He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church



SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH Bozeman, MT

The Ascension of Our Lord – May 24th, 2020

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Lutherans believe that the gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saves sinners, but also a power God uses to create and strengthen faith in Jesus.

To watch and participate in the service <u>click here</u>:



INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

HYMN #171 (v.6)

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

 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!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

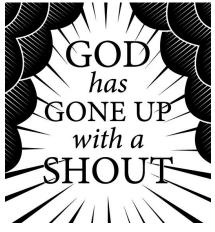
M: Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For 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. 8 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." 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They 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."



HYMN #169

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

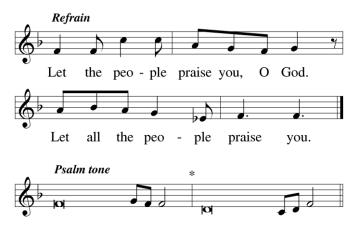


SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

PSALM OF THE DAY



Clap your hands, all you <u>nations</u>;* shout to God with <u>cries</u> of joy.

How awesome is the <u>LORD</u> Most High,* the great King over <u>all</u> the earth!

God reigns over the <u>na</u>tions;* God is seated on his <u>ho</u>ly throne.

Refrain

God has ascended amid <u>shouts</u> of joy,* the LORD amid the sounding of <u>trump</u>ets.

Sing praises to God, sing <u>praises</u>;* sing praises to our King, sing <u>praises</u>.

For God is the King of <u>all</u> the earth;* sing to him a <u>psalm</u> of praise.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son^{*} and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,^{*} is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

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.



HYMN #173

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build



SERMON

Psalm 47

¹Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. ²How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth! ³He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet.

⁴He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.⁵God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

⁶Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. ⁷For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. ⁸God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. ⁹The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

Our offerings are an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work.

You can send your offering via mail to 1710 Vaquero Parkway - Bozeman, MT 59718

Or you can give electronically by clicking this link that will take you to our <u>secure giving site</u>.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Blessed Jesus, you ascended to the right hand of your Father's majesty, power, and glory and now reign as eternal King of kings and Lord of lords.
- C: We praise you for your victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell.
- M: O ascended Prophet, equip your Church to proclaim the precious gospel message of God's love for all the world.
- C: Give courage to our hearts, power to our words, and success to our efforts.
- M: O ascended High Priest, represent us before the Father as his own dear children and heirs. Defend us against Satan's every accusation. Ask for the Father's rich blessings in our everyday lives.
- C: Plead for his mercy and grace on our behalf.

- M: O ascended King, direct the affairs of governments and nations that they may serve the best interest of your Church.
- C: You are our Lord, Master, and King.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: As the disciples lifted their eyes to watch your ascension, so lift our eyes daily to look for your coming again in glory.
- C: Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #341

Crown Him with Many Crowns



Announcements

Serving Us This Week (May 24th – 30th) **Cleaners**: Bakers, Hunziker, Beal, Claunch

Serving Us Next Week (May 31st – June 6th) Cleaners: Linn, Joecks, Jesson, Hutchinson

Special Instructions for Worship

- Wash hands / Use hand sanitizer stations often
- Sit with your family and sit at least 6 feet from another family unit
- Please do not sit in pews that have been "roped off" or places that have been "taped off"
- Congregate Outside (if weather allows) or spread out in the entryway
- Try to fill church from front to back and outside to inside to keep people from having to walk past others
- Please take home your worship folder or throw it away at the end of the service
- Have each person grab bulletin from pile, print off at home or download and use personal device (phone/tablet)
- If you are going to follow along on phone, please make sure the ringer is off
- We highly encourage people to wear masks or bandanas over their face if they are comfortable doing so
- Offerings plates will not be passed but you can donate online or place in offering basket on way in/out
- Pastor will not shake your hands but will greet you in a place where we can be at least 6 feet away.
- Clorox wipe down all pews and high use surfaces after each service
- Please dismiss (leave the church) from the back to front so people don't have to walk past each other.
- We will continue offering both 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM worship services, at least for the near future.
- Check your email often to see updates, devotions, and other resources.
- Next week (May 31st) we will celebrate Pentecost and confirmation Sunday.