

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Rev. John Miller, Pastor
Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller, Pastor
Nikki Dombroski, Family Ministry Coordinator

Ascension of Our Lord ~ May 12, 2024 ~ 9:45 a.m.

THE SERVICE

BOLD lettering indicates a spoken response

Prelude

Announcements

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen

Rising Generation

CCLI 1763436

Refrain




We are God's cho - sen ho - ly na - tion, we be - long to Him a - lone




and may this ri - sing gen - er - a - tion wor - ship Christ u - pon His




throne, wor - ship Christ u - pon His throne.



1. We be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, and in Christ, His pre - cious Son.
2. We be - lieve He sends His Spir - it on us now with gifts of power



We be - lieve He died to save us,
Hear the Spir - it cal - ling out to us



Refrain
came to call us as His own.
where He leads us we will go.

Greeting:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Christ is Risen.

C: He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

C: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

P: This is the day of the Lord's victory.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: Christ is Risen.

C: He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Song – He is exalted

CCLI 1763436

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise him.

He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise his name.

Jesus is Lord, forever his truth shall reign;

Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

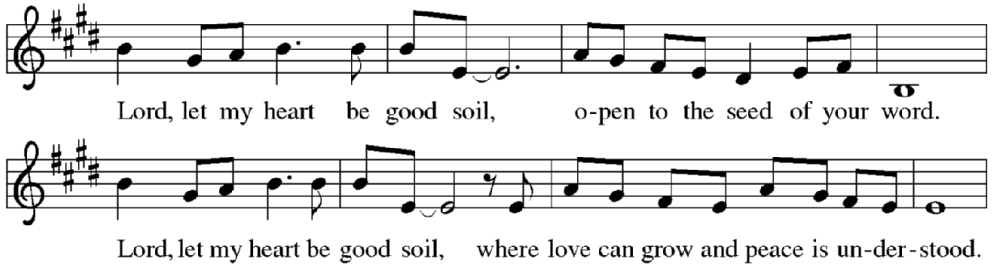
Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

C: Amen

WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

First Lesson: Acts 1:1-11

Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

A: The First Lesson is from the 1st chapter of Acts.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have 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, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why

do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.

A: The Second Lesson is from the 1st chapter of Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work 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 age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Jesus said to his disciples, “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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

~ Pastor John

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Song – Lift up your heads

CCLI 1763436

Lift up your heads, O you gates;
Swing wide, you everlasting doors.
Lift up your heads, O you gates;
Swing wide, you everlasting doors. *Refrain*

Refrain: That the King of glory may come in,
That the King of glory may come in;
That the King of glory may come in,
That the King of glory may come in.

Up from the dead he ascends,
Through ev'ry rank of heav'nly pow'r.
Let heav'n prepare the highest place,
Throw wide the everlasting doors. *Refrain*

With trumpet blast and shouts of joy,
All heaven greets the risen king.
With angel choirs come line the way,
Throw wide the gates and welcome him. *Refrain*

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

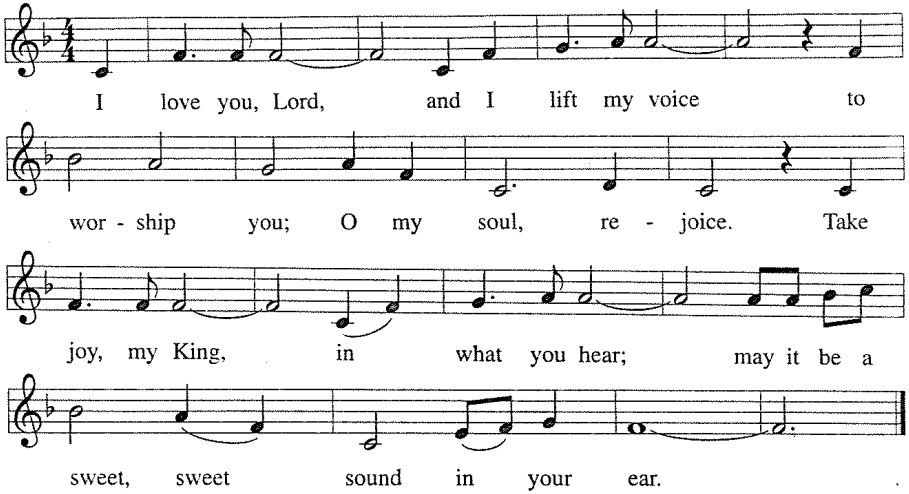
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to
wor-ship you; O my soul, re-joice. Take
joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a
sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

