

Traditional Worship

May 21, 2023

Ascension of Our Lord

Seventh Sunday of Easter

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Chorale & Variation on "We Thank Thee, Jesus, Dearest Friend"

– J. S. Bach/D. Buxtehude

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL *

As the bell is rung the assembly stands for the Opening Hymn.

*A * in the order of service indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.*

OPENING HYMN #825 *

You Servants of God

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Assembly: And also with you.

Leader: Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death,
let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

Leader: God of life,

**Assembly: by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new.
Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear.
We have not listened to voices that challenge us.
We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions.
Our hearts are slow to believe your promises.
Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear
the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Leader: People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power.
Through the waters of baptism you have been born anew
by the living word of God.
Know that your sins are forgiven in + Jesus' name
and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you both now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *

This is the Feast



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *

Pastor: Let us pray...and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods 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." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *

Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL LESSON *

Luke 24:44-53

On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!



1 Re - joice, the Lord is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit



re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

NICENE CREED *

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS *

The assembly responds to each petition ending in "Hear us, O God."

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

The assembly responds to the final petition ending with "through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord."

Assembly: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.

OFFERING

As we respond to hearing God's Word and prepare to feast at God's table we contemplate the many ways we serve the Kingdom of God through our time, talents, and gifts.

Offering plates will be passed among the assembly by the ushers.

Gifts can also be given electronically using this QR Code.



8:00 – *Come Away to the Skies* – arr. Michael Larkin

*Come away to the skies, my beloved, arise, and rejoice in the day you were born;
On this festival day, come exulting away, and with singing to Zion return.*

*Now with singing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our heavenly Father bestowed,
while God's grace we receive from his bounty, and live to the honor and glory of God.*

*For the glory we were first created to share, both the nature and kingdom divine!
Now created again that our lives may remain, throughout time and eternity thine.*

*Hallelujah we sing, to our God and King, and his rapturous praises repeat:
to the Lamb that was slain, Hallelujah again, sing all heaven and fall at his feet.*

11:00 – *Arise, My Soul, Arise* – arr. Dale Wood

Arise, my soul, arise!

Stretch forth to things eternal, and haste thee to the feet of thy Redeemer God.

*Though hid from mortal eyes, He dwells in light supernal,
yet worship Him in humbleness and own Him Lord.*

*His banquet of love awaits thee above; behold the marriage festal of the Lamb has come!
Rejoice my soul, rejoice, to heaven lift up thy voice: Alleluia!*

*List to the harps of heaven the song victorious,
the never-ending anthem sounding through the sky.
To mortals is not given to chant its strains all glorious;
yet sing, my soul, the praise of him who reigns on high.*

*Who bought with His blood the ransomed of God; to Him be everlasting power and victory.
And let the great Amen resound through heaven again. Alleluia!*

OFFERTORY *

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the
ris-en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his Name.

Verse

Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.

He is the King of cre - a - tion. **D.C.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *

LORD'S PRAYER *

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.

LAMB OF GOD *



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

All those who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome to the table.

We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements from the servers.

You will be handed a wafer from the server and are invited to select a cup of wine from the tray.

Pre-packaged elements of grape juice and gluten free wafers are available

in the baskets at the communion rail and at each entrance to the sanctuary.

You may partake of the elements at the communion rail and dispose of the cups and packaging in the baskets at the end of each communion rail or take the elements back to your pew to partake of them and dispose of the cups and packaging after the service.

Paper bags for the disposal of cups and packaging are available on the communion rail.

"Bread from the Lord's Table" and/or a pastoral blessing are available for children who do not yet commune.

Communion Server: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you

Communion Receiver: Amen.

Music at Distribution:

Organ Meditation – *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor* – arr. Robert Powell

Hymn #475 (11:00) – *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING *

Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING *

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Assembly: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #785 *

*When Peace like a River
(It Is well with My Soul)*

DISMISSAL *

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Assembly: **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the risen and ascended Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in D Major – David Johnson

.....

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor Tim Iseringhausen, Lead Pastor

Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor

Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family

Pastor Wayne Hoedt, Assisting Minister

David Woodyard, 8:00 Lector & Communion Assistant

Mary Woodyard, 8:00 Communion Assistant

Carolyn Martin, 11:00 Lector & Communion Assistant

Lisa Parrott, 11:00 Communion Assistant

Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music

Samuel Owens, Cantor

Jane McFadden, Chancel Choir Accompanist

FLOWER DEDICATION:

