

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 29, 2025

6:30 pm



Zion Lutheran Church
1400 S Duluth Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-338-5226
www.zlcsf.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING WORDS (spoken from the back of the Sanctuary)

Pastor: Today we celebrate the ascension of our Lord on the fortieth day after His resurrection. We rejoice that Jesus rules in power at God's right hand and sends us His Spirit, the Comforter.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: LSB 493

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

- 1 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!
- 2 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!
- 3 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!

- 4 “You see Him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia, alleluia!
“Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 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!
- 6 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!

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Then Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,

People: and that repentance and forgiveness of sin should be proclaimed in His name.”

Pastor: In repentant faith, we come before our Lord in confession.

People: Almighty God, we confess to You that we are by nature sinful. We have sinned by our selfish thoughts, our hurtful words and our unloving actions. We have failed to live as Your sons and daughters and to be Your witnesses. We have been reluctant to do Your will and blind to Your presence and reign. For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray, forgive us. Amen.

Pastor: As a called and ordained servant of Christ the Word, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened that you may know the hope to which He has called you.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

INTROIT: Psalm 47; Antiphon verse 5

Pastor: Clap your hands, all you nations;

People: shout to God with cries of joy.

Pastor: For the Lord Most High is awesome,

People: the great King over all the earth.

Pastor: He subdued nations under us,

People: peoples under our feet.

Pastor: He chose our inheritance for us,

People: the pride of Jacob, whom He loved.

Pastor: God has ascended amid shouts of joy,

People: the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

Pastor: Sing praises to God, sing praises;

People: sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Pastor: For God is the King of all the earth;

People: sing to Him a psalm of praise.

Pastor: God reigns over the nations;

People: God is seated on His holy throne.

Pastor: The nobles of the nations assemble

People: as the people of the God of Abraham,

Pastor: for the kings of the earth belong to God;

People: He is greatly exalted.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

People: and to the Holy Spirit;

Pastor: as it was in the beginning,

People: is now and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: For God is the King of all the earth;

People: sing to Him a psalm of praise.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
People (sing): Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: This Is the Feast

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set
us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing,
and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all
creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb
forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: Oh God, as the disciples looked into the sky at Your ascension and needed to be reminded that they were sent into the world, so remind us, Oh Lord, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we also are called to serve You, as we are witnesses to Your love. We pray through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever. Amen.

TIME IN THE WORD

Children's Bible Reading: Page 356

The First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently

up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 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, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 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. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE

People (Sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

People (sing): Glory to You, O Lord.

He said to them, “This is what I told 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.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People (sing): Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: LSB 494 See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph

- 1 See, the Lord ascends in triumph;
Conqu’ring King in royal state,
Riding on the clouds, His chariot,
To His heav’nly palace gate.
Hark! The choirs of angel voices Joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heav’nly King.

- 2 Who is this that comes in glory
With the trump of jubilee?
Lord of battles, God of armies,
He has gained the victory.
He who on the cross did suffer,
He who from the grave arose,
He has vanquished sin and Satan;
He by death has crushed His foes.
- 3 While He lifts His hands in blessing,
He is parted from His friends;
While their eager eyes behold Him,
He upon the clouds ascends.
He who walked with God and pleased Him,
Preaching truth and doom to come,
He, our Enoch, is translated To His everlasting home.
- 4 Now our heav'nly Aaron enters
With His blood within the veil;
Joshua now is come to Canaan,
And the kings before Him quail.
Now He plants the tribes of Israel
In their promised resting place;
Now our great Elijah offers
Double portion of His grace.
- 5 He has raised our human nature
On the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heav'nly places,
There with Him in glory stand.
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne.
By our mighty Lord's ascension
We by faith behold our own.

THE SERMON

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God; the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING | TREASURE BOX | PRAYER CARDS

ZION BELL CHOIR “Amazing Grace”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

People (sing): Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: LSB 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—

Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Alleluia!

- 3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.

Alleluia!

- 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.

Alleluia!

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.

Alleluia!

- 6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.

Alleluia!

- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.

Alleluia!

- 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION HYMN: LSB 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.

The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.

His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

- 2 With praise and thanksgiving To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.

With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;

Unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

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DISMISSAL and PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

- 1 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 will come and call them.

2 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.

3 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.

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SEND OFF

Pastor: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out,
strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!