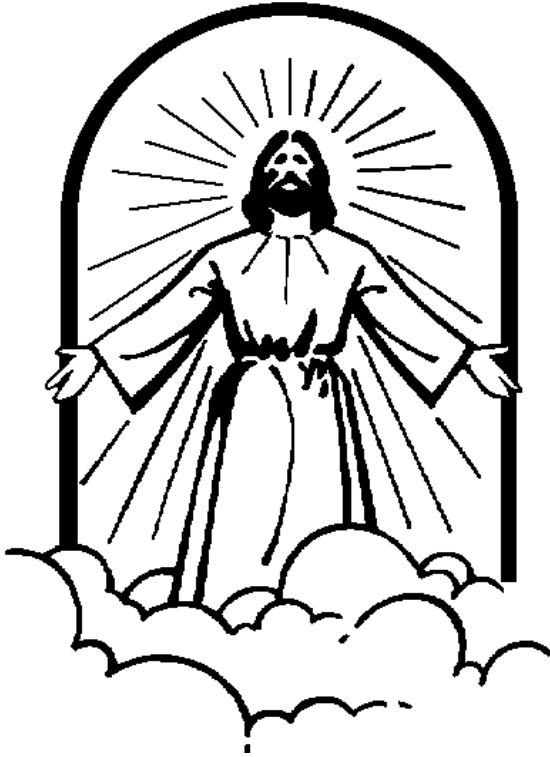


May 7, 2017



Ascension Lutheran Church

*A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession
(clclutheran.org)*

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Ascension Lutheran is a family of Christians intent on sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and His victory over death

The Third Sunday After Easter

“Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself.” (Luke 24:38-39)

Setting from Worship Supplement, page 12, Service of Word and Sacrament, setting 2. The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH) (hymns 1-660) is the RED book. Worship Supplement (WS) (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book. (If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed.)

VISITORS: It is a blessing to have you join us for worship today. We want you to be aware that because God’s Word urges us to be instructed and agreed in faith before taking the Lord’s Supper together, we kindly ask those who are not in fellowship with the CLC to first meet with the pastor before coming to Communion. We want to share in this blessing with you and do so on the basis of a united understanding of Christ and His teachings. If you would like more information, the pastor would be happy to meet with you. You can read more about our practice of “Close Communion” in the blue trifold pamphlet in the entryway. Thank you for your understanding. *1 Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:18-29*

PRESERVICE MEDITATION: Psalm 62 (page 136 in TLH)

HYMN 733 (WS) *“This Joyful Eastertide”*

INVOCATION (page 12, WS)

Matthew 28:19

M: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: Amen.

Kyrie *sung* (page 13, WS)

Mark 10:47

**C: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

Glory to God In the Highest – *Gloria In Excelsis* Lk. 2:14; Rev. 5:8-14

**Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high;
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (page 14, WS)

M: Let us pray ...

...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 4:8-12

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: ⁹ If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, ¹⁰ let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. ¹¹ This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.' ¹² Nor is there

salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

PSALM OF THE DAY (*responsively*) – from Psalm 28

M: To You I will cry, O LORD my Rock: Do not be silent to me,

C: lest, if You are silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

M: Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You,

C: when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.

M: Blessed be the LORD, because He has heard the voice of my supplications!

C: The LORD is my strength and my shield;

M: my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped;

C: therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him.

M: The LORD is their strength,

C: and He is the saving refuge of His anointed.

M: Save Your people, and bless Your inheritance;

C: shepherd them also, and bear them up forever.

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 1:1-2:2 *rise*

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life – ² the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us – ³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. ⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us. ^{2:1} My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the

Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

M: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Alleluia (sung) (page 14, WS)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
These words are written
that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The NICENE Creed (page 5, WS)

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 worshiped 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**

HYMN 728 (WS) “*Christ Is Living*”

SERMON: Luke 24:36-49

FROM FEAR AND DOUBT, TO FAITH AND PURPOSE

- 1. Jesus is always with us**
- 2. Jesus directs us to Himself and His Word**
- 3. Jesus helps us to face and overcome what troubles us**
- 4. Jesus gives our lives their real purpose**

³⁶ Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, “Peace to you.” ³⁷ But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit.

