

# Ascension Sunday

## Jesus Returns to Glory

June 1, 2025 • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

---

### **As We Gather:**

40 days after Jesus rose from the dead, he was caught up in a cloud, and his disciples saw him no more. Why did Jesus leave? The Bible suggests several reasons. Jesus removed his visible presence so that he would be with us invisibly at all times and in all places (Matthew 18:20, 28:20). Jesus returned to heaven in order to intercede for us and to send us the Holy Spirit (1 John 2:1, John 16:7). Jesus ascended in order to receive once more all the glory that is rightfully his (Philippians 2:9). But most of all, Jesus ascended because he had finished his work. He died for our sins and wrongdoing and rose to give us forgiveness and a new life. Jesus won our salvation. His job on earth was done. Our job now is to proclaim that salvation until the day when Jesus comes again visibly in the clouds (Luke 24:47-48).

### **Prelude**

### **Words of Welcome**

Stand

### **Sharing God's Peace with One Another**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "Peace be with you" as a sign of our unity and reconciliation in the Holy Spirit. As we are forgiven by God, so we forgive each other. (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3)

## Hymn: On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

Lutheran Service Book 492



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: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005074

Tune: Public domain

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father,
- C** **Who raised his Son Jesus from the dead!**
- P** In the name of the Son,
- C** **Who broke through the gates of death!**
- P** In the name of the Holy Spirit,
- C** **Who gives us new life in Christ!**
- P** Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one God.
- C** **We begin our worship in his glorious name!**

### Prayer of Confession

- P** We begin our worship by confessing our sins and failures before the Lord, because he is risen, he has ascended into heaven, and he promises to forgive us!

- A** Lord God, the empty tomb shows your immense power and greatness. We, on the other hand, are weak, and our hearts go astray so easily. We have repeatedly fallen into temptation and disobeyed your will for us. Fill us with the power and victory of your resurrection and ascension! Forgive our wrongdoing. Help us to live a new life for you. And on the Last Day, raise us up to live forever with you. Amen.

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

- P** After Jesus rose from the dead, he commanded his disciples to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins in his name to all nations (Luke 24:47) Through Jesus, risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, we have forgiveness for our wrongdoing, peace with God, and power from the Holy Spirit to begin to change our lives. Christ is risen!
- C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## **Service of the Word**

### **Responsive Reading**

Pastor: Jesus rose from the dead and spent 40 days visiting and teaching his disciples.

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He proved it to his disciples!**

Pastor: After those 40 days, Jesus ascended to heaven while his disciples watched.

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He came from heaven and returned there once again.**

Pastor: Jesus ascended to reign over all things! (Philippians 2:9-11)

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He has all power and glory!**

Pastor: Jesus ascended to prepare a place for us! (John 14:2-3)

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He will take us home to be with him!**

Pastor: Jesus ascended so that his disciples would proclaim his salvation! (Acts 1:8, Luke 24:47-48)

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: We are his witnesses!**

Pastor: Jesus ascended to send us the Holy Spirit! (1 John 2:1, John 16:7)

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He has given us the Comforter!**

Pastor: Jesus ascended, yet he is still with us invisibly until the end of the age!  
(Matthew 18:20, 28:20)

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He will never abandon us!**

Pastor: Alleluia! Jesus ascended to heaven in glory! (Acts 1:11)

**Children: Jesus is risen!**

**Adults: He will return visibly the same way, in glory!**

## Hymn of Praise: Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

LSB 805

△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Hymn: A Hymn of Glory Let us Sing

Lutheran Service Book 493, stanzas 1-3

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  
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,  
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

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005074  
Tune: Public domain

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **Lord Jesus, you ascended to heaven in glory! Help us, as you have promised, with the mission you have given us here on the earth. And when our time on earth is done, bring us into your glory, to live forever and see you face to face. In your own name we pray. Amen.**

## Acts 1:1-11

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

And 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; for

John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 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." And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and 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."

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

*(Jesus has power and authority over all things.)*

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

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

**Alleluia** (Melody: Unser Herrscher LSB 901)

Alleluia! Lord and Savior, open now your saving Word.

Let it burn like fire within us. Speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing, for the good news that you bring.

## Reading from the Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

*(Jesus ascended to heaven but sent us to the world as his witnesses.)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then [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." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And 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."

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

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

**Children's Song:** My Shepherd is the Lord (Venezuelan Song)

My shepherd is the Lord; I'll walk with him always.

