



## THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 18, 2023

# THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Our Father's Ev. Lutheran Church  
Thursday, May 18, 2023  
6:30 PM

**We welcome you** in the Savior's name as we celebrate His glorious resurrection and pray that the blessings of His Spirit be upon us through His Word and Sacraments. In reverent prayer and quiet devotion, please prepare for this service by reviewing the order of service and meditating on Psalm 110, the appointed Psalm for the day, found in the front of your hymnal.

✠ *In Nomine Iesu* ✠

The Prelude *Up Through Endless Ranks of Angels*  
Robert A. Hobby

The Processional Hymn **LSB 494**  
*See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph*

The Invocation p. 151

The Exhortation p. 151

The Confession and Absolution p. 151

The Introit *Psalm 47:1-2, 5, 8; antiphon: Acts 1:11*

*(the Introit is chanted responsively,  
with the congregation chanting the verses in **bold print**)*

Men of | Galilee,\*  
why do you stand looking into heaven? Alle- | luia.  
This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,\*  
will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.  
Alle- | luia.

Clap your hands, all | peoples!\*  
Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!

**For the LORD, the Most High, is | to be feared,\*  
a great king over | all the earth.**

God has gone up | with a shout,\*  
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.

**God reigns over the | nations;\***  
**God sits on his | holy throne.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Men of | Galilee,\*  
why do you stand looking into heaven? Alle- | luia.  
This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,\*  
will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.  
Alle- | luia.

The Kyrie p. 152

The Hymn of Praise - *This is the Feast* p. 155

The Salutation and Collect of the Day p. 156

The Old Testament Reading 2 Kings 2:5-15

<sup>5</sup>The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.

<sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.” <sup>10</sup>And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken

from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” <sup>11</sup>And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. <sup>13</sup>And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. <sup>14</sup>Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, “Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?” And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

<sup>15</sup>Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

The Second Reading Acts 1:1-11

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>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.”

The Alleluia and Verse p. 156

The Holy Gospel Mark 16:14-20

<sup>14</sup>Afterward [Jesus] appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. <sup>16</sup>Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup>And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; <sup>18</sup>they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

<sup>19</sup>So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. <sup>20</sup>And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

*The paschal candle that has burned since Easter sunrise is extinguished after the words, “was taken up into heaven” as a reminder of the Lord’s ascension to the right hand of the Father for the good of His Church. Yet, He has not left His Church but is in our midst that we might “worship Him” like the disciples through the preaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, and Holy Communion. The candle is lit throughout the year at baptisms and funerals to remind us that we have been called out of the darkness of sin into the light of life.*

The Hymn of the Day LSB 491  
*Up through Endless Ranks of Angels*

The Sermon “Preach the Gospel Everywhere”  
Mark 16:14-20

The Nicene Creed p. 158

The Prayers p. 159

The Offertory - *What Shall I Render to the Lord* p. 159

The Preface p. 160

The Proper Preface p. 161

The Sanctus p. 161

The Lord’s Prayer p. 162

The Words of Institution p. 162

The *Pax Domini and Agnus Dei* p. 163

The Distribution of Christ’s Body and Blood p. 164

The Distribution Hymns LSB 493  
*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

LSB 492  
*On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build*

LSB 496  
*Holy Spirit, Light Divine*

The Post-Communion Canticle - *Thank the Lord* p. 164

The Post-Communion Collect p. 166

The Benediction p. 166

The Recessional Hymn LSB 495  
*Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious*

The Postlude *Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious*  
Paul Manz

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

The Participants

The Officiant

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Nuckols

The Organist

Mr. Stephen P. Johnson