

THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

EXAUDI

May 21, 2023

Service Notes: **Divine Service Setting One, page 151**
Hymns: 474, 539, 473, 462, 645, 646, 564
Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 36:22-28
Epistle: 1 Peter 4:7-14
Holy Gospel: John 15:26-16:4
Sermon: *"To Keep You From Falling Away"* John 15:26-16:4

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Thursday	05/11	6:30 p.m.	31
Sunday	05/14	8:00 a.m.	121
		10:45 a.m.	44

FLOWERS are given by Patricia Hansen in loving memory of her husband, David Hansen. Flowers are also given by Tom and Marlene Domagalski in celebration of their 61st wedding anniversary.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing.

THANK YOU to Pastor Fabrizious for preaching on Thursday, May 25 and Sunday, May 28.

SUMMER SCHEDULE Beginning next Sunday, May 28, the late service will move to 10:00 a.m. until the Sunday after Labor Day.

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, June 4 in the school after the late service. Please plan to attend.

LETTER FROM PASTOR BENDER This summer, June 21-23, will be our last national Concordia Catechetical Academy symposium here at Peace Lutheran Church, Sussex. Your former pastor, Rev. Fabrizious, has been an important part of CCA since its founding in 1994, and will be a presenter and preacher this year. We hope you will consider joining us. For more information and to register, see <https://PeaceSussex.org/CCA/symposium/>
Rev. Peter C. Bender, Director Concordia Catechetical Academy

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	05/21	DIVINE SERVICES	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
		Walk-a-Thon	after the late service
Wednesday	05/24	CHAPEL SERVICE	8:10 a.m.
		Morning Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Thursday	05/25	DIVINE SERVICE	6:30 p.m.
Sunday	05/28	DIVINE SERVICES/PENTECOST	8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

WE PRAY for Michael Borchardt, Sr., Janet Brown, Jennifer Chapel (niece of Linda Christian), Karen Christiansen, Anna Rose Consigny, Sandy Damms, Harriet Davidson, Cheryl Fisher (sister of Lynn Hester), Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Carol Georgson, Glenn Georgson, Dorothy Hahn, Judy Hanson, Elaine Howe, Paul Howe, Jackie Johnson (mother of Don Johnson), Michelle Johnson, Marilyn Kolter, LeAnn Lagerman, Kandy Lilley, Konnie Otto, Angeline Pence, Jeff Pfander (brother of Todd Pfander), Susan Sochowski (wife of Mark Sochowski), and Joan Wolffersdorff (sister-in-law of Donna Metzfeld).

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE CLASS Today is the last day of Sunday School and Adult Bible Class until after Labor Day. We give thanks for the faithful teachers who give of their time to teach our children the faith.

WALK-A-THON The 5th annual Walk-a-Thon is Sunday, May 21. The goal is to raise \$20,000 to help pay for the fencing along Honey Creek to keep our children safe and prevent balls from going into the creek. See the forms in the church narthex to either sign up to walk or make a pledge. There is also an online giving option on our website, www.ofls.org, to donate.

ISAAC AND REBEKAH and other topics from Genesis are being discussed on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with coffee and snacks. Invite someone to come to Wednesday Bible Class with you! We meet every week, even during the summer months.

THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE will collect mite boxes on May 28, the *last* Sunday of the month. Mite boxes can be left at any time in the mite box in the narthex.

**THE READINGS FOR
THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION
EXAUDI
May 21, 2023**

INTROIT

(Psalm 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: vv. 7a, 8b, 9a, chant responsively)

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Teach me your way, | O Lord;*

give me not up to the will of my adver- | saries;

for false witnesses have risen a- | gainst me,*

and they breathe out | violence.

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.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 36:22-28 (ESV)

²² "Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came.

²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.

²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land.

²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 4:7-14 (ESV)

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.

¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:26-16:4 (ESV)

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

¹ "I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away.

² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.

³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me.

⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER
FOR THE WEEK OF EXAUDI
THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION**

“To Keep You From Falling Away”
May 21 through May 27, 2023

Exaudi means hear or listen. Last Sunday we heard of the command and promise regarding prayer. This Sunday we pray that the Lord hear us at all times. It is not that we doubt His promise to hear us, but that we learn to believe that He hears us and appeal to His promise. On this Sunday we cry out for the Spirit of Truth to teach us about Jesus, who is the Truth. Only in clinging to Jesus, who was scorned by the world, do we find comfort when we are scorned. The false witnesses rise up against us breathing out violence, just as they did with our Lord, for the world hates us. The world hates us because it hates the Truth, Jesus, and all who belong to Him. As Jesus saved us through His suffering and death, so we rejoice that when we share in His sufferings, we will also share in His resurrection glory. Our Lord hears us crying out and sends His Spirit to create a new heart and a new spirit within us, the heart and Spirit of Christ. Indeed, whom shall I fear?