³⁸ And He said to them, “Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.” ⁴⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “Have you any food here?” ⁴² So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³ And He took *it* and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.” ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

M: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philip. 4:7

OFFERTORY *sung* (page 16, WS)

Psalm 51:10-12

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence.
Take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.
Uphold with Your Spirit free.**

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 200:1, 4-8 (TLH) *“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT (page 17, WS)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all

places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...

(the appropriate Preface is read)

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – *Sanctus* (sung) (p. 18, WS) Is. 6:3; Mt. 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION Mt. 26; Mk. 14; Lk. 22; 1 Cor. 11

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei* sung (page 19, WS)

John 1:29

**O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord,
Whose blood, once shed, true life restored,
Impart Your joy, our faith increase.
Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your peace.**

DISTRIBUTION

M: Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

M: Take and drink. This is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT – *Nunc Dimittis* sung
(page 20, WS) Luke 2:29-32

**O Lord, now let You servant depart in heavn'ly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

M: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

THANKSGIVING (page 21, WS) *sung* Luke 7:50; Psalm 100:2

**My heart has now become Your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Your praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally.
Lord, may Your body and Your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

THE BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN 188:1-4 (TLH) "*Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!*"

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WELCOME, VISITORS! We're very happy that you are here today! You are always welcome.

Please leave a record of your visit in our guest book in the narthex.

TODAY is a Communion Sunday. Our USHER is Rick

Louderman. In our BIBLE STUDY we continue with the book of Revelation.

SUNDAY: WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:00 AM; SUNDAY SCHOOL and BIBLE STUDY: 11:15 AM.

FRIDAY: NORTH AURORA BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM.

NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Greg Suwanski. The North Aurora Care Center service is at 3:00 PM, and the Batavia Rehab service is at 4:00 PM.

OUR ASCENSION DAY SERVICE is on THURSDAY, MAY 25, at: 7:30 PM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Last Sunday's offering was \$1,246.00, and our attendance was 19.

CLC NEWS: Teacher Ross Kok of St. John's Lutheran School, Okabena, MN, received and later returned the call to teach at Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. Pastor-elect Samuel Rodebaugh has accepted the call to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL. Pastor-elect Stefan Sonnenfeld has accepted the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. Pastor-elect Tom Naumann has accepted the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI. Karl Olmanson has returned the call to be teacher and principal at Grace Lutheran School, Sleepy Eye, MN. The congregation has now called Teacher David Bernthal of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church,

Fond du Lac, WI. Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has called Teacher Lane Fischer of Immanuel Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, to teach in its school.

“Is not faith, which can hold its own against ... mighty enemies and attain the victory, an almighty and unspeakably grand matter? Therefore St. John well says, “This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith” (1 John 5:4). Not that this is done in peace and undisturbed quietness, for it is a battle that is waged not without wounds and blood. Aye, in this battle the heart feels sin, death, the flesh, the devil, and the world so severely that it thinks it is surely lost, that sin and death have won, and that the devil has gained the upper hand. It feels little of the power of faith.

The great art and power of faith consist in seeing that which is not seen and in not seeing that which is nonetheless felt, aye, which oppresses and depresses a person; just as unbelief sees only what it feels and does not at all like to cling to that which it does not feel.

Therefore God does not confront faith with trivial things but with such things as all the world cannot bear, like death, sin, the world, and the devil. For all the world is not able to stand up against death but flees from it, is frightened by it, and is overpowered by it. But faith stands fast and battles with death, which devours all the world, and gains the victory over it and devours the insatiable devourer of human life.” (Martin Luther)

