

† ASCENSION SUNDAY †
Confirmation Day
May 17, 2026

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
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PRELUDE

Salve Festa Dies

Robert Powell

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB **Hymn 489**

Hail Thee, Festival Day (sing the "Ascension" refrain and verses)

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

(LSB Page 155)

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

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

FIRST READING

Acts 1:3-11

³After his suffering Jesus presented himself alive to [the apostles] by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "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."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far 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 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(9:00) **CHANCEL CHOIR** Sing, Joyous Christians Antonio Lotti
*Sing, joyous Christians! Sing forth your alleluias!
Christ is ascended on high to heaven, Alleluia!
Sitteth at the right hand of the Father, Alleluia!
Christ, have mercy! Alleluia!*

PSALMODY (*Congregation rising*) (from Psalm 47)

A Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

C For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

A God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

C Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

A For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

C God is king over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

ALLELUIA VERSE (LSB Page 156)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then Jesus 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, 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

(10:45) **THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION** (LSB Page 272)

HYMN OF THE DAY How Firm a Foundation LSB Hymn 728

SERMON

Rev. Mark Budenholzer

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(Congregation rising)*

A Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Foundation

Jacob Weber

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE *(Congregation rising)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven, that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♪SANCTUS

(LSB Page 161)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for

the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

(LSB Page 163)

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

LSB **Hymn 821**

The Church’s One Foundation

LSB **Hymn 644**

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand (please ask for “gluten-free” if desired); then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A O God the Father, fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Sent Forth By God’s Blessing

LSB **Hymn 643**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The Ash Grove

David Lowe

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COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Service:

Rev. Mark Budenholzer, Associate Pastor/Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Deborah Reiss, Minister of Music

Lector	9:00 Ellen Story	10:45 Ralph Schoene
Asst. Minister	Daryl Story	Ralph Schoene
Communion Asst.	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Care	Story Family	
Usher Team	Bill Vogt Warren Wong	Georgine Read Ilse Lunog
Sexton	Violet Linn	
Refreshments	Giordano Family	

GOD BLESS OUR CONFIRMANDS:

Lucas Benedetti
Audrey Collins
Jack Henry
Cooper Kasses
Gabriela Alioti Passi
Kayla Runge
Thomas Tavarez
AJ Volcovici

News and Notes:

Holy Baptism – We rejoice with the newly baptized and welcome them into the family of faith. Amelia Barbieri, daughter of Thomas and Becky Barbieri, was baptized at a special service on May 16, 2026.

Soup Kitchen – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. The next date is **Wednesday, May 20**. Sign up through our web site or contact Katie Bukofzer directly at etakwhit@aol.com.

The Day of Pentecost – We will celebrate Pentecost next **Sunday, May 24**. You are invited to **wear something red** to match the liturgical color of the day. We will also have a Family Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. with a special Children’s Message from Pastor Budenholzer.

Attention Graduates! Our tradition on Baccalaureate Sunday (June 7) is to list our local graduates, from 8th Grade through college, in the bulletin. Please provide the following information to the church office: Name and grade of graduate, name of your current school, name of your next school (if applicable). Use the pew card or send an email to Krapillo@VLC-NY.org **no later than Sunday, May 24**.

“Sing for Joy” Concordia Choir Alumni Concert – VLC is hosting a concert of music by Ralph Schultz and other favorites from the Concordia tradition on **Saturday, June 27, at 3:00 p.m.** The concert is free and open to the public. Members of the Concordia community are also cordially invited to participate. Rehearsals will begin at 9:00 a.m. on June 27, with optional lunch. If you would like to sing, please **register online by May 25** at Concordia-ny.org/alumni26

Prayer Conference Call – All are welcome to our service of evening prayer by phone on the last Tuesday of the month, led by Pastoral Assistant Morris Mayer. A printed copy of the liturgy is available in the tract rack at the back of the sanctuary. Simply dial (1) 732-434-3982. Our final service before the summer will be held on **Tuesday, May 26, at 6:00 p.m.**

Farewell & Godspeed – Pastor Budenholzer’s final Sunday at VLC will be **May 31**, when we will wish the Budenholzers Farewell and Godspeed. A special coffee hour will be held in honor of Pastor Mark and his family between services. Come and help us thank Pastor Mark for his ministry here and wish him and his family God’s blessings on their new ministry.

Board of Trustees Update – At our Voter’s Meeting on May 3, the congregation approved a slate of candidates to fill vacant or expiring terms on the Board of Trustees. The newly elected Trustees are: Charles Eisenberg, Jennifer Schell Podoll, Ralph Schoene and Jonathan White. We give thanks for their willingness to serve as Trustees and pray for God’s continued guidance and strength over all of our church and school leaders.

Church & School Picnic – Our annual church and school picnic will be held on Baccalaureate **Sunday, June 7**, at noon. The fellowship committee is looking for additional volunteers to help in many and various ways, including set-up of tables and chairs, bringing in extra coolers, providing sides and desserts, and clean-up. There is a large sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the MPR or scan the QR code to access the digital Sign-up Genius – please look it over and see what works for you! For further info, contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.



Save the Dates – On Father’s Day weekend, June 20-21, we will be bringing back two events that were introduced this spring:

- ❖ **Craft Day – Saturday, June 20** – Bring your knitting, crocheting or other handiwork, share ideas and conversation, learn how to make a prayer shawl.
- ❖ **World on a Plate Fundraiser – Sunday, June 21** – If you like to cook, make baked goods or take-out style small plates. If you like to eat, bring cash to purchase some of the delicious items available during coffee hour. All proceeds to benefit the church.

Wednesday Bible Study – On May 20 we will continue with John chapter 16 and the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers.

Music Ministry: Our choirs will be off over the Memorial Day weekend, May 20-24. Rehearsals continue as follows:

- ❖ High School Choir – Sunday, May 17 and 31
- ❖ Village Bells – Wednesday, May 27, at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ Youth Choir – Thurs., May 28, at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ Chancel Choir – Thurs., May 28, at 7:30 p.m.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet Thursday, May 21, at 6:00 p.m.; Crusaders (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion on Sunday, May 17

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Barbara Accocella, Steven Anderson, Rebecca Blanco, Robert & Sara Burriesci, Wayne & Diana Davenport, Elaine Davis, Rhonda Gleason, Betty Lou Held, Katie Koster, Michelle Liscoe, Thomas Marks, Jayden Paulsen, Elaine Podszus, Steven Siegel, Daphne and Pierre Thompson and Family, Ronnie Walsh

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Joel Jacobowitz**, grandson of a family friend of Yvonne Palladino, passed away on May 1, 2026

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
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