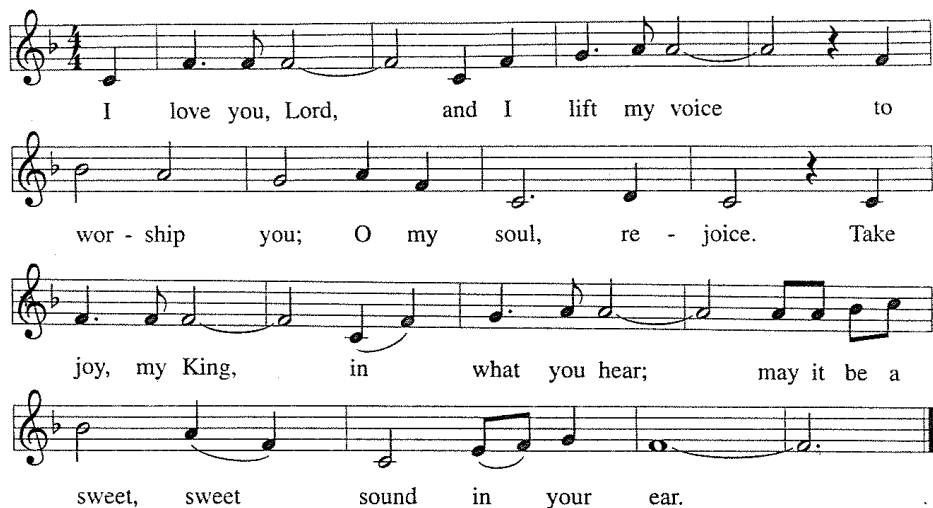
Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P: . . . Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

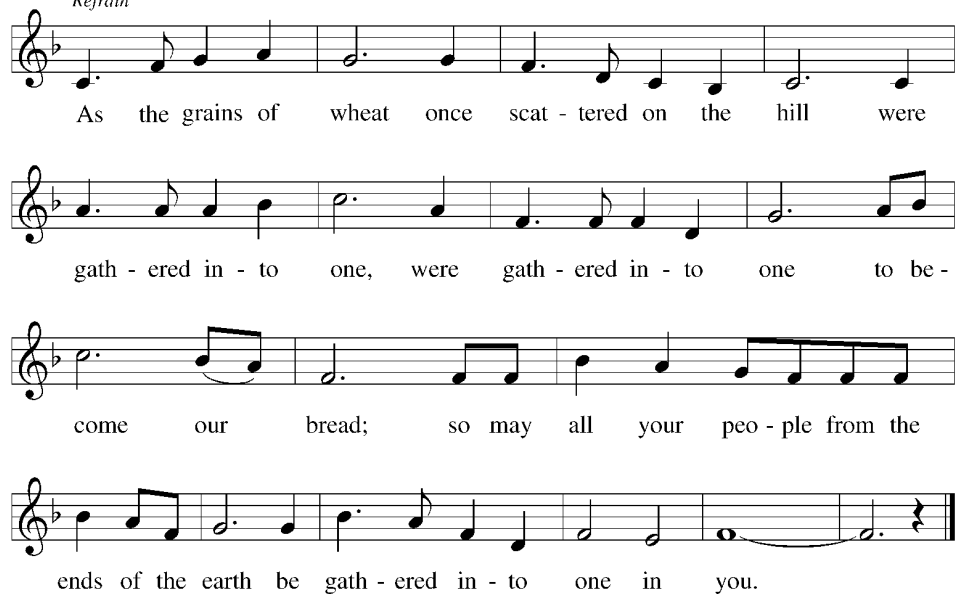


I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to
 wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take
 joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a
 sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

Offertory - As the grains of wheat

CCLI 1763436

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat - tered on the hill were
 gath - ered in - to one, were gath - ered in - to one to be -
 come our bread; so may all your peo - ple from the
 ends of the earth be gath - ered in - to one in you.

Offertory Prayer

P: Living God,

C: in Christ's resurrection you raised up new life for the world. Receive what we offer, that others might know that life through the gifts you give us, to use and to share. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Prayer

P: Come, all you beloved of the Lord, come and eat the food that He gives freely. Be filled again with the goodness of God.

C: Lord God, giver of all good things, we hear Your invitation, we see Your gifts of life and grace.

P: Come to the table of the Lord.

C: We come with our wounds and faults ready to eat and to drink. Our hearts are glad.

