

# The Ascension of Our Lord

May 22, 2022

## Hymn of Invocation

## Before the Throne of God Above



Be - fore the throne of God ab - ove I have a strong and per - fect  
When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me of the guilt with -  
Be - hold Him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect spot - less right - eous -



plea, a great High Priest whose name is love, who ev - er lives and pleads for  
in, up - ward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my  
ness, the great un - change - a - ble "I Am", the King of glo - ry and of



me. My name is grav - en on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His  
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - iour died my sin - ful soul is count - ed  
grace. One with Him - self I can - not die, my soul is pur - chased with His



heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can  
free, for God the Just is sat - is - fied to look on  
blood; my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
Him and par - don me, to look on Him and par - don me.  
Sav - iour and my God, with Christ, my Sav - iour and my God.

# Confession and Absolution

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession of Sins

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- P** Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Savior Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen

## Reflection on God's Forgiveness

*1 Corinthians 15:20, 54-57*

- P** Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- C** Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?
- P** The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
- C** But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

# Service of the Word

## Psalm

Psalm 47

- P** 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.**
- P** He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.
- C** **He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**
- P** 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!**
- 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. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!
- C** **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. Amen**

## Gloria

*To the tune Mendelssohn ("Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")*

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"  
God who flung the stars in space, God who formed the human race,  
God the mind and God the cause, God the source of nature's laws,  
God of wisdom, pow'r, and love, God of gods, all gods above.  
Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"  
God who saw your creatures fall, loved them still, and loved them all,  
Gave your only Son to prove what is mercy, what is love;  
And the Spirit, given free, recreates your family.  
Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

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## Acts Reading

Acts 1:1–11

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>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.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

Ephesians 1:15–23

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>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, <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup>that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and

seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Recognition of Graduating Seniors

### Rite of Confirmation

### Rite of Holy Baptism

# Sermon Hymn #821

# Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the

scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the  
 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is  
 earth our food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the  
 nip - o - tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of  
 scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the

tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.  
 near us; Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
 sin - ful Flee to You from day to day.  
 Mar - y, Earth Your foot - stool, heav'n Your throne.  
 tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.

Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der  
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived Him When the  
 In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, Earth's Re -  
 As with - in the veil You en - tered, Robed in  
 Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der

like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of  
 for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -  
 deem - er, hear our plea Where the songs of  
 flesh, our great High Priest, Here on earth both  
 like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of

ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."  
 get His prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
 all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."

Text and tune: Public domain; Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.; Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup>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.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>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.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and were continually in the temple blessing God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Credo***To the tune St Denio (“Immortal, Invisible”)*

**Great God, our Creator, from whom all receive  
Their being and blessing, in you we believe.  
Almighty, all-knowing, all-gracious, all-true,  
Provider and Father, our trust is in you.**

**And you, Jesus Christ, we affirm as our Lord,  
True son of the Father, by angels adored;  
Redeemer incarnate, you paid for our sins,  
And, joined in your rising, our new life begins.**

**Free Spirit of wisdom and power and love,  
On us, as on Christ, you descend from above;  
You call us, you cleanse us, you open our eyes,  
You keep us in peace, you restore paradise.**

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## Sermon

### Offering

### Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**G** hear our prayer.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying...

## Sanctus

*To the tune Nicaea ("Holy, Holy, Holy")*

**"Holy, holy, holy!" all the saints in glory**

**Fill your temple with their song around your golden throne;**

**"Holy, holy, holy!" with them we adore Thee;**

**God in three persons, all in Christ as one.**

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## 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

### Agnus Dei

*To the tune Olivet ("My Faith Looks Up to Thee")*

**Meek, slaughtered lamb of God,**

**Bearing the sinners' load**

**To buy our peace:**

**Now risen and enthroned,**

**With life and glory crowned,**

**To all the lost and found**

**Please grant your peace.**

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda; Tune: Lowell Mason © 1990 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220

# Distribution Hymn #570

## Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy  
 2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a  
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to  
 soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each  
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -  
 heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
 Because Thy promise I believe,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
 Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
 Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text and tune: Public domain; Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871; Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68



# Distribution

# Ancient of Days

Though the na - tions rage, king - doms rise and fall, there is  
 Though the dread of night o - ver - whelms my soul, He is  
 Though I may not see what the fu - ture brings, I will  
 still one King reign - ing o - ver all. So, I will not  
 here with me. I am not a - lone. O, His love is  
 watch and wait for the Sav - iour King. Then, my joy com -  
 fear for this truth re - mains: that my God is the An - cient of Days.  
 sure and He knows my name. For my God is the An - cient of Days.  
 plete, stand - ing face to face in the pres - ence of the An - cient of Days.  
 None a - bove Him, none be - fore Him. All of time in His hands. For His  
 throne, it shall re - main and ev - er stand. All the pow - er, all the glo - ry, I will  
 trust in His name. For my God is the An - cient of Days.

Tune: © 2018 CityAlight Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

Tune: Jesse Reeves; Michael Farren; Rich Thompson; Jonny Robinson

## Distribution Hymn #618

## I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and  
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners  
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I  
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my  
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's

wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -  
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in  
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt  
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -  
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of

lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:  
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.  
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:  
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

*Refrain*

Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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## The Dismissal

# Closing Hymn #922

# Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.  
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.  
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;  
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My  
 I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.  
 heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.  
 Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.  
 Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.  
 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.  
 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.  
 Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

## Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen

## Announcements

### Today

- **Confirmation Celebration and Senior Recognition** 10:30 AM Downstairs
- **Early Education & Preschool Sunday School** 10:30 AM Downstairs
- **Sunday Evening Prayer** 5:30 PM
- [New Member Class 6:00 PM](#)

### Tuesday

- [Men's Bible Study](#) 6:30 – 7:30 AM
- [Youth Group](#) 6:30 - 8:00 PM

### Wednesday

- [Zoom Group Study "The Great Divorce" by C.S. Lewis - 7:00 PM](#)

### Saturday

- [Women of Faith Bible Study](#) 9:00 AM

If you still need to submit a picture for the [St. James Photo Directory](#), please email one to [megrathert@gmail.com](mailto:megrathert@gmail.com) .

**[Ministry Fair](#) – Today** Immediately following Bible Study. We are growing and so are our ministry opportunities! Please join us in fellowship hall for lunch and to learn about how you can be involved in our community – connecting-growing-serving one another. If you are unable to attend but would like more information regarding our ministries, please call the church office 618-288-6120. We'd love to talk to you!



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