



The Ascension of Our Lord

Thursday, May 21, 2020



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus as our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you and yours!

We hope that you will worship with us again!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Coronavirus situation: Since we can't all gather in one room for worship this weekend, our service can be viewed online through links from our website, stpaulshowardsgrove.org. There will also be a limited range radio broadcast throughout our church parking lot on Sunday morning at 8:00 and 10:30 am on FM 88.3.

Communion: Each week there will be office hours for receiving communion, purchasing scrip, and dropping off offerings. These times will be posted in our weekly congregational announcements. Please contact the respective pastor ahead of time for scheduling a communion appointment.

DVDs: There will be a small number of DVDs of this weekend's worship service available to be picked up from the office. They will be ready by Monday afternoon. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you take one.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

AARON T. MUELLER, PASTOR
pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.207.2316 (cell)

ADAM BODE, PASTOR
pastorbode@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.224.2961 (cell)

CHAD MAROHN, PRINCIPAL
chad.marohn@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
414.323.1915 (cell)

STEFANI LEVERENZ, SECRETARY
secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.565.3780 (church)
920.946.6092 (cell)

**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
441 Millersville Ave.
Howards Grove, WI 53083
920.565.3780
www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



Christ's Ascension

The post-ascension disciples no longer had their teacher with them walking the roads of Israel as before. We endtime disciples do not have Jesus' visible presence with us either. Yet there is no ascension sadness, because the Church knows exactly where Christ is. He has taken up his power and has begun to reign with might that knows no limit and glory that knows no bounds. With a head like that, what foe have we to fear?

WELCOME

HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | 234 v. 1, 2, 4, 5

Verses 1, 2, 5: ALL

Verse 4: Men's Choir

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

Men's Choir:

- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
As with his love he befriends you.**

**5 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him!**

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son \mp and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

A DIALOGUE FOR THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

M: Christ is arisen!

C: He is risen indeed!

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy!

C: Let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

M: 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."

C: We believe and are sure that he is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

M: God raised him 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 title that can be given, 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.

C: At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

M: Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

C: Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

M: When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

C: Never again will we hunger; never again will we thirst. The sun will not beat upon us, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

HYMN

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise | 175 v. 1, 3, 4, 6

- 1 Hail the day that sees him rise
To his throne above the skies!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n,
Reascends his native heav'n.**
- 3 See, the heav'n its Lord receives,
Yet he loves the earth he leaves;
Though returning to his throne,
Still he calls mankind his own.**
- 4 See, he lifts his hands above;
See, he shows the prints of love.
Hark! His gracious lips bestow
Blessings on his Church below.**
- 6 There we shall with you remain
Partners in your endless reign,
There your face unclouded view,
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in you.**

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:1-11

Before Jesus ascended, he promised the blessing of the Holy Spirit for witnessing to the ends of the earth.

¹ I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ² until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After 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.

⁴ Once, 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. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they were together with him, they asked, “Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But 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.”

⁹ After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹ They 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.”

HYMN

Oh the Deep, Deep Love

Verse 1 & 1st Refrain: Small Group

Verses 2, 3 & Repeated Refrains: ALL

Small Group:

1 O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
 Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me!
 Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love
 Leading onward, leading homeward to your glorious rest above!

Small Group: Refrain:

O the deep, deep love! All I need and trust is the deep, deep love of
 Jesus. O the deep, deep love! All I need and trust is the deep, deep love
 of Jesus.

ALL:



2.Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, spread his praise from
 3.Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, far sur - pas - sing



shore to shore, how he came to pay our ran - som through the
 all the rest, it's an o - cean full of bles - sing in the



sav - ing cross he bore; how he watch - es o'er his loved ones,
 midst of ev - 'ry test. Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus,



those he died to make his own, how for them he's in - ter -
 might-y Sav - ior pre - cious friend, you will bring us home to



ced - ing, plead - ing now be - fore the throne.
 glo - ry, where your love will nev - er end.

Refrain

Oh the deep, deep love, all I need and

trust is the deep, deep love of Je - sus.

