

Certain hope
FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

RESURRECTION HOPE IS CERTAIN



Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Reaching Out. Reaching Up. Reaching Across.

Pastor Michael Koepke
Church Phone: 480-283-8329
Cell Phone: 623-419-4303

Pastor@MyLambofGod.org
MyLambofGod.org
599 E. Chandler Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85048

<u>COUNCIL MEMBER</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Scott Arthur, Treasurer	scottarthur70@gmail.com	480-695-1612
Warren Baty	warren.baty@gmail.com	
Dave Hackett, Property	daveht2k@yahoo.com	480-200-3265
Chris Muller, VP & Secretary	chris_muller@earthlink.net	425-681-7235
Brian Welch, President	brwelch@hotmail.com	309-212-3626

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

Pastor's Office Hours

If you would like to meet with Pastor Koepke, please contact him to make an appointment Tuesday through Friday. Our pastor is here to serve both Lamb of God members and our community.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

This service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

✠ The Gathering ✠

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

1 Crown him with man-y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne;
2 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and side,

Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.

A - wake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,
No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,

And hail him as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
But down-ward bends his won-d'ring eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy!

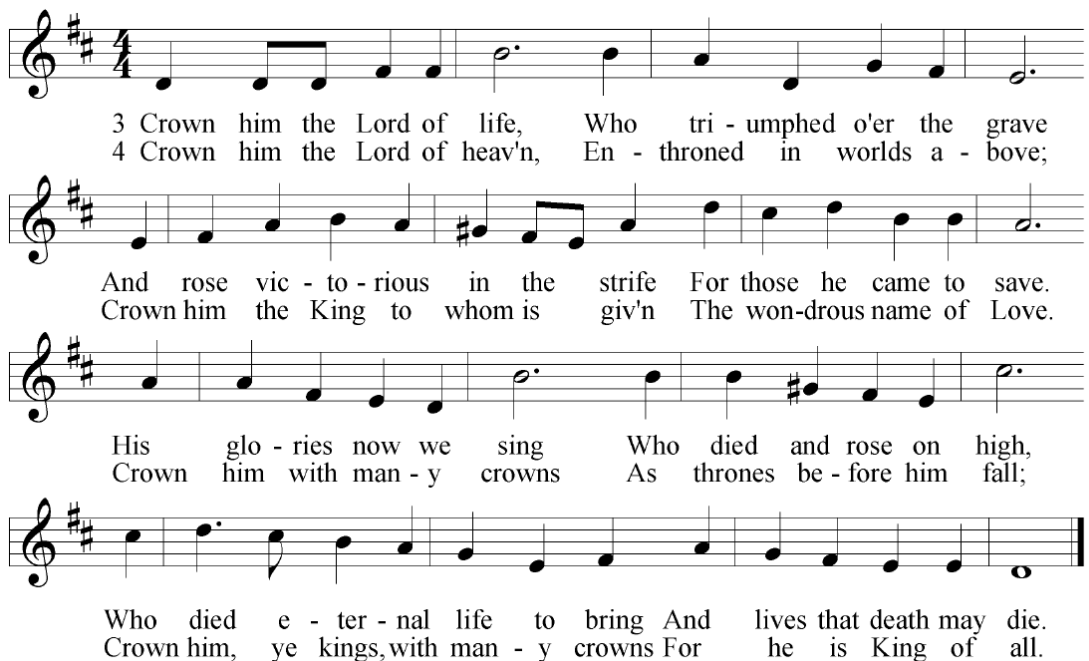
C: Let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

M: "Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

C: **We believe and are sure that he is the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

M: God raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

C: **At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**



3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave
4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove;
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those he came to save.
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.
His glo - ries now we sing Who died and rose on high,
Crown him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore him fall;
Who died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.
Crown him, ye kings, with man - y crowns For he is King of all.

Liturgy Appreciation

The Venerable Bede was an English monk who lived around 700 AD. Known as "the Teacher of the Middle Ages," Bede's best known contribution is the system of dating events by years before or after Christ. Bede died in 735 AD on the Feast of the Ascension, and the words he spoke on his deathbed serve as the Prayer of the Day for the Festival of the Ascension of our Lord. The words themselves flow from the great ascension texts. The prayer sets the tone for the Sunday, beginning with a note of triumph and ending with a supplication for the Spirit and his work on Pentecost. Today we see that Christ rules all things for his Church.

✠ The Word ✠

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 pray, 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.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 1:1-11

Jesus' ascension gives us certain hope that he is our living Savior and that he will one day come back to take us to be with him in heaven, no matter what may happen to us on this earth.