My shepherd is the Lord; I'll walk with him always.

Always, always, I'll walk with him always.

Always, always, I'll walk with him always.

**Children's Message**

## Hymn: Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

Lutheran Service Book 826



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus cry - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?  
2 If you can - not speak like an - gels, If you can - not preach like Paul,  
3 If you can - not be a watch - man, Stand - ing high on Zi - on's wall,  
4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth - ing I can do,"



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"  
You can tell the love of Je - sus, You can say He died for all.  
Point - ing out the path to heav - en, Of - f'ring life and peace to all,  
While the mul - ti - tudes are dy - ing And the Mas - ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.  
If you can - not rouse the wick - ed With the judg - ment's dread a - larms,  
With your prayers and with your boun - ties You can do what God com - mands;  
Take the task He gives you glad - ly, Let His work your plea - sure be;



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"?  
You can lead the lit - tle chil - dren To the Sav - ior's wait - ing arms.  
You can be like faith - ful Aar - on, Hold - ing up the proph - et's hands.  
An - swer quick - ly when He call - eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon: "The Relay Race"

### Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose**



**again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

Jesus has all power and authority! According to the Bible, he is at the right hand of the Father, interceding for us. For that reason we draw near to God in prayer, without fear, in the name of Jesus, asking for what we need and giving him thanks for his great love.

**P** Lord, we pray for unity and love in the church, asking you to open the minds and hearts of your people to Jesus and his love and forgiveness. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, we pray for all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list who are close to our hearts. Let them know your healing touch. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, we pray for all those who are suffering or struggling or grieving, especially our friends and relatives and fellow Christians on our prayer list. Comfort them and help them. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, we pray for peace in our homes, in our neighborhoods, and in the world, especially in Israel and in the Ukraine and places where violence or persecution threaten. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, we pray for those who have not yet believed in you as their Savior. Help us to show them your love and give us words to tell them about your salvation. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, we pray for the soldiers, the policemen and firemen, and all who risk their lives to defend us and help us. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, we pray for our teachers and leaders, that you would guide them and encourage them. In Jesus' name,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** Lord, we pray for all the needs, physical and spiritual, in the world around us. In Jesus' name,
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** We trust in you, Lord, for you have power over death itself, and you have promised to hear us.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

## Offering

The Bible says, "My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19) Christ has risen!! And God gives us all that we need for our lives and for doing his work in the world. With joy we set aside part of what God has given us, for his mission!

## Offering Options

You can contribute offerings using any of the following methods:

**In-Person donations:** You can place your donation in the offering plate as it is passed during the service.

**On-line Banking donations:** You can utilize the on-line bill pay option at your financial institution to donate to Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912.

**Mail donations:** Mail your check to the church office: Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912. The mail is checked daily.

**Other Electronic donation option:** You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at [www.alconnect.faith](http://www.alconnect.faith) or by scanning the QR code below. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofit organizations. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

**Donations via an app:** If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Mobile app. You can easily set up an account and donate through the app.

*The ministries of Ascension are supported by the love, generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. As a guest, please do not feel obligated in any way to make a contribution. We believe that any gift to the Lord should be uncoerced and from the heart — as a loving response to God's grace.*



## **Special Music during the Offering: The Ascension of Our Lord** (Bryan Perdue)

1. *On the cross He died. From the tomb He walked away.  
Oh Death! Where is your sting? Oh Grave! Where is the victory you claim?  
Death is swallowed by my Lord! Death will never, ever, have a hold on me!  
Jesus washed away my tears and cleared away the shame from all the land.*

*Bridge: Glorified! My Jesus has been glorified!  
He lives in majesty! He's glorified!  
My King will come again, in a cloud He will descend  
And all will kneel before the King of kings!*

2. *He's before us now, and ever with the Father  
Speaks for all in faith. Oh Lord, High Priest, you stand in my on place  
Before the wrath of God. A gift of God by grace through faith in you.  
There's a better hope for me, thqt sinless I will stand before God's throne.  
(Bridge)*

3. *With our face unveiled, we can feel the Potter's hand.  
He molds us as His own. We are heirs! And we will gladly serve our God in love.  
We are Yours. We are Yours alone! He gives hope and strength to all who call  
His name. All will know my Jesus lives, the Prince of Peace, he reigns in heaven  
above. (Bridge)*

