

**As they were watching,
Jesus was lifted up**

ACTS 1:9

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor Jason Felici & Pastor Jess Felici

Pastor Emeritus Jeffrey Schock

Ascension of Our Lord

May 14, 2026

Welcome to Worship!

Pastors:

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The *worship bulletin* is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in **bold** print are for congregation response.

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of ***Holy Communion*** and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal.

Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need ***communed in the pew***.

A ***large print copy*** of our worship service and ***wireless sound enhancers*** are available in the front narthex.



Ascension of Our Lord

May 14, 2026

Livestream @www.trinitylatrobe.com

Service of Holy Communion

(ELW Setting 2)

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 are 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.

*The prelude is a signal to end our conversation and
prepare our hearts and minds for worship*

Prelude and Silent Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

(at the end of the bell peal, please stand or remain seated as you are comfortable, facing the baptismal font)

GATHERING

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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✝ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

(silence is kept for reflection as water is poured into the font)

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore us to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!”

ELW #634

Greeting

The grace and peace of our risen and ascended Lord Jesus be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(please be seated)

WORD

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

Children's Message

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Both Luke and Acts are addressed to Theophilus ("God-lover"). The two men in dazzling white robes are also the figures the women met at the empty tomb who told them of the resurrection; they may be Moses and Elijah (the Law and the Prophets), who are dressed in this way at the Transfiguration.

[Luke writes:] ¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While 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; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods 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 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They 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."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 47 (Leader/Assembly: Spoken)

For the Israelites and many other cultures, “higher” means holier, closer to God, and this psalm uses that imagery over and over. For us, it echoes the Ascension of Jesus.

¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a joyful sound.

² **For the LORD Most High is to be feared:
a great king over all the earth,**

³ who subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet;

⁴ **who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

⁵ God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of the ram’s horn.

⁶ **Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

⁷ For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with a song.

⁸ **God reigns over the nations;
God is enthroned on high.**

⁹ The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

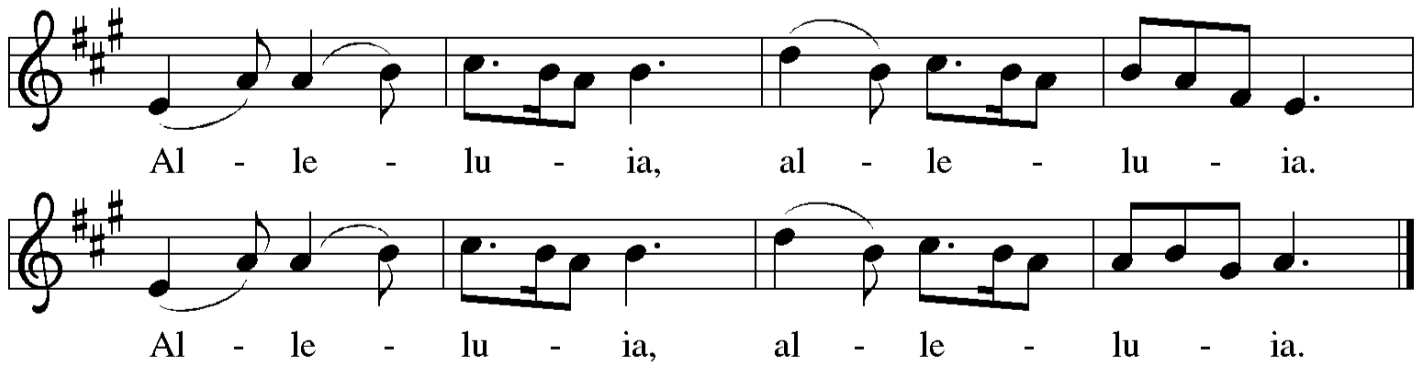
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

These verses form a great hymn to the magnificence and transcendence of the resurrected and ascended Christ. Since he “fills all in all,” while he is seated at the Father’s right hand, he is never absent from any place in creation.

