

May 12, 2024  
Ascension Sunday



LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1183 BIG BEND RD.  
MANCHESTER, MO 63021

Pastor Sam Rodebaugh  
(414)534-7279  
sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com  
manchester.clclutheran.org

## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: WS #738

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

### The Invocation

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

**P** In the name of God the Father:

**C** Praise to our creating God!

**P** In the name of His Son, Jesus:

**C** Praise to our redeeming God!

**P** In the name of God the Spirit:

**C** Praise to our renewing God!

**P** Let us join our thankful voices,

**C** Amen! Amen! Praise the Lord!



### Confession of Our Sins

*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.*

**P** With the truth of Jesus' resurrection fresh in our hearts and minds, let us draw near confessing our sins and receiving the precious and firm gift of forgiveness.

**C** Eternal LORD God, by Your own Word You open the minds of those who hear to understand and believe that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have not set our minds on things that are above, preferring instead things on the earth. By Your Word You call us to repent of our sin and believe in Your Son Jesus Christ, and for His sake You forgive all sin. Oh LORD, we repent of all our sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**P** “Lifting up His hands, He blessed them.” (Luke 24:50)

And upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called 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.

**C** Amen!

### The Introit

Ps. 42; TLH 212

**P** Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples!

**C** Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

**C** ♪ *A Hymn of glory let us sing:*

*New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Christ, by a road before untrod,*

*Ascends unto the throne of God.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**P** For the LORD Most High is awesome;

**C** **He is a great King over all the earth.**

**P** He will subdue the peoples under us,

**C** **And the nations under our feet.**

**C** ♪ *The holy apostolic band*

*Upon the Mount of Olives stand. Alleluia, alleluia!*

*And with his faithful foll'wers see*

*Their Lord ascend in majesty.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**P** He will choose our inheritance for us,

**C** **The excellence of Jacob whom He loves.**

**P** God has gone up with a shout,

**C** **The LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**

**P** Sing praises to God, sing praises!

**C** **Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

**C** ♪ *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!*

**P** For God is the King of all the earth;

**C** **Sing praises with understanding.**

**P** God reigns over the nations;

**C** **God sits on His holy throne.**

**C** ♪ *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!*

## Collect Prayer of the Day

*A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.*

**P** 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.

**G Amen.**

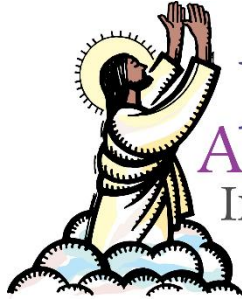
### Luke 24:44-53

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

### Acts 1:1-11

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> He presented himself alive to them 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



## HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN

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."

### Confession of Faith

Col. 1:15-20

*We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.*

- ☐ "Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, for in Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and all things hold together in Him. He is also the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that in all things He might have the highest rank. For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself (whether things on earth or in heaven) by making peace through the blood of His cross." Amen.**

Hymn: WS #737

"Up Through Endless Ranks of Angels"

## Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that 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, <sup>18</sup> having 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, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far 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. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### Is Yours An Ascension Faith?

- I. A faith that knows God has done everything to save you.
- II. A faith that knows God can do anything else to serve you.



### The Offertory

*In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.*

- ☞ **♩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

**Hymn: TLH #221:1-3, 5**

*"Hark! Ten Thousand Harps..."*

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

## The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

*The blessing given by God for His people.*

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**P** 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 His peace.

**C Amen!**

**Hymn: WS #800**

*"Go My Children, With My Blessing"*

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**Confirmation Sunday** – In two weeks, on May 26<sup>th</sup>, Lauren Dobratz, John Dobratz, and Landon Wenner will be confirmed during the Sunday morning service. They will be given an examination throughout the service. **(Communion will be held that weekend rather this coming weekend.)** Please be present as they confess their faith before the congregation!

**Elders' Meeting** – An Elders' Meeting will be held today.

**CLC Call News** - Teacher Matthew Kranz, Immanuel Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, **has accepted the call** to be the upper grade teacher of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN. <> Pastor David Ude, Living Hope Lutheran, Appleton, WI, **is still considering the call** to Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN. <> Teacher Neil Bernthal, Immanuel Lutheran School, Winter Haven FL, **has returned the call** to Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. <> Teacher Ross Kok of Holy Cross Lutheran, Phoenix, AZ **is still considering the call** to be principal and teacher of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI.

**"The Branches"** is a Christian women's magazine which is published quarterly by women of the CLC. Subscriptions are available for the 2024-2025 subscription year (July through June). Consider a subscription for yourself and/or gift subscriptions for women in your life! The cost is \$16.00/year for 4 issues. Checks are payable to, "The Branches," and should be sent to: Sandy Hulke, Subscription Manager, 29985 Norway Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045. Online payments are also available via PayPal - you may contact Sandy Hulke at [thebranchsmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:thebranchsmagazine@gmail.com).

## Happy Mother's Day!

*Thank God for mothers, young and old,  
Who live today within Christ's fold;  
Who pattern, as in days of yore,  
The godly mothers, gone before,  
Whose hands repose - complete their task.  
Thank God for these! Then Lord, we ask,  
Bless mothers who for us still pray.  
Thank God for them this Mother's Day.*

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**Mon Luke 24:50-53** Waiting for the promised Spirit must have been a time of looking back on the days of Jesus' visible presence, as well as looking forward to the rich blessings still in store for God's people.

**Tues Ephesians 1:15-23** As great as the power which raised Jesus from the dead, so great is God's power for us who believe (v19). The apostle prays that we may know how rich is our inheritance in Christ Jesus.

**Wed John 14:1-12** Even before His death on the cross, Jesus promised to come again and take His disciples to be with Him. With Him they would come to their loving Father, know Him, and work for Him.

**Thurs 1 John 3:19-24** God sets His believers' hearts at rest in His presence, and by His Spirit they believe in the name of His Son, and love one another, "praising and blessing God" (Lk24:53).

**Fri Isaiah 64:1-2** In the midst of trouble and oppression, God's prophet Isaiah calls out to the Lord for His powerful rescue, that all people might know that He watches over His own and delivers them.

**Sat Psalm 110** David in this Psalm speaks of the Lord's great and powerful King, the Christ, who not only delivers from earthly enemies, but is also an eternal Priest, reconciling His people to the heavenly Father!