

Ascension of Our Lord

May 14, 2026

6:30 p.m.

AS WE GATHER

It is not over. Easter is not over. Christ's mission is not over. Peace and pardon are not over. Even as we gather to commemorate the ascension of our Lord, nothing ends today. It is not as if Christ ascends to heaven and takes all His blessings with Him! This world remains forever marked by His grace and love. And now, reigning over all things, our ascended Lord intercedes for us at His Father's right hand. Christ remains present for us in His Word and Sacraments, and Christ's Body, the church, continues the joyful proclamation that Christ is risen, and indeed, He is coming again!

PRELUDE

"Up Through Endless Ranks of Angels"

William Braun

ENTRANCE HYMN

491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

People: **O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor: But with You there is forgiveness;

People: **therefore You are feared.**

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 sins should be proclaimed in His name."**

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

Almighty God,

People: **we confess 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. We have been reluctant to do Your will and blind to the needs of others. For the sake of Your Son, our Lord Jesus, forgive us, renew us, and lead us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your Holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: As the disciples returned from Christ's ascension filled with joy, so you also are renewed in Christ's saving promise. As a called and ordained servant of Christ 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.

People: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

815 All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine



1 All praise to Thee, for Thou, O King di - vine,
4 Where-fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, Thou
5 Let ev - 'ry tongue con - fess with one ac - cord,



Didst yield the glo - ry that of right was Thine,
Art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now,
In heav'n and earth, that Je - sus Christ is Lord,



That in our dark - ened hearts Thy grace might shine.
And giv'n the name to which all knees shall bow.
And God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.



Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: 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 in Jesus' name. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

(Jesus' ascension and the promise of the Spirit.)

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he showed himself to these men 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. ⁴On 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. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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."

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"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."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 47

- Pastor: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.
People: **For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.**
- Pastor: He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet.
People: **He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.**
- Pastor: God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.
People: **Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.**
- Pastor: For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.
People: **God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.**
- Pastor: The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham,
People: **for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.**

ANTHEM

“Ancient Words”

Deshazo / Hayes

*Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God’s own heart. O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.
In this world, where-e’er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.*

*Ancient words ever true, changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts. O let the ancient words impart.*

*Holy words of our faith, handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice. O heed the faithful words of Christ.
Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God’s own heart. O let the ancient words impart.*

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

(Jesus seated at God's right hand.)

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ I pray also 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 the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ 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. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

(Jesus opens His disciples' minds and ascends.)

⁴⁴ 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."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: 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 at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(At the words, "he left them and was taken up into heaven," the paschal candle will be extinguished, reminding us that Christ withdraws His physical presence from the world until the day of His glorious return.)

HYMN

493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

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 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Ascended Lord, You rule as King, seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling in power and might, in grace and mercy.

People: **You have not left us as orphans, but have sent Your Holy Spirit into our hearts to fill us with Your joyous presence.**

Pastor: By Your Spirit working in Your Word, grant that our eyes be turned from looking to the heavens to looking at the lost world to which we are called to be Your witnesses.

People: **Give us the courage to proclaim boldly Your saving Word of grace and mercy.**

Pastor: Ascended Lord, we await Your return, for as Your disciples saw You go, so will You return. Grant that we may await Your second coming with anticipation, and not with fearfulness or dread.

People: **Strengthen our faith in You, that we may look forward to that day when You return to take us to be with Yourself.**

Pastor: For the spread of the Gospel to all lands; for peace in our troubled world; for justice to be served; for nations to honor You; for seasonable weather; for all things that give glory to You, we pray, asking Your mercy,

People: **for the sake of Jesus Christ, our ascended Lord. Amen.**

OFFERING

*During the offering, please sign
the Record of Fellowship found
at the end of each pew*



Scan to give online

Robert Hobby

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

OFFERTORY

701 Draw Us to Thee



1 Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in Thy
4 Draw us to Thee That al - so we Thy heav'n - ly
5 Draw us to Thee Un - ceas - ing - ly, In - to Thy



steps for - ev - er And has - ten on Where Thou art
bliss in - her - it And ev - er dwell Where sin and
king - dom take us; Let us for - e'er Thy glo - ry



gone To be with Thee, dear Sav - ior.
hell No more can vex our spir - it.
share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

The Lord's Supper is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the bread and wine. When received in faith, it brings forgiveness, new life, and salvation. In response to God's command in Scripture, we are to examine ourselves prior to partaking of the Sacrament. There are five basic questions by which we should examine ourselves, all of which we should be able to answer in the affirmative if we are to partake of the Sacrament worthily: 1) Am I a baptized believer? 2) Do I believe I am a sinner and am truly sorry for my sins? 3) Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin? 4) Do I promise with God's help to turn from sin and live a God-pleasing life? 5) Do I believe in the true teachings of God's Word, namely that the Body and Blood of Jesus are truly present, powerful, and effective in the Sacrament? Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a differing confession and yet desire to receive the sacrament are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.(see Matthew 26:26-29; 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:17- 34)

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper everywhere and always to give thanks to You, loving Father, holy and almighty Lord, eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and was taken up to heaven in their sight that He might make us partakers of His divine nature. Therefore, with angels and archangels, the saints in heaven and those on earth, we glorify Your name, praising You and singing:

SANCTUS *(Holy, Holy, Holy)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: 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 is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI (*Lamb of God*)

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

If you wish to take communion in the pew, please raise your hand when the communion assistant comes down the aisle.

When the wine is distributed, individual glasses will be offered first, then the common cup. Communicants may take whichever is preferred. If taking the individual glass, please keep the glass visible so that the communion assistant with the common cup will know who has already communed.

Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion tray for those who have a sensitivity to the alcohol in wine.

Children and those who cannot yet commune are invited to come forward and kneel at the rail with arms crossed to receive a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

- 494 See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph
492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build
840 Christ, High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated

NUNC DIMITTIS *(Song of Simeon)*

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

PRAYER

Pastor: Ascended Lord, risen King, You have left for us a foretaste of the feast to come in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Strengthen us through this heavenly food for greater service to You until You come again. We pray in Your holy name, Jesus.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

495 Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious

POSTLUDE

“Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious”

Matthew Macheimer

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Serving at Chapel

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Preacher: | Charles Wallace |
| Liturgist: | Theodore Laesch |
| Choir: | Choral Singers |
| Director: | Matt McEuen |
| Organist & Accompanist: | Rev. Scott Schilbe |
| Trumpets: | Nate Laesch Ben Schilbe |
| Acolyte: | Bella Moss |