

Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church

Ascension of Our Lord

May 24, 2020

Worship Service

Print = Pastor or Worship Leader

Bold = Congregation

🎵 = Sing



In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

GATHERING

LIGHT CANDLE



THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. (silence)

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for water in the baptismal font and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

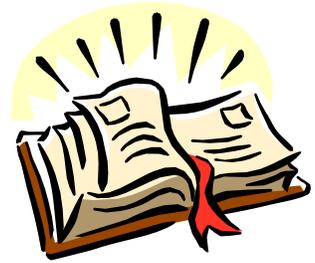
Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together the prayer of the day:

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD



The First Lesson is from Acts in the 1st chapter.

Acts 1:1-11 NT Page #122

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

[Luke writes:] 1In 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."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The psalm for today is **Psalm 47** will you please read it responsively with me.

God has gone up with a shout. (Ps. 47:5)

Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a joyful sound.

For the LORD Most High is to be feared:

a great king over all the earth,

who subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet;

**who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with a song.

**God reigns over the nations;
God is enthroned on high.**

The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people
of the God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

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

Ephesians 1:15-23 NT Page #204

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.

15I 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24:44-53 NT Page #93

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

44[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."
45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things. 49And 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." 50Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.
51While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. 52And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

OFFERING

We also encourage those who are able to continue to make their faithful, generous offerings to FAITH. We know that some will be unable to do this, especially if they lose their jobs or work hourly in an industry that has been hard-hit by this situation. If you are able those offerings can be mailed to the church.

PRAYER

Then enter into a time of prayer, sharing in prayer requests that you have received and praying for those specifically.

CLOSING

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.**



BLESSING

May God who has claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the † Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PEACE

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

EXTINGUISH CANDLE