4. *He has sent His love. As the Spirit that was sent to us to guide us on  
In your Word. We speak boldly and proclaim your love  
From the mountains to the sea.  
We talk and spread your Word as we walk the land.  
Your truth will set them free, the chains will be undone by God's own hand.  
We are Yours. We are Yours alone.*

*Bridge: Glorified! My Jesus has been glorified!  
He lives in majesty! He's glorified!  
My King will come again, in a cloud He will descend  
And all will kneel before the King of kings!  
Glorified! Jesus has been glorified!!  
Jesus calls to me to guide me home!*

Stand

## Offering Prayer

- A** Lord Jesus Christ, you have overcome death and you have given us eternal life! Accept these offerings, and bless them and use them so that the message of salvation and resurrection may be proclaimed in every part of the world. In your own name we pray. Amen.

## Offertory: Jesus, Name Above All Names

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,  
Emmanuel, God is with us, precious Redeemer, living Word.

## ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

---

### Invitation and Preparation for Communion

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, one of the precious gifts that God gives to His people. In Communion, God wants to assure us that we have been forgiven through faith in Jesus who gave his body and blood for us on the cross.

To prepare for Communion, we follow what 1 Corinthians 11:28 says: "*Let each man examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks the cup.*" Therefore, if you wish to participate in Communion today, we ask that you review and affirm the following questions:

1. Do I believe I am a sinner, that is, that I have failed to keep God's commands as I should, and that I need forgiveness?
2. Do I trust in Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior, who died and rose for me?
3. Do I believe as I eat the bread and drink the cup, that I also receive the true body and blood of Jesus that He gave for me on the cross – even though I can't fully explain it?
4. Do I intend, with the help of God, to follow Jesus more closely and obey him more faithfully?

If you answer "yes" to these questions, then you share a common faith with our Christian congregation and you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. Our common faith is expressed in more detail in the Creed that we confess together during the worship service.

## Special Instructions for Communion:

- Children and those who are not communing are welcomed to come forward for a blessing. Children do not commune until they have completed basic instruction classes about the Christian faith.
- If you are unable to go to the altar, please let an usher know and the Pastor will bring the Lord's Supper (Communion) to your pew. Please sit close to any of the three aisles in the church.
- During Communion, gluten-free communion wafers (bread) are available. Just ask the Pastor when he comes to give you the bread.
- During Communion, you may take one of the small communion cups from the tray, or you may wait and drink from the common cup.
- On the tray of small communion cups, those cups in the center of the tray have light-colored, non-alcoholic grape juice. The other cups have wine.

If you have any questions, please see the Pastor or one of the elders.

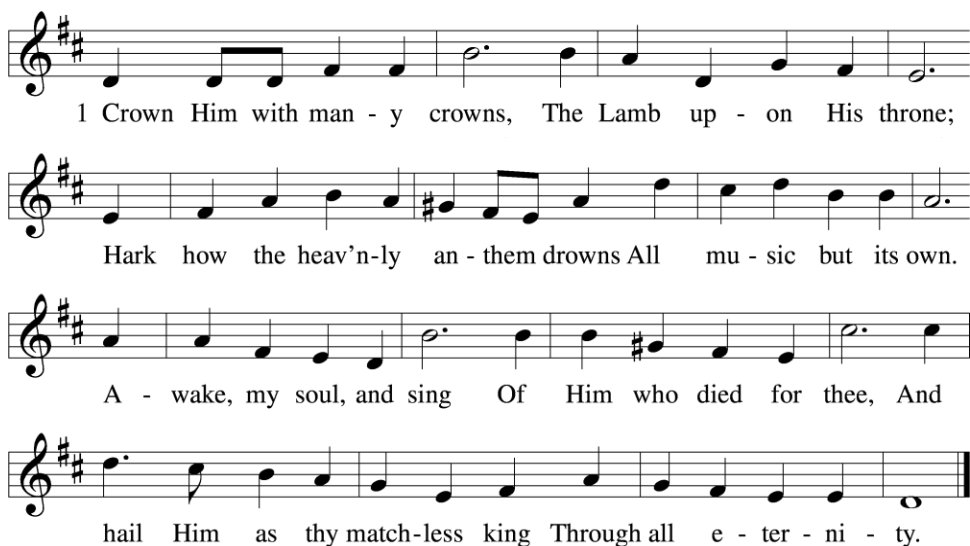
---

## Service of the Sacrament: Preparation for Communion

- P** This is the day that the Lord has made!
- C** **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (Psalm 118:24)
- P** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
- C** **His love endures forever!** (Psalm 118:1)
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
- C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
  
- P** Lord God, we should indeed give you thanks and praise today and always, here and in every place, because you are the only God and Lord, and you have shown your power over death. Through Jesus Christ you have given us eternal life! Therefore we lift up our voices to you today, together with all Christians in heaven and on the earth, to praise your name!