Words of Institution

P: Yes, dear Lord our God, our hearts are truly glad.

We are filled with thankfulness, because in Your great love You did not abandon us to sin and death, but in Jesus, You came to us, to rescue us, to restore us, and to give us new life.

We remember the way that Jesus showed us this love:

In the night in which He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying:

this cup is the new covenant in my blood

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

MUSIC AS WE SHARE COMMUNION

Alleluia

CCLI 1763436

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia;
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He's my Savior, alleluia, He's my Savior, alleluia;
He's my Savior, alleluia, He's my Savior, alleluia.

He is worthy, alleluia, He is worthy, alleluia;
He is worthy, alleluia, He is worthy, alleluia.

I will praise him, alleluia, I will praise him, alleluia;
I will praise him, alleluia, I will praise him, alleluia.

Open our eyes, Lord

CCLI 1763436

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

Post Communion Canticle – You're Worthy of My Praise CCLI 1763436

I will wor - ship with all of my heart.

I will praise You with all of my strength.

I will seek You all of my days.

I will fol - low all of Your ways.

I will give You all my wor - ship I will give You

all my praise. You a - lone I long to wor - ship,

You a - lone are wor - thy. of my praise.

Prayer

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **C: Amen**

SENDING

Blessing

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 + give you peace.

C: Amen

Closing Song – Majesty

CCLI 1763436

Majesty, worship his majesty:

unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.

Majesty, kingdom authority flows from his throne unto his own;
his anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.

Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.

Majesty, worship his majesty:

Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings. *Repeat*

After last line final time through:

Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Christ.

C: Thanks be to God

Postlude

OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Today-Happy Mother's Day!

8:30-Traditional Worship

9:45-Contemporary Worship

11:00-Traditional Worship

Monday-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

6:00-Property

Tuesday-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

Thursday-6:00-Traditional Choir Practice & Picnic

FUTURE MINISTRIES

Sun-May 19-Day of Pentecost – wear red!

9:45-Sunday School

6:30-Mission Trip Prep Event

Mon-May 20-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tues-May 21-2:00-Bible Study

5:30-Council

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

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Next Sunday's Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

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Attendance last week:

Sunday Worship: 8:30-37; 9:45-69; 11:00-34; SCS-11

*~ Food Pantry Items for May are BLACK GROUND PEPPER
and/or GARLIC POWDER. ~*

The flowers in the chancel vases have been presented to the Glory of the Risen Lord and in loving memory of Doris Haag and in honor of Marie Russell on Mother's Day by Brad & Colleen Russell.

Worship Note: Throughout the Easter season, our Pascal Candle was next to the altar and lit during each service as a sign of the risen Christ's presence among us. *Today, we will extinguish the candle during the reading of the gospel to symbolize Jesus' ascension into heaven.*

Sunday School for preschool through 5th graders **next Sunday May 19** at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Mission Trip Participant Preparations! The group will gather **next Sunday evening May 19** from 6:30-8 PM to get ready for our mission trip. Please sign up by emailing Pastor Amy.

Pentecost is next Sunday, May 19. The liturgical color of the day is red, so you are invited to wear red to worship.

Graduate recognition . . . We will recognize our high school graduates and present them with a gift from the congregation **Sunday June 2**. We would like to know about our grads' future plans, so please email (christlutheran@penn.com) or call the church office with that info ASAP. *College Graduates* – we want to recognize your accomplishment too! Parents/families please contact the church office and let us know about your college graduate (school, degree, employment). Thank you!

Attention Students pursuing post-high school education or training: It is time to apply for consideration for the Sandra Dunlap Scholarship. Applications with detailed requirements are available in the narthex or by calling the church office and are due no later than **Friday May 31, 2024**.

Now's the time to sign up for the In-Tents Lutheran Summer Church Camp, *Monday, July 15 – Wednesday, July 17* for current 4th through 6th graders. The camp is at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Hooversville, PA. Registration forms and more information are available now from Pastor Amy or in the Sunday School area. Deadline to register is **next Sunday May 19**.

Mission of the Month: Flood Buckets for NALC Disaster Response. On June 15 our mission trip participants will travel to NALC'S National Disaster Response Warehouse & Retreat Center in Caldwell, Ohio for their summer 2024 Mission Trip. They will take *Flood Buckets* with them, to support disaster relief across the country. We invite your donations toward Flood Buckets for NALC Disaster Response. A list of supplies needed can be found in the narthex. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation to this effort, please use the pew envelopes, and write "*Flood Buckets*" in the "other" line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church.