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about."⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

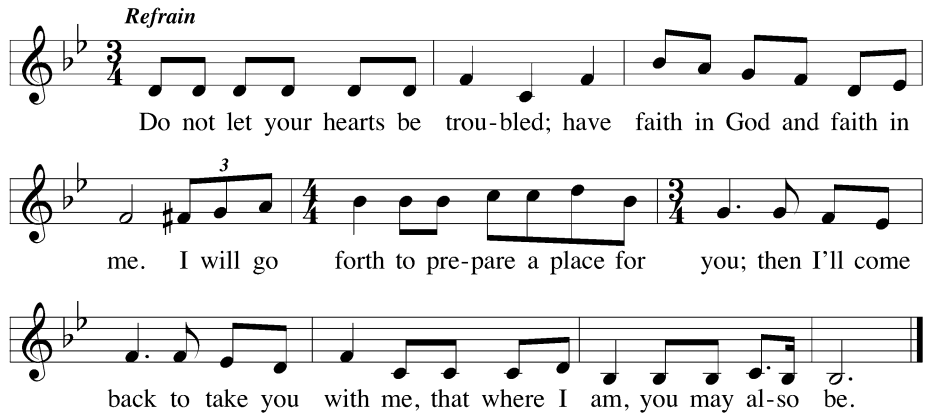
¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

SONG: *Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled*

Based on Jesus' words from John 14

C: Refrain

Refrain



Do not let your hearts be trou-bled; have faith in God and faith in
me. I will go forth to pre-pare a place for you; then I'll come
back to take you with me, that where I am, you may al-so be.

Verses sung by Pastor

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. In God's house there are many places
For you alone to dwell in safety.
You know the way to where I'll lead you;
If you are lost, I will show the way. | 2. I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life;
Only through me can you know what I know.
If you knew me, you would know the Father;
If you see me, you see your God. |
|---|--|

C: Refrain

C: Refrain

3. The words I speak are not only of myself;
It is your God who lives within me.
If you believe that your God and I are one,
I will provide when you call my name.

C: Refrain

GOSPEL LESSON: *Luke 24:44-53*

Jesus' ascension gives us certainty that everything the Scriptures say about him is true. Therefore we will tell the whole world that through Jesus, they have forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told 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."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (CW 171)*

1. A hymn of glory let us sing!
New songs throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. 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! Alleluia!
3. 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! Alleluia!
4. "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!

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!

SERMON: Aren't You Glad Jesus Is Gone? *Ephesians 1:16-23*

¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *The Apostles' Creed*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

✠ The Prayers ✠

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Prayers and petitions are made on behalf of the Church

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

M: All this we ask, Lord Jesus, in joyful confidence that you have conquered death and the grave, and ascended to your throne on high to rule over all things for the good of your people. We pray in your name, and as you taught:

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE LORD'S BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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: Amen.

CLOSING SONG: *There Is a Higher Throne* (CWS 727)

1 There is a high - er throne than all this
2 And there we'll find our home, our life be -

world has known, Where faith - ful ones from ev - 'ry tongue
fore the throne. We'll hon - or him in per - fect song

will one day come. Be - fore the Son we'll stand,
where we be - long. He'll wipe each tear - stained eye

made fault - less through the Lamb; Be - liev - ing
as thirst and hun - ger die. The Lamb be -

hearts find prom - ised grace; sal - va - tion comes.
comes our Shep - herd - King; we'll reign with him.

Refrain

Hear heav - en's voic - es sing; their thund - 'rous

an - them rings. Through em - 'rald courts and sap - phire skies

their prais - es rise. All glo - ry, wis - dom, pow'r,

strength, thanks, and hon - or are to God our King who

reigns on high for - ev - er - more.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARDS AVAILABLE

Cards are available for springtime occasion cards, such as confirmation and graduation. Check them out! Thank you for your interest and support of this Lamb of God ministry.

FAITH BUILDERS CLASS

The Faith Builders class will meet on Thursdays at 6:30pm and Saturdays at 9:30am, both in person and Zoom, starting on Thursday, May 27, and Saturday, May 29.

All are invited to attend this class, both members of Lamb of God and friends. This class continues on from the 4 Key Concepts class, serving as an excellent way to study the foundational truths of Christianity and ask your tough questions. It is also the final phase of our new member classes for those desiring to become members at Lamb of God. Even if you did not attend the 4 Key Concepts classes, you are welcome to join us!

PERIDOT-OUR SAVIOR'S NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The school in Peridot is growing and Builders for Christ have come to build a new duplex on the campus. They need more volunteers to ensure the project is completed by June. Please consider volunteering a Saturday soon to help your fellow brothers and sisters. You do not need any building experience to volunteer. Lunch is provided. Please contact Paul Soucy at soucymailbox-church@yahoo.com to volunteer.

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 16	Worship Service, 9:30am
	Bible Class, 10:45am
Wednesday, May 19	Zoom Bible Study of Luke, 7pm
Sunday, May 23	Worship Service, 9:30am
	Bible Class, 10:45am

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