## Sanctus (Song of Praise)

Lutheran Service Book 525 stanza 1



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;  
Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.  
A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And  
hail Him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Lord's Prayer

- A** 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini (John 20:19)

LSB 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

**Agnus Dei** (Lamb of God, John 1:29)

LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Hymns during Communion

### Special Music: Bread Blessed and Broken (Bryan Perdue)

*Refrain: We gather today, to glorify your name  
And to give thanks for your gifts given free.  
And as we worship, we remember you came,  
Gave to the world your own Son as the Lamb... the Lamb.*

- 1) This is His body, this is His blood,  
Gifts given free from our Father above:  
Bread blessed and broken, wine shared in love.  
Come, gather 'round His great table divine.*
- 2) Eat of this body, bread for your soul,  
Manna from heaven that's given for you.  
God lived among us, showed us His way,  
Nailed to a cross for my sins to atone.*
- 3) Drink of this vessel, given for you.  
Wine that is given is blood from the vine.  
God's living water, free by His hand,  
It brings us together to worship His name.*
- 4) This bread and this wine are given for free:  
Bread from His body and wine from His blood,  
Spirit within us, Spirit around.  
We do all these things to remember His love.*



**Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name** (Lutheran Service Book 549: 1, 5, 6, 7)



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;  
5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get The worm-wood and the gall,  
6 Let ev - 'ry kin-dred, ev - 'ry tribe, On this ter - res-trial ball  
7 Oh, that with yon - der sa - cred throng We at His feet may fall!



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song And crown Him Lord of all.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Lutheran Service Book 477



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:  
2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:  
△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;  
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—  
Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,  
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.  
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission:  
LSB Hymn License no. 110005074 Text (sts. 1, 3) and tune: Public domain

Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

## I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Lutheran Service Book 461



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to  
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry  
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.  
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

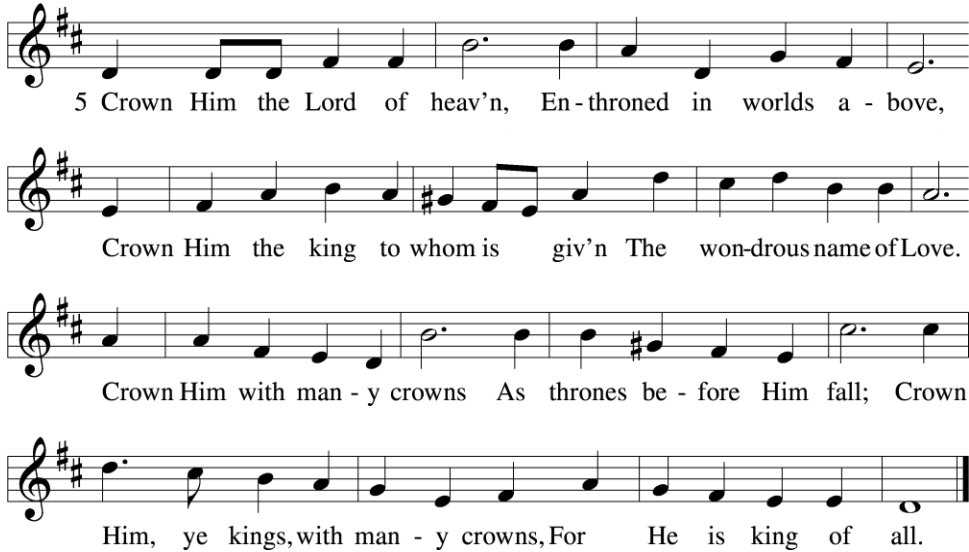
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text and tune: Public domain

## After Communion:

### Nunc Dimittis

Lutheran Service Book 525 stanza 5



5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En-throned in worlds a - bove,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.  
Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown  
Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

Text and tune: Public domain

### Closing Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **Heavenly Father, thank you for your promise of forgiveness and eternal life. Increase my faith and help me live in accordance with your Word. By your Holy Spirit, grant me the assurance that Christ is risen and that I too will be raised to live forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant your peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)
- C** **Amen.**

# Closing Hymn: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

(LSB 493, stanzas 4-6)



4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up  
5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And  
△ 6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, All

to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,  
be our fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia,  
praise to You let earth ac - cord: Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall  
al - le - lu - ia! Then, throned with You for - ev - er,  
al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less a - ges

see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -  
we Shall praise Your name e - ter - nal -  
run, With Fa - ther and with Spir - it

ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
ly. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
one. 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!

