

# **Ascension of Our Lord**





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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

# "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1



This evening's service will be recorded.

# Lord of Love Lutheran Church

May 9, 2024

# THE FESTIVAL OF OUR LORD'S ASCENSION

### **Welcome by Pastor and Invocation**

**Opening of Service** 

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (CW 171) and Psalm 47

ALL: A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleuia!
Christ, by a road before untrod, Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleuia! Alleuia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth. He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.

ALL: The holy apostolic band, Upon the Mount of Olives stand, Alleluia! Alleluia! And with his followers they see, Their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

ALL: To them the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" Alleluia! Alleluia! "This is the Savior," thus they say. "This is his glorious triumph day." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

ALL: 
"You see him now, ascending high, Up to the portals of the sky."

Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Hereafter Jesus you shall see, Returning in great majesty."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

# Prayer of the Day for the Festival

**M:** Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pay, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. (spoken)

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He said to them, "This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

<sup>50</sup> He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup> And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup> They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

**Choir Anthem** 

A Place for Your Holy Name

# A REVIEW OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST THROUGH THE CHURCH YEAR

Advent - Isaiah 7:10-14

<sup>10</sup> The LORD spoke to Ahaz again. He said, <sup>11</sup> "Ask for a sign from the LORD your God. Ask for it either in the depths below or in the heights above." <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz responded, "I will not ask. I will not test the LORD." <sup>13</sup> So Isaiah said: Listen now, you house of David. Is it not enough for you to test the patience of men? Will you test the patience of my God as well? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give a sign for all of you. Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and name him Immanuel.

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

Oh, come, O Root of Jesse, free Your own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell your people save, And bring them vict'ry o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

#### Christmas - Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governing Syria. <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to register, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the town of Nazareth, into Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was from the house and family line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, his wife, who was pledged to him in marriage and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> And so it was that while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Hymn** (CW 62:1-2) Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

# Epiphany – Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, <sup>2</sup> "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> He gathered together all the people's chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: <sup>6</sup> You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel."

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him." <sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. <sup>11</sup> After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

Hymn (CW 83:1-3)

As with Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold, As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright, So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore your followers be.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to your lowly bed, There to bend the knee before You whom heav'n and earth adore, So may we with willing feet Ever seek your mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare At your cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heav'nly King.

#### Lent - Isaiah 53:1-6

Who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> He grew up before him like a tender shoot and like a root from dry ground. He had no attractiveness and no majesty. When we saw him, nothing about his appearance made us desire him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by men, a man who knew grief, who was well acquainted with suffering. Like someone whom people cannot bear to look at, he was despised, and we thought nothing of him. <sup>4</sup> Surely he was taking up our weaknesses, and he was carrying our sufferings. We thought it was because of God that he was stricken, smitten, and afflicted, <sup>5</sup> but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced. He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserved. The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> We all have gone astray like sheep. Each of us has turned to his own way, but the LORD has charged all our quilt to him.

Hymn (CW 127:1, 3)

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See him dying on the tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he. 'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord; Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.

If you think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great, Here you see its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate. Mark the sacrifice appointed; See who bears the awful load—'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

### Holy Week/Good Friday - John 19:28-30

<sup>28</sup> After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to fulfill the Scripture, Jesus said, "I thirst."

<sup>29</sup> A jar full of sour wine was sitting there. So they put a sponge soaked in sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

<sup>30</sup> When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished!" Then, bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

Hymn (CW 104:1-3)

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r; Your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour; Turn not from his griefs away; Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall; View the Lord of life arraigned.

Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!

Shun not suff'ring, pain, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at his feet, Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear him cry; Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

#### Easter - Luke 24:1-6a

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. <sup>3</sup> When they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men stood by them in dazzling clothing. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed down with their faces to the ground. The men said to them, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has been raised!

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia! Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

#### Ascension - Revelation 5:11-13

<sup>11</sup> And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. <sup>12</sup> With a loud voice they were saying:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

<sup>13</sup> I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

#### **Choir Anthem**

Holy is He (Holy, Holy, Holy)

This anthem combines choir and congregation singing.

Toward the end of the piece, the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" will be sung twice.

The congregation will be invited to sing "Holy, Holy, Holy" the second time.

The choir director will cue congregation when to join.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## **Gathering of Thank Offering**

While the offering is gathered, please sign and pass the Friendship Register.

## **Prayer of the Church for the Festival**

**M:** Blessed Jesus, you ascended to the right hand of your Father's majesty, power, and glory and now reign as eternal King of kings and Lord of lords.

C: We praise you for your victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell.

**M:** O ascended Prophet, equip your Church to proclaim the precious Gospel message of God's love for all the world.

C: Give courage to our hearts, power to our words, and success to our efforts.

**M:** O ascended High Priest, represent us before the Father as his own dear children and heirs. Defend us against Satan's every accusation. Ask for the Father's gracious blessings in our everyday lives.

C: Plead for his mercy and grace on our behalf.

**M:** O ascended King, direct the affairs of governments and nations that they may serve the best interests of your Church on earth.

C: You are our Lord, Master, and King!

**M:** As the disciples lifted their eyes to watch your ascension, so life our eyes daily to look for your return in glory.

C: Lord Jesus, come quickly! Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### BLESSING

**M:** The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: (spoken) Amen.

Closing Hymn (CW 169)

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

The bells will introduce our closing hymn this evening. Following the bells and a brief organ introduction, we join to sing the hymn.

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."

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.

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how. Though 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 Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version\* (EHV\*) © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. <a href="www.wartburgproject.org">www.wartburgproject.org</a>
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# Serving this evening:

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Choir Director: Elaine Wilson
- Children's Bell Coordinator: Ruth Kovaciny
- Ushers: The Heath Family
- Altar Guild: Ava Ehlenbach and Karie Ehlenbach
- A/V & Recording: RaeLyn Parker

# **Weekly Bible Studies**

**Sunday 9:15 am: 1 Thessalonians,** sanctuary

Tuesday 9:00 am: The Gospel of John, downstairs

Wednesday 6:30 pm: Revelation, Class resumes this Wednesday.

**Thursday 6:30 pm: Bible Information Class,** *downstairs.* Speak with Pastor if you are interested in attending this class.

Friday 6:00 am (Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45): Matthew DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)

# **Looking Ahead:**

- May 10: A Day in Preschool, 8:00 11:00. Eastside Lutheran, Madison
- May 12: Teen class joins adult Bible study today, 9:15 am
- May 13: Patchwork blankets, 12:30 3:30 pm, downstairs
- May 16: Ladies dinner outing at Rodeside Grill, 6:00 pm
- May 19: Sunday school children sing both services
- May 19: Last day of teen class and regular Sunday school, 9:15 am
- May 20: Patchwork blankets, 12:30 3:30 pm and 6 8 pm downstairs (The group does not meet May 27.)
- June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30: Summer Sunday School, Time to be determined
- July 18: Red Cross Blood Drive at Lord of Love, 12:00 5:00 pm
- July 20: Breath New Life Into Your Sunday School Ministry! Conference in Wonewoc, WI (8:30 2:00 pm. (Refreshments start at 8:00.)
- July 21: Outdoor Worship Service and church picnic, Worship 10:30, picnic 12:00 noon