse and condemn sinners. He took this “spoil” of His victory and gave it to His Church in the form of the ministry of the Gospel of forgiveness. Paul writes that Christ gave “gifts” to His Church – apostles, evangelists, pastors, and teachers for the building up of His Church through the Word of Truth. Today we celebrate Christ’s continuous blessing of His Church. May the God Who has become our salvation fill us with His Ascension Day blessings!

We are glad for every child who is present in the worship service, even as our Lord said, “Let the little children to come unto me, and do not forbid them.” (Mt. 19:14a). Parents should always bring their children with them to the worship service. Whether our children hear with understanding or not, yet they also receive the blessing of their Lord at the end of the service! We welcome our guests! If you have need of anything during the service, ask our ushers who will be happy to help. Please sign our guest register as you leave today, and speak to the pastor if you wish to have him visit you.

A Call to Worship and Responsive Reading based on Acts 1:11 and Ps. 47:5-8:

P “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.”
“God has ascended with a shout,

C **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;

C **Sing praises with a skillful psalm.**

P God reigns over the nations,

C **God sits on His holy throne!”**

P God reigns over the heathen:

C **God sits upon the throne of His holiness. Hallelujah!**

P I will not leave you comfortless:

C **I go, and I will come again to you, and your hearts shall rejoice.”**

All: Hallelujah!

Order of Divine Worship

Hymn: TLH #212 v.1-4

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ **A - - - men.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

P Pastor

C Congregation

P Beloved in the Lord, “God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself by not counting their trespasses unto them.” (2Cor. 5:19) Since our Lord promises to forgive those who confess their sins (1John 1:8-9), let us draw near to the throne of grace with true hearts, and confess our sins unto God, our Father, begging Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

I ask you in the presence of Almighty God, Who searches the heart: Do you acknowledge and confess with sorrow that you are by nature sinful, and that by failing to do good and by doing evil you have in thought, word and deed, grieved and offended your God and Savior, and there

therefore deserve His condemnation? If this is your sincere confession, declare it by saying: Yes.

C Yes.

P Do you truly believe that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners and that all who believe on His Name receive the forgiveness of sins? Do you therefore earnestly desire to be delivered from all your sins, and are you confident that it is the gracious will of your Heavenly Father, for Christ's sake, to forgive your sins and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness? If so, declare it by saying: Yes.

C Yes.

P Is it your sincere intent to be obedient to the Holy Spirit, so as to hate and forsake all sin, to live as in God's presence, and to strive each day after holiness in heart and life? If so, answer: Yes.

C Yes.

P Almighty God, our Heavenly, has had mercy upon us, and for the sake of the sufferings, death and resurrection of His dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, forgives us all our sins. As a called servant of the word, and by the command of Christ, I therefore declare unto you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn: TLH #360 v.6,7 "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

C ♪ See all your sins on Jesus laid; the Lamb of God was slain;
His soul was once an offering made for every soul of man!

**Glory to God and praise and love be ever, ever given
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heaven.**

P Almighty God, grant that since we believe Your Only-begotten Son has ascended into heaven, we may also fix our hearts and minds on heaven. Do not leave us without comfort, but send Your Spirit of Truth, that we may have grace and strength to follow Jesus to heaven, serving in His kingdom until the Day of His coming. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

THE ASCENSION RECORD – Acts 1:1-11 The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, 3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. 4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” 9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, 11 who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

GOSPEL READING – Mark 16:14-20 Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. 15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands

on the sick, and they will recover.” 19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Second Article of the Apostolic Creed

☩ I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty, from which He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

☩ What does this mean?

☩ 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; Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and with His innocent sufferings and death; that I should be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting, righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from death, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!

Hymn: TLH #218 v.1-3,5,6 “See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph”

SERMON – Luke 24:50-51 “And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. And it came about that while He was blessing them, He parted from them and was being carried up into heaven.”

The Blessings of His Ascension Continue Upon Us!


I. Our salvation is “finished”/complete.

II. We pray through our Fellow-sufferer.

III. His Holy Spirit assists us in the performance of His kingdom-work.

IV. We rejoice in the hope of His reappearing.

OFFERTORY

- C**  Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS -


Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING: TLH #215

“Draw Us to Thee”

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C**  Amen, amen, a – men.

HYMN: WS #738

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!”

Announcements

Last Week: WH – 11 Orland–8 **Total Offering** = \$1713.95

General = \$490.00 | School Fund = \$273.95 | Tuition = \$950

Pastor Fossum: Pastor Fossum returned to do Bible Class this morning. He will be conducting Bible Class next Sunday, June 5 as well as the communion service.

June 5: Sunday, June 5, will be a special voters' meeting to issue a call for a full-time pastor. There will also be an Elders' Meeting.

50th Anniversary of Peace Thru Christ, Middleton, WI

To the pastor and members of Peace Thru Christ – Middleton, Wisconsin:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the Lord of the Church,

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1) For half a century your God has used His Word to make you “like-minded toward one another,” enabling you thereby to glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one mouth (Rom. 15:5-6) We join you today in giving glory to our Lord with the same confessional mind and mouth as your own.