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005074

Tune: Public domain

## **Worship Leaders**

Pastor:	Rev. Richard Schlak
Organist:	Ruth Ann Ostergren
Guitarist:	Bryan Perdue
Elders:	Mike Mielke David DeMartelaere
Acolyte:	Elizabeth Valdes
Reader:	Kristal Wade
Ushers:	Team #1
Projectionist:	Ron Seiders
Altar Care:	Tuchenhagen

## **Prayer Ministry      Philippians 4:6-7**

Please call the church office @ 915-833-1009 to include a prayer request or update for the bulletin. If you have a prayer request or update for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at [oveja6925@aol.com](mailto:oveja6925@aol.com).

### **Grieving the Loss of Loved Ones:**

We pray for all those who may be grieving or mourning the loss of loved ones, especially remember these who loss is most recent:

**Pastor Howard Patten;** Please continue to pray for peace, comfort, and strength for **Marilyn Patten** and all of Pastor's family as they cope with his passing.

### **Illness and Recovery:**

**Richard Neal**, hospitalized after another stroke, but his condition has worsened to the point that he was put into Hospice care & he is expected to pass soon, (please pray for a peaceful release for Richard and peace and strength for his wife, **Martha Neal**, & their son, who are both by Richard's bedside); **Ruth Ann Ostergren**, music director at Ascension (pray for a speedy recovery and leg pain relief after this past week's successful surgery to put a stent in her heart); **Diana Holguin**, (back in the hospital, pray for healing and comfort for both her and her husband, **Tito**); **Dorothy Lenz**, will be undergoing tests to determine cause of kidney issues (pray for a correct diagnosis, effective treatment, and successful healing); **Jennifer Solich**, past Ascension administrative assistant, (diagnosed with a brain tumor, please pray for successful treatment and strength for her to tolerate the medication making her ill); **Barbara Lewis** (pray for complete recovery from her recent surgery); **Kirstin Hervin**, daughter of Mike & Christy Mielke, (experiencing a recurrence of lupus affecting her kidneys and will be having injections; please pray that the treatment is effective with no side effects); **Jessica Moran**, daughter of Jeanne and granddaughter of Jan Schlak, (Jess' pregnancy has improved and the baby is not experiencing growth restriction; please pray for continued growth for the baby and a full-term delivery in August); **Sophia**, the former caregiver to Concepcion Arellanes, who is the mother of Lorena Rodriguez, our church custodian (Sophia has terminal cancer, prayers for peace and comfort); **Melissa Reddick**, friend of Barbara Lewis (for thanksgiving that brain cancer is gone and continue to pray for complete recovery); **Maritza Leon**, Maritza Schlak's mother (for continued recovery from surgery and successful rehabilitation now that she is back home); **Gilbert Provencio** (for recovery after successful surgery); **Jaques Reulet**, the father of Yves Reulet, Pastor Rick and Maritza's son-in-law's father (for healing in his recovery from quadruple bypass surgery and thanks that he is now home), **Mark Pfeifer**, nephew of Vicki Pfeifer, (for healing and that he be able to leave the hospital); **Deb Sullivan & her brother, Anthony** (for guidance & strength in handling parents' estate as they mourn);

