



Union Lutheran Church

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Ascension Service

May 16, 2023 & May 17, 2023

6:30 p.m. & 10:30 a.m.

SALUTATION & PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P Almighty God, we believe that your Son, Jesus Christ, has ascended into the heavens to sit at your right hand. Grant that our hearts and minds may be directed there, as well, to dwell in him each day, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

WORD

Psalm 47 (*read responsively*)

L ¹Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a cry of joy.

C ²**For the LORD Most High is to be feared;
he is the great king over all the earth.**

L ³He subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet.

C ⁴**He chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

L ⁵God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

C ⁶**Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

L ⁷For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill.

C ⁸**God reigns over the nations;
God sits upon his holy throne.**

L ⁹The nobles of the peoples have gathered together
with the people of the God of Abraham.

C ¹⁰**The rulers of the earth belong to God,**

and he is highly exalted.

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together in confessing our faith with the saints who have gone before us, in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C **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 was 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**

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

***Or, the holy Christian Church,*

New Testament Lesson: Acts 1:1-11

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And 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; 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, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed 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 and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and 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 Here ends the reading.

New Testament Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the

knowledge of him, ¹⁸having 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked 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 one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

R Here ends the reading.

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

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

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴Then {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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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.” ⁵⁰And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Teaching Moment

Pastor Heidi Punt

The Prayers

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

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayer concludes:

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**

Luther’s Evening Prayer (6:30 p.m.)

P Hear our petitions, O Lord, as we entrust our lives into your care this night.

C **We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen.**

Luther's Morning Prayer (10:30 a.m.)

P Hear our petitions, O Lord, as we entrust our lives into your care this morning.

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

C **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**

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

P May the Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C **Amen**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Evening Prayer-Vespers Service

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