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray that 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, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God 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, ²¹ 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 age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *(please stand to welcome the Gospel or remain seated as you are comfortable)*



Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

Luke ends his Gospel with this story of the Ascension, slightly different from the version with which he will begin Acts. But he is clearly laying the groundwork for the ministry of Jesus to continue in that second volume and beyond.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th chapter. **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.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And 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.”⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.⁵² And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Jess Felici

Hymn of the Day *(please stand or remain seated as you are comfortable)*

“Rejoice, for Christ Is King!”

ELW #430

Litany for the Ascension of Our Lord *(please see insert and kneel or remain seated as you are comfortable)*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Gathering of Gifts

Choir Anthem

Offertory *(please stand or remain seated as you are comfortable)*

“We Are an Offering”

ELW #692

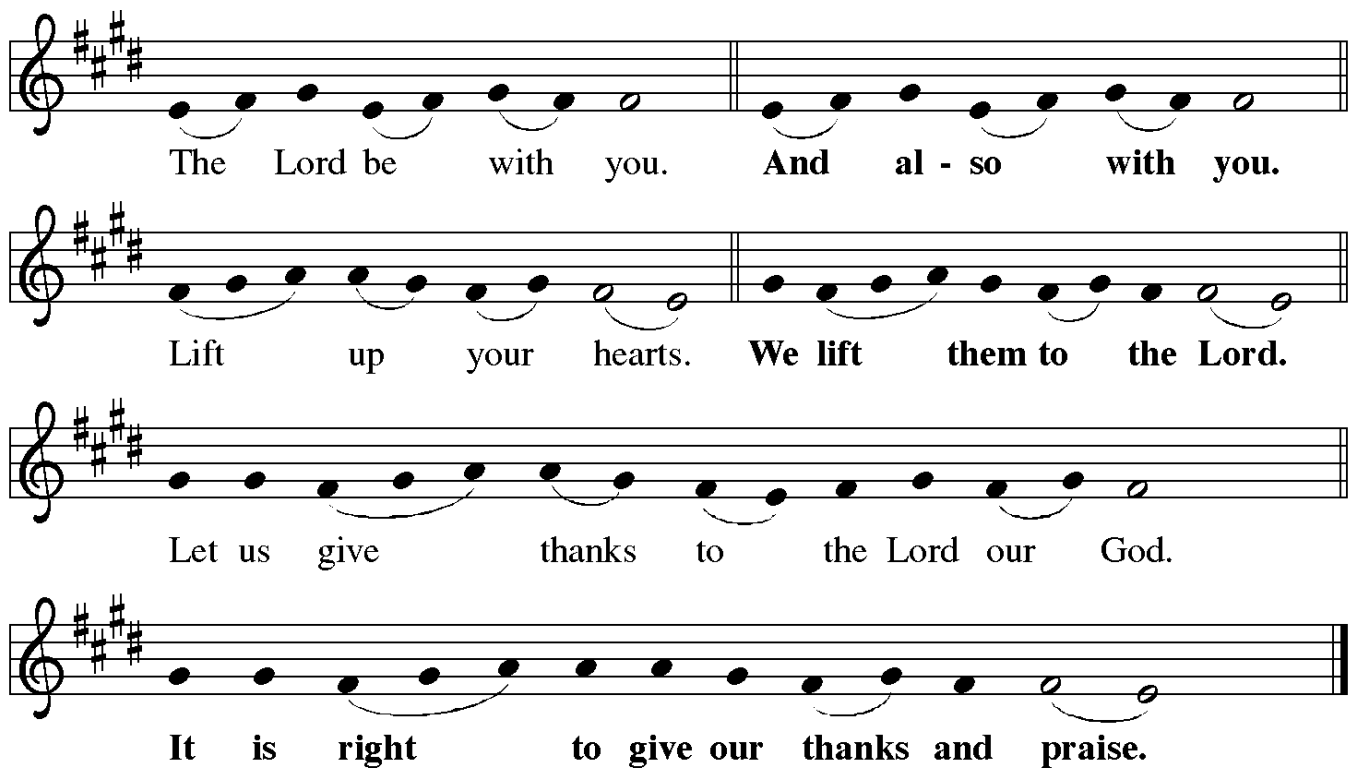
The musical score is written in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering." There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the first, third, and sixth staves.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Merciful God, **accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ; who, enthroned forever at your right hand, intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

