



The Order of Worship

Pre-Service Music and Welcome

Preparation for Worship

P: Let us adore our heavenly Father, who graciously gives us life; who sustains us with every good and perfect gift; who loves us with an everlasting love, and who gives us the knowledge of his Son.

C: We praise you, O God our Father in heaven; and we acknowledge you to be our Lord.

P: Let us glory in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who though he was rich, for our sakes became poor; who in every respect was tempted as we are, but did not sin; who perfectly accomplished his Father's will; who was obedient and died our death on the cross; who rose from the grave on the third day to proclaim our forgiveness; who ascended into heaven to rule over all things; and who will come again to take us to heaven.

C: We praise you, O Son of the Father; and we acknowledge you to be our Lord.

P: Let us rejoice in the work of the Holy Spirit, who gives and sustains the precious gift of faith; who brings us into the family of God; whose witness strengthens us; whose wisdom guides us; whose power enables us to serve the Father, and whose presence comforts us;

C: We praise you, O Spirit; and we acknowledge you to be our Lord.

P: Hear and bless us as we worship you, O Lord. Draw near to us as we hear your gracious Word. Bless us with your compassionate care and loving kindness. Strengthen our faith through the Gospel. Guide us in our thoughts and in our praise, so that with undivided attention we hear your voice, cherish your en-

couragement, and proclaim your great love through a lifetime of faithful and dedicated service to the glory of your name.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn:

“A Hymn of Glory, Let Us Sing”

Christian Worship 171

God Places His Name on Us

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit is with you.

C: And also with you!

The Confession of Sins

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen!

Song of Praise

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are

they who take ref-uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e—

ter — nal; it stands firm in the heav —

ens. Your faith — ful — ness con — tin — ues for -

ev — er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless — ed are they who take ref — uge in him.

Prayer for the Day

P: O blessed Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, at your ascension you returned to your Father's throne and proclaimed your work was complete. Your ascension also proclaims your great love for us. You have called us to be your people. You have set us apart for your service. You have even given us the promise of your never-failing presence. Continue to bless us through your love. Give us an extra measure of faith. Fill us with boldness and confidence to serve you without rival, distraction, or excuse. Keep us safe until you return in glory—all to the praise of your holy name, the only name given whereby all people will be saved;

C: A — — — men.

The Lessons from God's Word

"I am with you always until the end of the age!"

The Ascension of our Savior

Acts 1:1-11

¹I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ²until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which 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 were together with him, they asked, "Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set 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, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Children's Message

(the children will please come to the front of the church)

"I am Coming Back!"

Epistle

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵This is why, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is, ¹⁹and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. ²⁰It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God 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, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church. ²³The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Verse of the Day

P: Shout to God! Sing a loud song! Yes, the LORD most High is awesome. He is the great King over all the earth! God has ascended with a joyful shout. The Lord goes up with the sound of the ram's horn.

Make music for God! Make music! Make music for our King! Make music! For God is the King of all the earth. Make music for him with a wise song. God reigns as king over the nations. God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the peoples come together as the people of the God of Abraham. He is greatly exalted.

Alleluia!



C: Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia!



These words are writ — ten that we may be—lieve that



Je—sus is the Christ, the Son — of God.



Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia!

Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴He said to them, “These are my words, which I spoke to 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.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

⁴⁶He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The Extinguishing of the Paschal Candle

P: The extinguishing of the Paschal Candle reminds us that Jesus

completed the work of our rescue, returned to his Father, and is no longer physically present with us. However, we live with the promise of his never-failing presence as the all powerful and victorious God, along with his promise of the Holy Spirit. Hear that promise:

“The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming to back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happened, so that when it does happen you will believe.”

P: This is the Word and promise of our Ascended Savior.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”
Christian Worship 173

Sermon

Luke 24:44-53

Theme:

“Everything is Complete!”

Then, Jesus returned to the Father

Then, Jesus made us his witnesses

The Confession of Faith

(we unite in the words of the Apostles’ Creed)

**C: 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.**

Handbells

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”
Arranged by Bill Ingram
Published by Ring Out! Press

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

Pray, Praise and Give Thanks

Prayer for the Church

P: Lord Jesus, Source and Strength of our salvation, we praise
you for ascending to heaven to proclaim your complete victory

over sin, Satan, and the grave. We praise you for faithfully accomplishing your Father's rescue plan, and for receiving from him all authority in heaven and on earth. Assure us each day that because you live and reign, our sins are forgiven, life has a divine purpose, and death holds no terror.