As you celebrate, you look not only backward with thanksgiving, but forward with confidence in Christ’s promise to another faithful group of Christians 1900 years ago: “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it, for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. (Rev. 3:8)

We wish you renewed zeal and confidence as you continue forth with Christ’s saving Gospel. Remember what happened before the last Passover Jesus celebrated with His disciples. Jesus directed His disciples to go into Jerusalem and follow a man who would meet them carrying a pitcher of water. This man, Jesus said, would lead them to a house where they would find a large upper room furnished and prepared for the celebration of the Supper. The disciples were sent off with only the Lord’s Word, just like Abraham, and every one of our spiritual fathers of faith. What happened? We are told that the disciples “went forth and found it just as He had said unto them.” It is the very nature of true faith in Christ that it marches on His word. As you continue to go forward by faith in your Savior’s Word, you will not be disappointed. For His Word will prove true over and over again: It will prosper where He sends it (Is. 55:1ff.); give life where He plants it (1

- ✠ **May 29:** 9:15am Bible Class
WH 10:15 am Pastor Fossum
- ✠ **June 5:** 9:15am Bible Class WH
10:15am Communion Pastor
Fossum
- ✠ **June 5:** Voters’ Meeting and
Elders’ Meeting
- ✠ **June 12:** Orland Service 8am
WH 10:15am
- ✠ **June 19:** WH 10:15am
- ✠ **June 19:** Education Meeting,
Trustee Meeting, Church
Council after church

Peter 1:22 ff.); peace to those who believe it (Rom. 5:1), and eternal freedom from the power of Sin, Death, and Satan to those who continue in it (John 8:31).

So may the Lord of the Church, continue to bless your kingdom-labor to His glory and your everlasting joy!

Pastor Em., Vance Fossum

On behalf of your fellow laborers in the Lord,
Immanuel Lutheran – Winter Haven, Florida

Cleaner (6/4): Tina | **Acolyte (6/5):** Grant Berntal

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; May 30-June 28, '22

Mon John 17:20-23 On the night of His betrayal, Jesus prays not only for the twelve, but also for all who through their words would be persuaded to believe, namely you and me. What does He want for us? The unity with each other and with God that comes from being “in Christ.” In this the world may see that the Father sent the Son, and that He loved the world as much as He loved His only-begotten Son. (Cp. Jn 3:16)

Tues John 17:24-26 Wonder of wonders! That the Son of God should want us to be with Him, to see His glory, and to know His love! This is the same love that the Father had for the Son before the foundation of the world, and through the Son will we also learn to know the Father’s love.

Wed Acts 16:6-8 God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform (TLH514). We cannot say for sure just how the Holy Spirit stopped Paul from going to Asia or further north to Bithynia. Perhaps Paul’s bodily ailment (Gal. 4:13) had a hand in it. In retrospect the missionary group would see that God wanted them in Troas. It is sometimes in retrospect that we also see God’s guiding hand.

Thurs Acts 16:9-10 Not only did God give Paul a vision at Troas to show why it was so important to reach this seaport town, but the change in subjects from “they” to “we” indicates that it was at Troas that “Luke, the beloved physician” (Col. 4:14) joined the group. Together they conclude that Lord wants them to preach His Gospel also in Macedonia (on the European continent).

Fri Revelation 22:12-15 When the Lord, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, returns in glory “to repay each one for what he has done,” those in washed robes will be able to enter the Holy city by the gate, and have the right to the tree of Life. Truly blessed are they who “have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (7:14)!

Sat Revelation 22:16-20 At the conclusion of the book is the repeated promise “I am coming!” “I am coming soon! And the repeated response of the faith-filled – “Come! Come!” – adds new meaning to the common daily table prayer: “Come, Lord Jesus!” In Him alone do we receive that which Isaiah promised: “Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!” Isa.55:1

“How Do You See Your Life?”

How do you LOOK? I mean, How do you see life? We know that people look at things differently.

For instance, how many people look at their diseases and hardships as blessings? Some do, like the Apostle Paul. He was afflicted with a chronic ailment that he called a “thorn in the flesh.” He often prayed that he might be healed. But the Lord only promised that His “grace” would be sufficient for Paul to bear his burden. How did Paul then look upon his suffering?

In the Bible, we see that Paul’s faith in the Savior would not allow him to LOOK on any of his hardships, as if God were punishing him. Instead, he was always thanking God for everything! How could he SEE life this way? Paul explains in Romans 8:28: “All things work together for good for those who love God who are the called according to His purpose.”

The Christian LOOKS for his God not only in the good times of his life, but especially in the “bad” times. Sooner or later he sees his Savior and Redeemer- God working FOR him, even as the billowy waves of life’s stormy sea seem to threaten. “Fear not!” The Lord says in Isaiah 43, “for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine! When you pass through the waters I will be with you!”

LOOK for your Savior in His Word, and you will see Him in your life.