**Diana and sister Dayna**, students where Maritza Schlak teaches, orphaned and living with their aunt (for protection and comfort in their loss); **Maddy**, student where Mari teaches (for safety from gang violence); **Andy Barber** (for pain relief radiating from neck to hands); **Gloria Voge** (for successful leg therapy and healing from spine fracture); **Aubrey McDermett** (for 15-year-old with MS in hospital due to stroke); **Ken McLennan** (for upcoming heart procedures and peace, patience, and strength for his wife); **Barb Spott** (for no further medical issues and for relief from vertigo); **Abigail Kailukatis**, friend of Jan Schlak's daughter Elizabeth (for effective treatment); **David Kwiatkowski**, friend of Connie Swinney (recovery and treatment for brain cancer); **Elizabeth Hinson**, (for recovery from intestinal bug); **Brian Stickney** (continuing health issues); **Rebekah Livesay** (for healing and correct diagnosis); **Dick Seiders**, father of Ron Seiders (continue to heal from cancer and keep the cancer from spreading); **Mary Spott**, Barb Spott's niece Keighley Spott's mother, (heart related issues); **Ann Perdue** (relief from Osteoarthritis); **Patty Jones**, sister of Martha Neal (stage 4 breast cancer); **Robert and Karin Gaudet**, (restoring relationships); **Sean Sweeney**, (brain tumor); **Laurie Sterling**, (colon cancer); **Bruce Walker**, (being treated for Parkinson's); **Coby Clark and family**, (continued cancer recovery); **Ryan Walker**, (cancer is in remission); **Mariella Kraus**, (cancer); **Bob Gallagher** (grateful no cancer was found, but he is still fragile with many health issues); **Kathy Kiphart, John Weiske, Linda Seiders**.

### **Praise and Thanksgiving:**

**Jennifer De La Cruz**, Pastor & Maritza Schlak's daughter, (praise to God for the successful delivery of a healthy baby girl, **Liliana Rae**; thanksgiving for all the prayers, & overjoyed that mother, father, & baby are all doing well); **Kalysta Greene**, granddaughter of Tito & Diana Holguin, (grateful for her return home and that she is doing well); **Evelyn Karl** (thanksgiving for good health as she continues to recover well after her thyroid surgery); **Carlos Munoz**, neighbor of David DeMartelaere, (thanksgiving for successful diagnosis of no brain tumor and effective treatment of his brain bleed); **Dick Seiders**, father of Ron Seiders (thanksgiving for continued recovery after hip surgery); **Sherri Pfeifer Wilson**, niece of Vicki Pfeifer (completed chemotherapy radiation treatment for cancer and is doing well, thanks be to God).

### **Special Prayer Requests:**

**Jacob Meraz** is asking that in the coming weeks, we would pray for the San Pablo youth group's fundraisers' success. Also, pray for the financial help that will provide for the needs of both Ascension and San Pablo youth groups planning to go to the LCMS Endure Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Please pray for the spiritual well-being and safety of all participants involved.



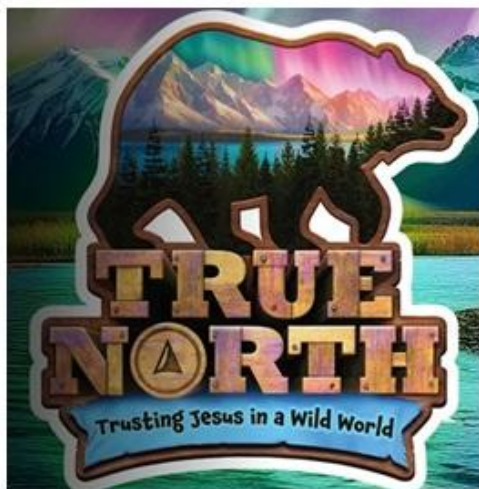
## **Ascension News and Notes**



**04 June — Rahel Meraz**

**06 June — Kelley Walker**

**07 June — Nancy Bubolz**



## **ATTENTION all VBS volunteers!**

- June 1st** — Immediately after the service, all VBS volunteers are needed for final pre-VBS meeting.
- June 14th** — 9 AM, all VBS volunteers are needed for VBS setup for the fellowship hall (includes all the individual stations).
- June 15th** — Immediately after the service, all VBS volunteers are needed for VBS setup in the sanctuary.

# VBS 2025

June 16th-19<sup>th</sup>

9 am to 12 pm

## Help Needed



VBS Volunteers  
Needed

VBS Volunteer  
Sign-Up Sheet  
is on the  
A-Frame Board at the  
front entrance

Your help is appreciated with the  
donation of your time, making  
snacks, and/or supplies.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH



JOIN US FOR  
2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 16-19  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FOR CHILDREN  
3 - 12 YEARS OLD

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS  
FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH

REGISTER ONLINE:  
<https://alconnect.faith/events/vbs/>

Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912 (915)833-1009

QR Code will lead to  
registration form:





9am-12pm

June 2-5: Around the World

June 9-12: Animal Kingdom

ASCENSION  
LUTHERAN  
PRESCHOOL

SUMMER CAMP  
2025

\$100

per week

Ages 3 (By 5/31/25)  
through Kindergarteners  
(must be potty trained)

Pre-registration required by May 23, 2025

[ascensionlutheranpreschoolelp@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionlutheranpreschoolelp@gmail.com)



# LADIES NIGHT OUT

## Attention!! All Ladies of Ascension

There will be **No "Ladies Night Out" in June** due to it falling during VBS week.