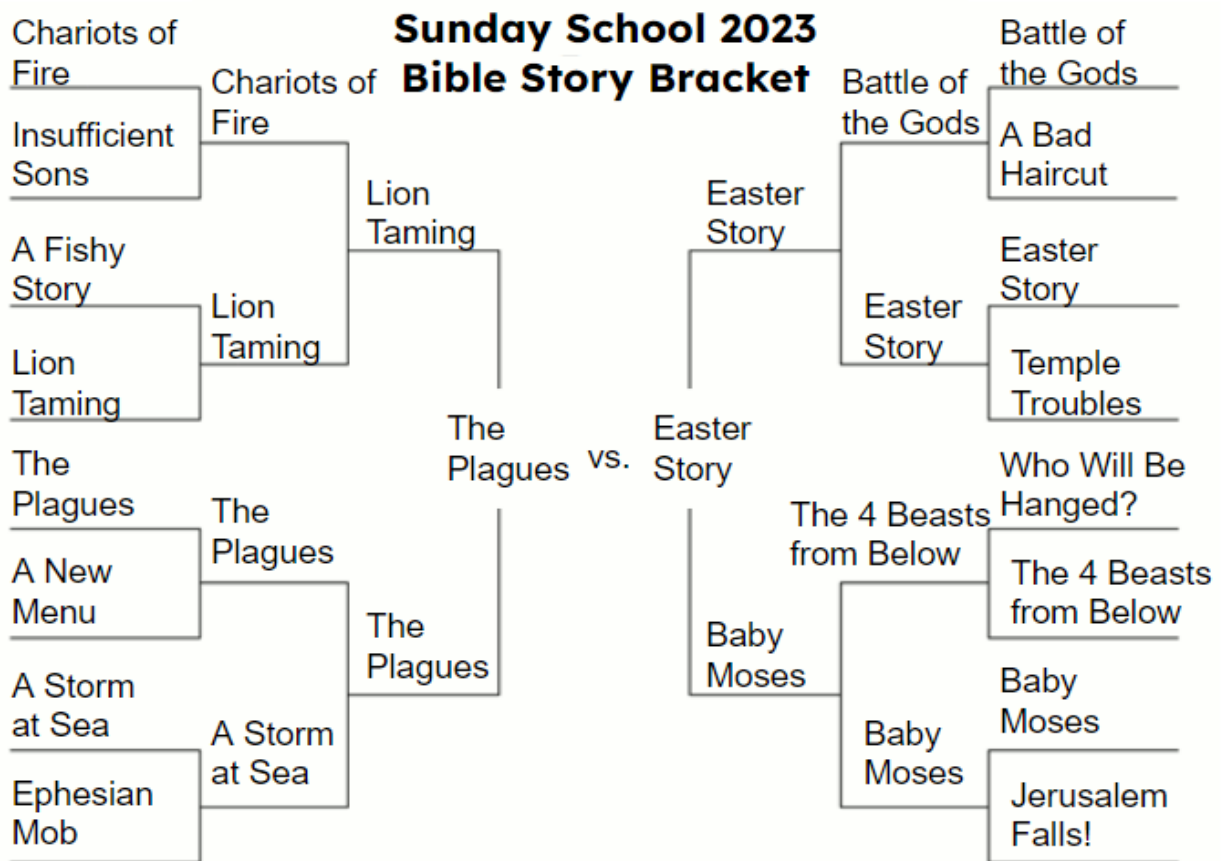
The altar flowers are given by Keith and Sally Rogers in memory of Tony Frank (born on May 24) and Lorraine Brockman (Sally's mother) and Don Wynkoop (both born on May 25).

The organ flowers are given in memory of her granddaughter, Emily Finley, by Ann Walters.

Service Music reprinted and broadcast under OneLicense.net # A-722064, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License # SB162322 & CCLI # 1841035(reprint) & #20141603 (Streaming)

Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

Liturgy and Scripture passages reprinted from Words for Worship Year A 2023, ©2022 Augsburg Fortress.



The 1st-3rd grade Sunday School class wants you to vote on the championship!
Who will win? The Easter Story vs. The Plagues

A little bit about how this started...

Our Sunday School class made New Year's Resolutions to share our favorite Bible stories with others in our class. When February came, we decided that a bracket would be a great way to talk about our favorite stories. Everyone picked out two stories and we put them in the bracket. We read all of the stories and voted. Now we need your help to decide the winner!

The Easter Story

Jesus rises from the dead.

This means he loves us.

We like all the rejoicing in this story.

The Plagues

We like the story.

We like to see what God was able to do.

We do feel sad about the plague with the Angel of Death. It is sad that the Egyptian people had to suffer because their leader made bad decisions and he was selfish.

The stories came from *The Action Bible*.

Chariots of Fire, the story of Elijah going to Heaven, based on 2 Kings 2:1-18

Insufficient Sons, the story of God's promise to Abraham and Sarah, based on Genesis 15-18

A Fishy Story, the story of Jonah, based on Jonah

Lion Taming, the story of Daniel in the lion's den, based on Daniel 6

The Plagues/The Final Plague, the story of the plagues of Egypt, based on Exodus 7:12-12:51

A New Menu, Peter's dream about the new Church, based on Acts 10:1-11:18

Storm at Sea, the story of Jesus calming the sea, based on Mark 4:35-5:24

Ephesian Mob, the story of Paul in Ephesus, based on Acts 19:23-20:5, 2 Corinthians

Battle of the Gods, the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal, based on 1 Kings 18

A Bad Haircut, the story of Samson and Delilah, based on Judges 16:1-20

Temple Troubles, the story of the temple being rebuilt, based on Ezra 4-6, Haggai, Zechariah

Who Will Be Hanged?, the story of Esther and Mordecai, based on Esther 5-10

The Four Beasts from Below, Daniel's dream about God's Kingdom, based on Daniel 7

Baby in a Basket, the story of Moses in a basket, based on Exodus 1:1-2:10

Jerusalem Falls!, the story of the Babylonians destroying Jerusalem, based on Jeremiah 39-44, 2 Kings 25, Lamentations, Obadiah

Easter Story (Crucified!/The Sealed Tomb), the story of Jesus dying for our sins and rising from the dead, based on Luke 23:26-52, Luke 24:13-32, John 19:23-20:18, Matthew 27:32-28:15, Mark 15:21-45