INVOCATION: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE CREED

VERSE: ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
Philippians 1:21 (ESV)

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

PSALM OF THE WEEK: 119:89-96

PSALMODY PRAYER: Grant that I seek my salvation and my hope only in Your Word. Open my eyes to see and my ears to hear Your comforting Word of life. Revive me according to Your loving kindness. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	Matthew 17:1-13
Tuesday	Matthew 17:14-21
Wednesday	Matthew 17:22-27
Thursday	Matthew 18:1-14
Friday	Matthew 18:15-22
Saturday	John 14:23-31

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: Table of Duties

To Widows

The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. *1 Timothy 5:5-6*

To Everyone

The commandments . . . are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” *Romans 13:9*

I urge . . . that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone. *1 Timothy 2:1*

Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well shall fare.

Luther, John 16:23 (1537): He has spoken to them at great length about many grievous sufferings, about the persecution, the anxiety, and the sorrow that will befall them in the world for His sake. Now He shows them both the comfort and the strength that will enable them to cope with this, and He also promises them help to overcome this through the Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, because He knows how great and hard this battle is and that flesh and blood is too weak to grasp this comfort and to be very sensible of this help but often feels that the opposite is true--for this reason, He counsels them to turn to prayer and to begin to sob and call to God when they feel the weakness that causes them to lack the comfort, the strength, and the ability to bear and overcome the suffering, the anxiety, and the sorrow. Now we have often spoken of prayer, both how necessary it is and what power it has. It is not enough for us to have the Word and to know and understand everything we should--both the doctrine of faith and about comfort and victory in every trouble. Something more is required, and that is action, in order that subsequently we may live as doctrine and knowledge teach and guide us. For thus God declares in Proverbs 8:14: “Mine is the doctrine; Mine is also the power of execution.” If the doctrine is to be right, God must reveal and give it; and even if we already have it and know everything one should teach and believe, and need nothing more, this does not mean that the result has been achieved. Much more is still required to make practice conform to our teaching and exhorting. . . . For the devil goes to work with might and main to impede and obstruct the Gospel, he uses every obstacle at his disposal. Besides, he enjoys the advantage of having as an ally within our own hearts that

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

May 28, 2023
“My Peace I Give You”

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 500, 497, 501, 913, 730, 635, 503

READINGS

Genesis 11:1-9
Acts 2:1-21
John 14:23-31

great piece of Adam, who is too lazy by nature, too sluggish, and too tired to engage in a battle like this and always draws us back, thus making it especially hard and unpleasant to keep on contending with opposition and obstacles of so many kinds and to fight to the finish. . . . What, then, are we to do, caught as we are in this deep mire in which we must wade and travel, struggle and fear without being able to get out? “There is no other help,” says Christ, “than promptly to raise your eyes and heart heavenward and to pray to My heavenly Father.

After you have taught and admonished, have done everything your calling demands, and still things will not and cannot progress, then seek help, get a fresh relay of horses, and all help one another with grunts and groans to lift and shove the wagon through the mire. This is what God wants. You are not only to recognize the doctrine and what you already have as given to you by Him, but you must also seek from Him all you still need and lack. In this way, you will discover that you can do nothing, but that everything--both the beginning and the end, the willing and the doing--must be sought from Him and be given by Him,” as St. Paul says (Philippians 2:13). (LW 24:382-384)

PRAYER: Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord’s Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

THE LORD’S PRAYER

LUTHER’S MORNING PRAYER: 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.**

OR

LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. 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.**

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB 539 “Christ Is the World’s Redeemer” (stanza 3)

If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. How do we keep that word? Or perhaps, more importantly, why is that word so important and where is it to be found? Jesus speaks here of the blessed Scriptures. These are the words that provide the basis for the preaching of the good news about Christ. In the preaching and teaching of this word, the Holy Spirit is at work causing us to remember the Creator whom we creatures have forgotten in our sinfulness. Is this not why the Third Commandment is that we *Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy*? Here we learn that we are not to despise preaching and His word, that is, we come to hear the preaching of the Gospel that our faith may live. The Spirit of God brings the Father and the Son to us through the preaching of the Word. In fact, through the Word, the Spirit joins us to the Trinity in Holy Baptism that we may have the peace of the certainty of the forgiveness of sins. Through the preaching of the Gospel, absolution, and the Lord’s Supper, the Holy Spirit brings peace to troubled hearts and drives away fear of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. In fact, the Holy Spirit is only to be found in the preaching of the Gospel and participation in the Sacraments of Christ. There is no other Spirit than this. So we come to hear that Gospel preached that the Spirit may continue to call us out of our unbelief, gather us as His people, enlighten us in the Truth, sanctify us for the forgiveness of sins, and keep us in the one true faith in Christ alone.

***OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
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