(continued)

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

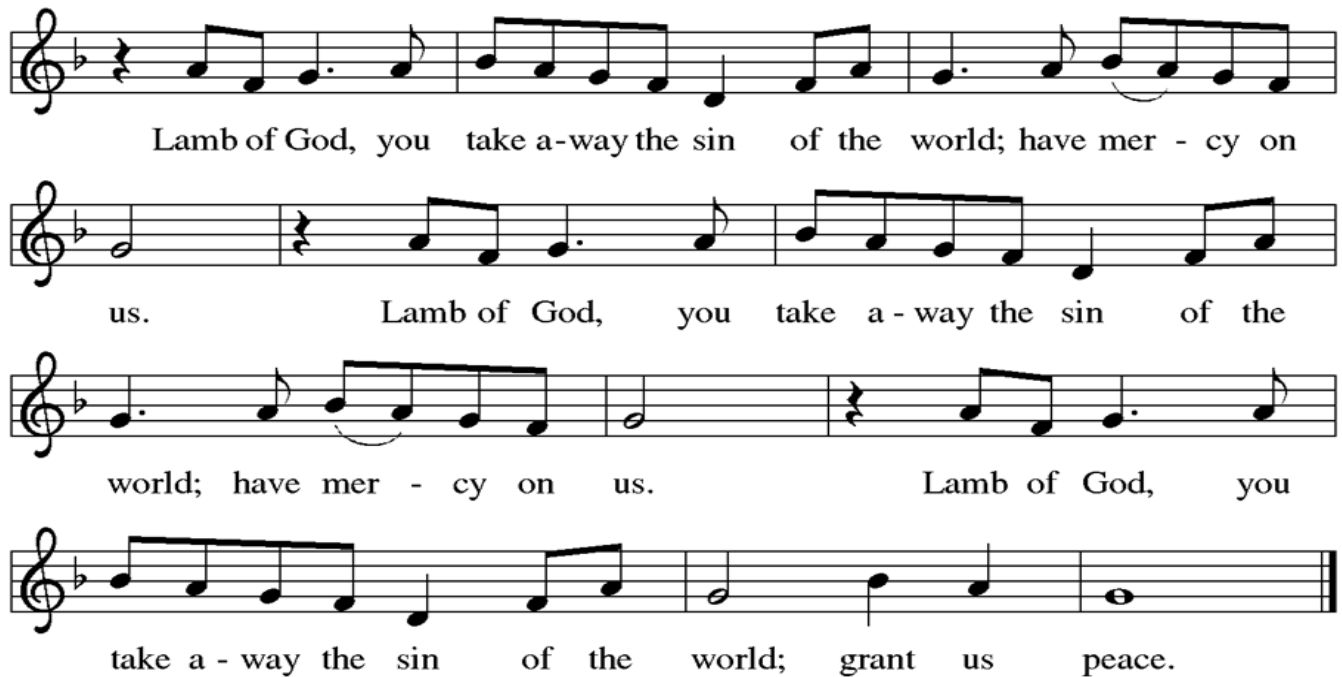
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.



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.

Distribution of Communion

*To receive communion, please come down the center aisle, take a cup from the tray and gather at the altar rail. Receive the bread into your hand. Wine will be poured into your cup. **The communion wine is gluten free. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.** For those unable to receive wine, communion cups with water are available. Leave the altar rail, place your cup on the tray and return to your pew via the side aisles. **If you would like to receive communion in the pew, please contact an usher.** Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

Table Blessing *(please stand or remain seated as you are comfortable)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Holy One, **through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

SENDING

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

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Jesus Shall Reign”

ELW #434

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Serving this Night

Preaching: Pastor Jess Felici **Presiding:** Pastor Jason Felici

Director of Music: Debbie Morley

Lector: Mark Jones

Liturgical Deacons: Jackie Mars, Rose McLain

Ushers: Mark & Kathy Jones, Ann Hudec, Jessica G.

Acolyte: Kaden S., Mallory H.

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