

**ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
MAY 9, 2024
WORD AND PRAYER**

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
613 LOCUST STREET
JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 15901**

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
613 LOCUST STREET
JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 15901**

**ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
MAY 9, 2024**

WORD AND PRAYER

THE PRELUDE ~

Stand.

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

THE PRAYER FOR PURITY

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C **and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

P The Lord God, Father and Creator spoke all these words saying:

a **I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land**

of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

C **I confess to Almighty God, to the Apostles and saints in heaven and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed; by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault. I ask almighty God, the Apostles and saints in heaven and you my brothers and sisters to forgive me and help me amend my life.**

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As one called and ordained in the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you who do truly repent and believe in him, the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P By the same authority, I declare to those who do not repent and believe, that so long as they continue knowingly, arrogantly and willfully in their sins, God has not forgiven them, and will assuredly bring judgment upon them, if they do not turn from their evil ways and come to true repentance and faith in Christ.

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

THE ASCENSION PROCLAMATION

A The Lord has ascended into heaven,

C **that he may send the Comforter to the world.**

A The heavens have prepared his throne, the clouds his ascension.

C **The angels marvel, beholding a man exalted over them.**

A The Father waits for him whom, as co-eternal, he has in his bosom;

C **and the Holy Spirit commands all his angels: Lift up Your gates, you princes; clap your hands, all you nations, for Christ is ascended up to the place where he was before. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

THE ENTRANCE HYMN ~ "Look, the Sight is Glorious"

LBW156



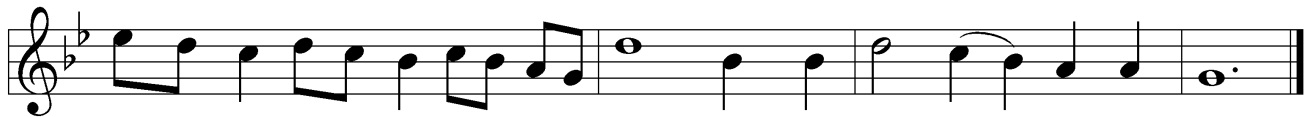
- 1 Look, oh, look, the sight is glo - rious, see the man of sor - rows now;
- 2 Crown the Sav - ior! An - gels crown him! Rich the tro - phies Je - sus brings;
- 3 Sin - ners in de - ri - sion crowned him, mock - ing thus the Sav - ior's claim;
- 4 Hark! Those bursts of ac - cla - ma - tion! Hark! Those loud tri - um - phant chords!



from the fight re - turned vic - to - rious, ev - 'ry knee to him shall bow.
 on the seat of pow'r en-throne him while the vault of heav - en rings.
 saints and an - gels crowd a - round him, own his ti - tle, praise his name.
 Je - sus takes the high - est sta - tion; oh, what joy the sight af - fords!



Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!
 Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!
 Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!
 Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!



Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow. Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow.
 Crown the Sav - ior, King of kings. Crown the Sav - ior, King of kings.
 Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame! Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame!
 King of kings and Lord of lords! King of kings and Lord of lords!

THE GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

THE KYRIE

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

A This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Sit.

THE FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

L A reading from Acts.

[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After 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. 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 The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM: Psalm 47

¹Clap your hands, | all you peoples;*
shout to God with a | cry of joy.

²For the LORD Most High is | to be feared;*
he is the great king over | all the earth.

**³He subdues the | peoples under us,*
and the nations un- | der our feet.**

**⁴He chooses our inheri- | tance for us,*
the pride of Jacob | whom he loves.**

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

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

**⁷For God is King of | all the earth;*
sing praises with | all your skill.**

**⁸God reigns o- | ver the nations;*
God sits upon his | holy throne.**

⁹The nobles of the peoples have gath- | ered together*
with the people of the | God of Abraham.

¹⁰The rulers of the earth be- | long to God,*
and he is high- | ly exalted.

**Glory to the Father, and | to the Son,*
and to the | Holy Spirit,
as it was in | the beginning,*
is now and will be forev- | er. Amen.**

THE SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

L A reading from Ephesians.

I 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. ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸so 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, 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 The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

C Alleluia. Go and make disciples of all nations, | says the Lord;* I am with you always, to the end | of the age. Alleluia. (*Matthew 28:19-20*)

THE GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.

P The Gospel of the Lord!

C Praise to you, O Christ!

Sit.

THE HOMILY

Stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY ~ “A Hymn of Glory Let us Sing”

LBW157

(verses 1, 4 and 7)



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of
3 To whom . . . shin - ing an - gels cry, “Why stand and gaze up -
4 “You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals



world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
on the sky?” Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
of the sky.” Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un - to
 And with his faith - ful fol - l'wers see their Lord as - cend
 "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they say, "this is his glo -
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing in



the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 O Lord, our homeward pathway bend,
 that our unwearied hearts ascend.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Where, seated on your Father's throne,
 you reign as King of kings alone.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 Give us your joy on earth, O Lord,
 in heav'n to be our great reward.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 When throned with you forever, we
 shall praise your name eternally.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 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!

THE NICENE CREED

A Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

C **I believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen:
 And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father;**

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the + resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and ascended and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A You call the whole church on earth to worship and bless you. Empower your church to bear joyful witness to your love made known in Jesus Christ. God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Mend what we have torn in the fabric of creation and replenish and nourish your world. God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A In the majesty of your love, you rule the world with justice and mercy. Give those in authority the spirit of your love, so that all who are hungry and poor receive food and resources, and all people flourish and live in peace. God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You heal those who are sick and bind up the brokenhearted. Attend to the cares and needs of the hurting and hopeless (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You have gathered us in this congregation, enlightened our hearts, and given us a share of the immeasurable greatness of your power. Help us love one another, be reconciled where we are divided, and share the riches of your grace with our neighbors. God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A In raising Christ from the dead, you put your great power to work in the world. Raise us and all who have died in the faith with Christ. We remember saints in our lives and in our community, especially, Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, whom we commemorate today (*and*). Thank you for their gifts among us. God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and ascended Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P In the presence of Christ himself, let us pray as he has taught us.

a **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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Almighty God, the Father, the Son + and the Holy Spirit, bless you and raise you to life, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN ~ "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

LBW363

(verses 1, 2, 4 and 5)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. There are two verses of lyrics provided.

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.

3 Not throned afar, remotely high
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Savior with the father Reigns.

4 In ev'ry insult, rift and war,
Where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
He suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, though ever crucified.

5 Christ is Alive! Ascended Lord—
He rules the world his father made,
Till, in the end, his love adored,
Shall be to all on earth displayed.

THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Proclaim the resurrection and ascension. Alleluia, alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE ~

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006356