**C: God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face.
Shine upon us, Savior, shine,
fill your Church with light divine,
And your saving health extend
to the earth's remotest end.**

P: Lord Jesus, living and all glorious Head of the Church, we praise you for gathering us around your faithful Word to be joined to you, and united with one another. We praise you for the many dedicated servants of the Word who proclaim repentance and forgiveness of sins to people from every nation, and to us. Through the powerful working of your Word, equip us to be instruments of your peace. Open our mouths to speak your good news. Open our eyes to see the countless opportunities. Change our hearts and our lives so that we reflect the beauty of your teaching in everything we do.

**C: Let the people praise you, Lord!
Be by all that live adored.
Let the nations shout and sing
Glory to their Savior King,
At your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.**

P: Lord Jesus, mighty judge of all, we praise you for your promise that you will return to our world, not as a humble servant but in full majesty, to take us to live with you. We praise you for the certainty of your promises and the justice of your judgment. Prepare us for the day when you will come again. Give us hearts that trust you more fully, hands that labor more diligently, ears

that listen more attentively, and lips that speak more persuasively. Keep us devoted to all our tasks in this life, yet keep our minds on things above, where our life is hidden with you, so that when you appear, we too will appear with you in glory.

**C: Let the people praise you, Lord,
then enjoy your rich reward!
God to us his blessing give,
we to God devoted live,
All below and all above —
one in joy and light and love.**

Special Prayers and Requests

The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.**

Hymn

“Draw Us to Thee”
Christian Worship 170

Closing Prayer

P: O dearest Jesus, our living, loving, and victorious Savior, your devotion to us and your Church is without measure. You have prayed for our protection from every enemy. You have set us apart for faithful service through your sanctifying Word. You

have united us with your Father and with every member of your Church throughout every generation. Help us understand and appreciate the rich blessing you have given us through your love. Lead us to daily rely on those blessings for encouragement and support. Strengthen us to serve you boldly and confidently, just as you served us in love. Stand by us throughout this earthly life guiding and ruling all things so that all may be for our good and serve your holy purpose. Bring us in the end to that blessed place you have prepared for all believers in heaven. There we will praise you—together with your Father and the Spirit—throughout endless ages.



C: A ——— men.

The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in 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 his favor; and

give you peace.



C: A — men. A — men. A ——— men.

Closing Hymn

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”
Christian Worship 169

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Today - *Welcome in our glorified and ascended Savior’s name!*

May the rich blessing which is ours through the love of God the

Father and his Son Jesus Christ be with you, and lead to you rejoice in the gift of your eternal salvation.

- If you are visiting this morning, please sign a “visitor card” or the guest book. We also invite you to worship again, soon!
- Please join us for some refreshments following the worship service.
- Christian Education will begin at 11:00 am. This morning we will review Paul’s letter of thanksgiving to the Christians in Ephesus. It is a reminder of how immeasurable and powerful the love of God is for us, and in our lives.

Monday—Handbell practice at 7:00 pm

Wednesday—Bible Class at 7:00 pm. We continue with the study of the Holy Spirit—his presence and his work in the Old Testament.

Friday—Office Hours from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Saturday—Clean: Todd

- Mowing beginning May 28th—Justin Schroeder

Sunday, May 28th—In person and live-Streaming of our Pentecost Worship at 9:30 am. On this special day, Jesus kept his promise and forever changed the members of his Church. We are recipients of the same promise and the same outpouring of the Spirit. While we may not see the exact same results the disciples did, we still see the Gospel growing and producing fruit in the lives of people.

- Christian Education will follow the service at 11:00 am and will review the proper understanding of “spiritual gifts.”

Thank You

To Al Todd, for operating Hymnsoft; to the Handbell Choir; to Jim Everson and Josh Schueler for monitoring the audio and video of the live-stream; to the Margaret and Jim Brown for placing flowers on the altar—to the glory of God and for the blessings they have received through 40 years of marriage; and to Sonja Todd, Emily Proeber, and Sue Proeber for providing snacks after the service.

Forward in Christ

If you have not already done so, make sure you subscribe to the Forward in Christ. It is our Synod's official publication which offers excellent information about what is happening throughout our Synod. It also provides articles for education and encouragement. If you have any questions, please speak to Al Todd. We have sufficient copies ordered, so the price will be \$14.16 for the subscription. Please make your check payable to Our Redeemer. Thank You!

Future Activities

For June and July there are two opportunities for fellowship. One is the Ice Cream Social. As in the past, everyone will bring ice cream and their favorite topping. This year's game will be Pictionary. Everything starts at 7:00 pm.

A second activity for July 4th is also planned. It is our annual 4th of July Movie, Barbeque, and Fireworks. Because we are still waiting to hear from the City of Goleta, the schedule is still pending. Nonetheless, plan to come and enjoy an afternoon with friendship and good food. More details will be coming in the future.

Acknowledgements

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