Oh the deep, deep love, all I need and

trust is the deep, deep love of Je - sus.

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

God seated Christ at his right hand and made him head over everything as a blessing for the Church.

¹⁵ This is why, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I 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. ¹⁸ I 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, ¹⁹ and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. ²⁰ It 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, ²¹ far 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. ²² God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church. ²³ The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

ANTHEM

The Risen Christ

Oh, the splendor of creation, God's own hand and love's design. We below in adoration see the gifts of the divine: mountains high and rushing waters, all the beauty of the skies. Yet more beautiful the glory of the risen Christ.

Refrain: We will see him lifted high, we will meet him in the sky. He will come and we will rise in the glory of the risen Christ.

Oh, the mystery of Calv'ry: love laid bare upon the cross, broken heart and wounds wide open, mercy's way for all of us. Nail and thorn could hold no power over sinless sacrifice, hope amid the darkest hour of the risen Christ.

Refrain

Oh, the wonder of our Savior: stone rolled back with radiant light, death destroyed by this redemption, by the one who gave his life. Now is heaven breaking open; sinner, sing and saint, arise into this eternal welcome of the risen Christ. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Jesus explained the message for all nations, promised the Spirit, and ascended while blessing his disciples.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "These are my words that 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."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He 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, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² So they worshipped him and

returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build | 173

- 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 shall come and call them.**
- 2 **Since Christ returned to claim his throne,
Great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart shall rest in him alone,
No other rest remaining,
For where my treasure went before,
There all my thoughts shall ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.**
- 3 **Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling your ascension,
That I may serve you faithfully,
Adorning your redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.**

SERMON

Rev. Adam Bode

St. Paul's, Howards Grove

Ephesians 1:15-23

Jesus' Power at Work for You

To reveal - To raise - To rule

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Online giving options available



In praise of our risen and ascended Lord, we bring him a generous portion of all we receive. Offerings may be dropped in the box under the canopy during “drive-in worship”, or brought to the office during the hours listed in our weekly congregational announcements. If you are looking for further office needs or requests, please call ahead to schedule so that we can appropriately follow room capacity guidelines.

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

M: O King of glory, on this day you ascended in triumph far above all heavens. We ask your Spirit's abiding presence here on earth, within our hearts. Empower us truly to be your disciples in this life and to be your companions at the heavenly feast for all eternity. This we ask for your love's sake.

C: Amen.

C: 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.

THE BENEDICTION

M: 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 favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Draw Us to Thee | 170 v. 1, 4, 5

- 1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we
Walk in thy steps forever and hasten on
Where thou art gone to be with thee, dear Savior.
- 4 Draw us to thee that also we
Thy heav'nly bliss inherit and ever dwell
Where sin and hell no more can vex our spirit.
- 5 Draw us to thee unceasingly;
Into thy kingdom take us. Let us fore'er
Thy glory share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

SPECIAL MUSIC COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

HYMNS 170, 175 & 234:

Words: Public domain.

OH THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE:

Words & Music: Bob Kauflin & Samuel Trevor Francis, © 2008, Integrity's Praise! Music. Reprinted with permission under CCLI LICENSE #CSPL155743. All rights reserved.

ON CHRIST'S ASCENSION I NOW BUILD:

Words: tr. William M. Czamanske, © 1941, Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722076. All rights reserved.

THE RISEN CHRIST:

Words & Music: Sarah Hart, Meredith Andrews & Jacob Sooter, © 2015, Spiritandsong.Com Pub. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722076. All rights reserved.

SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER: Rev. Steven Wall

PREACHER: Rev. Adam Bode

ORGANIST: Gillian Curia

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Luke Bramstedt, Karl Leverenz, Taylor Rudlaff, Nick & Tanya Schmidt, and August & Kelly Wall

ALTAR GUILD: Maryann Hahn, Jean Porter, Debbie Van Alstine, and Sandra Weber

AV COMMITTEE HELPERS: Luke Bramstedt, Nathan Kracht, and Renee Mueller

**Please check our website for updates on devotional,
Bible study, and worship opportunities!**