

+SERVICE OF VESPERS+

+ THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD + 29 MAY 2025 +



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

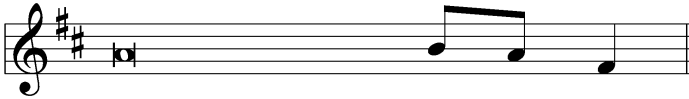
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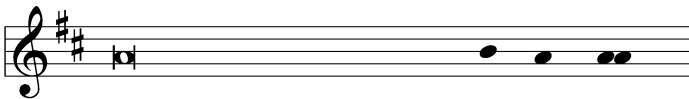
Stand



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody

God Is King over All the Earth

- ¹Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
- ²**For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,
a great king over all the earth.**
- ³He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.
- ⁴**He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**
- ⁵God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- ⁶**Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**
- ⁷For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!
- ⁸**God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.**
- ⁹The 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!

Sit

Office Hymn

493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why
 4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,
 to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers
 al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they
 al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
 And be our future great reward.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Then, throned with You forever, we
 Shall praise Your name eternally.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- △ 6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
 All praise to You let earth accord:
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 You are, while endless ages run,
 With Father and with Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

Readings

First Reading

Acts 1:1–11

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.**”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He 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.**” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and 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

Thanksgiving and Prayer

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that 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, ¹⁸having 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far 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. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which 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.

Reading

Luke 24:44-53

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

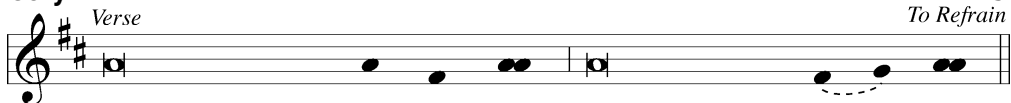
⁴⁴Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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."

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Responsory



- L** 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.
 2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.
 3 Glory be to the
 Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.

Refrain

□ Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Hymn

491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph
 2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual
 3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,
 △ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the

in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,
 to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther
 prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure
 Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -
 As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our
 With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as
 Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,

on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.
 world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!
 You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.
 al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

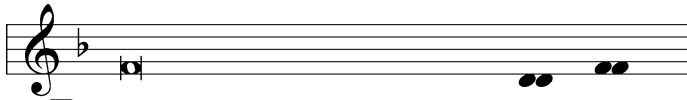
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008
 Tune: Henry V. Gerike, 1948

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Canticle

Stand



L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Magnificat

933 *My Soul Rejoices*



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bless - ing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the



ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring



Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622

Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Prayer

Kneel/Stand

Kyrie

LSB 233



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

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.

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Stand

Benedicamus

LSB 234



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234



P The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

Hymn to Depart

492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build



1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -
2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -
3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401
Tune: Public domain

Draw Us to Thee

J. G. Walther

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book
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A Snippet From 1517

Ascension Special: Psalm 47

*Israel is all the people who believe in the LORD and gather at His throne.
It is no longer a national distinction, it is one of faith.*

The Psalm for the celebration of the Ascension of our LORD is [Psalm 47](#). This Psalm is chosen specifically for Ascension Day because of verse 5 (in the Hebrew it is verse 6): “God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.” Since we are told in Scripture the LORD will return in the same manner in which He ascended—with the sound of trumpet, from the clouds, etc.—we have clearer view of the “why” it was chosen. This Psalm is in the same section as many Psalms which speak of assurance and hope. [Psalm 46](#) is the “Reformation Psalm”—a mighty fortress! [Psalm 48](#) pictures the beautiful image of Mount Zion—the heavenly one—and [Psalm 49](#) asks the question, “Why should I fear in times of trouble?” (verse 5). [Psalm 47](#) is also a Psalm of great encouragement.

There is an interesting movement which takes place in these verses. We begin with God reigning over all peoples and things, but with obvious favor toward the people of Israel. However, by the end of the Psalm we hear of all the princes of the people gathering... just as the people of the God of Abraham gather at His throne. It is similar to the Holy Mountain of [Isaiah 25](#) unto which all peoples come. In a very real way the Psalmist has redefined who the true Israel is. Israel is all the people who believe in the LORD and gather at His throne. It is no longer a national distinction, it is one of faith. This means the blessings of the Covenant will not be restricted: ALL WHO BELIEVE!

Also, of interest is verse 4 (Hebrew verse 5) and the phrase, “...the pride of Jacob whom He loves.” This seems to be a reference to [Genesis 25:19ff](#) and the story of Jacob and Esau as God is extending of the Messianic line through Jacob rather than Esau (see also [Malachi 1:2-3](#); [Romans 9:10-13](#)). Please remember, the verse numbering is different from Hebrew to English. The Hebrew text considers the Psalm title as verse 1 in this instance.

Jeffrey Pulse, 5/08/2021, 1517.org

