

Feast of the Ascension of our Lord

May 20, 2020

Opening Bells and lighting of the candles

Opening Hymn – “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (LSB # 493, v1-3)

A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ, by a road before untrod, Ascending to the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The holy apostolic band up on the Mount of Olives stand.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And with His faithful foll’wers see their Lord ascend in majesty.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

To them the shining angels cry, “Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”

Alleluia! Alleluia!

“This is the Savior,” thus they say; “This is His glorious triumph day!”

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

Invocation:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

All: I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Collect of the Day:

Pastor: Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

Readings for the Feast of the Ascension

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit^[a] of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

The Apostles' Creed (Spoken together)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence 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**

Sermon Hymn – “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (LSB # 493 v.4-6)

“You see Him now ascending high up to the portals in the sky.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!
“Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, and be our future great reward.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we shall praise Your name eternally,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to You let earth accord:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

Sermon : “Christ at the right hand of God” – Ephesians 1:21-22

Prayer of the Church

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

The Lord’s Prayer(Spoken together)

**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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and
give you peace.

All: Amen

Closing Hymn – “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” (LSB # 492)

On Christ’s ascension I now build the hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled all doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well I know His members are to dwell
When Christ shall come and call them.

Since Christ returned to claim His throne, great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart will rest in Him alone, no other rest remaining;
For where my treasure went before, there all my thoughts will ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.

O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, recalling Your ascension,
That I may serve You faithfully in thanks for my redemption;
And then when all my days will cease, let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading. Amen.