



The Ascension of our Lord
May 14, 2026 7:00 P.M.
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Seymour, Indiana

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD May 14, 2026

Welcome to worship! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia! Today we gather in the joy of the Ascension, rejoicing that our Lord Jesus Christ is not absent, but reigns, seated at the right hand of the Father for us. As we worship, we are reminded that where Christ is, there we are also, held in His victory, His authority, and His promise of life everlasting. Come and receive the comfort and confidence that flows from our ascended Savior, who rules all things for His Church and for you.

The Order of Vespers, Page 229

THE PRELUDE: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" -Paul Manz

THE OPENING HYMN: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" Hymn 493

- 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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THE RESPONSES: Page 229

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 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. 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." So when they met together, they 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."

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 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 one to come. And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:44-53

Then [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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE COMMON RESPONSORY, Page 230

THE HYMN: "See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph"

Hymn 494

- 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.

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THE SERMON:

“Seated with Christ: Living Under the Reign of the Ascended Lord”

THE OFFERTORY HYMN: “Draw Us to Thee”

Hymn 701

- 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.
- 2 Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly; Let us depart with gladness
 That we may be Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.
- 3 Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the road to heaven!
 Direct our way Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.
- 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.

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THE KYRIE, LORD'S PRAYER, and COLLECTS, Page 233

THE BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION, Page 234

THE CLOSING HYMN: “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” Hymn 492

- 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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THE POSTLUDE: “Look Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious” -Paul Manz

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Preacher: Pastor Philip E. Bloch **Lector:** Pastor William G. Fredstrom

Liturgists: Vicar Max Johnston & Pastor Ralph Blumenberg

Organist: Dr. Ron Preloger

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