## It will resume again in July.

All ladies of Ascension are welcome.

Once a month on the 3rd Wednesday @ 6:00 PM we meet at a restaurant and enjoy food and fellowship. (Dutch treat)

For information call Robin Wiegert at (915) 581-5566  
I hope you can join us.



*Ladies Night Out*

**Women's Bible Study will resume in September 2025.**

**In September, we will meet at the church on Thursday mornings.**

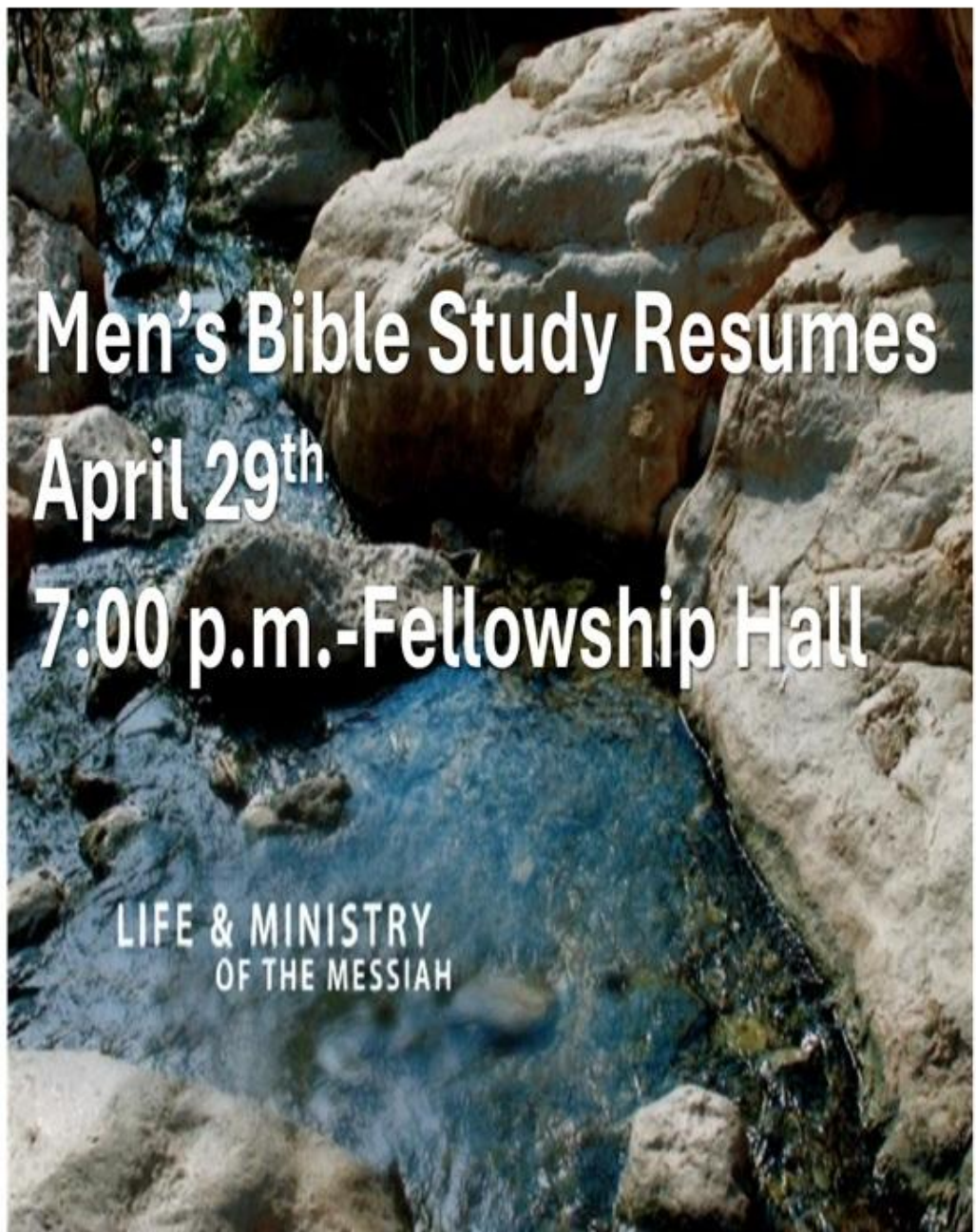
**We gather at 9:45 and begin the lesson at 10:00 and end at 11:00.**

**All women are welcome to join us as we study. If you have any questions, contact Gretchen Schmalz or Jan Schlak.**



**Women's Bible Study**





**Men's Bible Study Resumes**

**April 29<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 p.m.-Fellowship Hall**

**LIFE & MINISTRY  
OF THE MESSIAH**



# LCMS Youth Gathering

## ENDURE

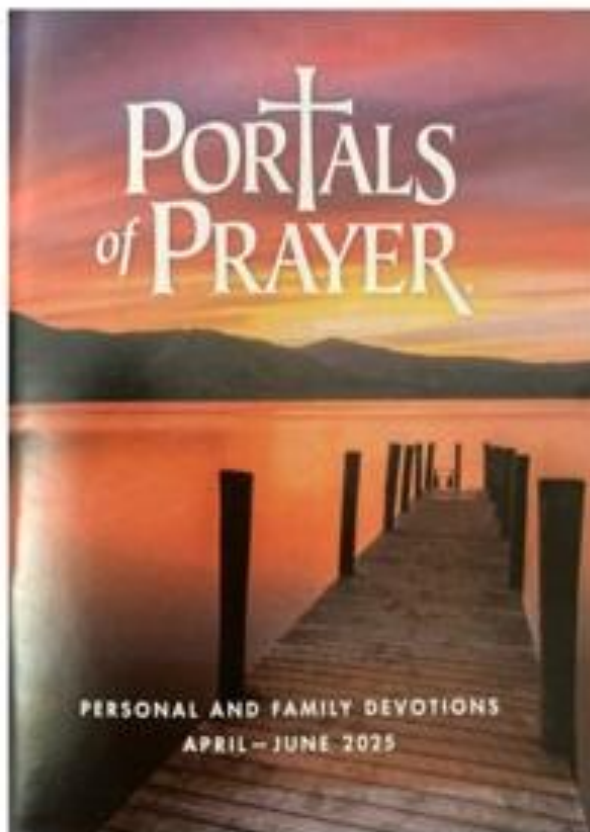
July 19-23, 2025; New Orleans, LA



- Youth Gatherings celebrate the meaning of Christian joy in all of life's situations, including transitions and crisis.
- Youth Gatherings recognize and affirm the diversity of God's people.
- Participants **ENDURE** faithfully no matter what they encounter
- Participants cling to and share the good news of God's faithfulness in Christ that **ENDURES** forever

If interested contact the Pastor, David DeMartelaere, or Jacob Meraz for information and registration forms

**NOW AVAILABLE**  
PICK UP YOUR FREE COPY  
TODAY IN THE NARTHEX.



Be refreshed daily in God's living

## **Altar Flowers**

**If you would like to recognize, remember, or celebrate a person or special occasion, then please consider providing flowers for the altar.**

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board  
in the fellowship hall.**



**BOTH SETS OF FLOWERS ARE \$60.00.**

**NOTE: CONSIDER SHARING THE COST WITH  
SOMEONE ELSE. THEN YOU EACH PAY \$30.00**

**PLEASE PLACE YOUR CHECK IN THE OFFERING  
PLATE OR DROP IT OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

## **This Week @ Ascension**



**HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday (June 1)**

9:00 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

10:00 AM Fellowship

10:30 AM Worship w/ Communion

### **Ascension Sunday**

Immediately after church: Final Pre-VBS meeting

### **Monday (June 2)**

Church Office Closed

### **Preschool Summer Camp (Week 1)**

### **Tuesday (June 3)**

6:30 PM Boy Scouts (L)

7:00 PM Men's Bible Study (FH)

### **Wednesday (June 4)**

11:00 AM Sit and Sew (FH)

### **Thursday (June 5)**

No Choir Practice

### **Friday (June 6)**

### **Saturday (June 7)**