

# *Ascension (Observed)*

*May 23 & 24, 2020*



<https://pastorallende.files.wordpress.com/2015/05/ascension-1.jpg?w=600>

# WITNESSES OF THE RESURRECTION

## AS WE GATHER

In Jesus' final appearance to the eleven disciples, He tells them that they will be His witnesses, witnesses of His resurrection. Not only will they be witnesses in familiar places such as Jerusalem and Judea, but they will also be witnesses in Samaria, a foreign land where these Jewish disciples did not care to travel. And finally, the disciples will be witnesses of Jesus' resurrection to the ends of the earth. As we remember Jesus' ascension, we also remember the faithfulness of His disciples to be His witnesses and to go where they were sent, so that we could know the power of Jesus and His resurrection even though we are thousands of miles from Jerusalem.

## 525 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

## MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. *Galatians 5:22-23*

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen and ascended!

**C** Christ is risen and ascended indeed! Alleluia!

**P** Today is a day of celebration, grief, and anticipation.

**C** We celebrate our Lord's triumph and reign.

**P** We grieve that He is not physically present with us.

**C** We anticipate the coming of the promised Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

**P** And we celebrate that His promise to always be with us remains and will never fade away.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Though Christ is ascended on high and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling and reigning over all creation, there have been times when we have lived as though we rule and reign over our own lives. We have lived as though Christ were too far away to matter. But our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him, confess our sins, and receive His forgiveness.

*Silence for meditation.*

- P** Heavenly Father,  
**C** **we confess to You that we are sinful and unclean. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we walk in Your perfect way and delight in Your perfect will. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. Christ is ascended, and all things are under His feet, including sin, death, and the devil. On account of Christ's saving work and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. We are forgiven and restored.**
- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen and ascended!
- C** **Christ is risen and ascended indeed! Alleluia!**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

*Acts 1:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." <sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalms 47; antiphon: v. 5*

- <sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all peoples!  
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
- <sup>2</sup>For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,  
a great king over all the earth.
- <sup>3</sup>He subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup>He chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

<sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

<sup>7</sup>For God is the King of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm!

<sup>8</sup>God reigns over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.

<sup>9</sup>The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.  
For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
he is highly exalted!

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 1:15–23*

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>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, <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup>that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 24:44–53*

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

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup>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.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>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.” <sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and were continually in the temple blessing God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## 830 SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD

- 1 Spread the reign of God the Lord,  
Spoken, written, mighty Word;  
Ev'rywhere His creatures call  
To His heav'nly banquet hall.
- 2 Tell how God the Father's will  
Made the world, upholds it still,  
How His own dear Son He gave  
Us from sin and death to save.
- 3 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,  
Who, to save our human race  
And to pay rebellion's price,  
Gave Himself as sacrifice.
- 4 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n  
Now to guide us on to heav'n,  
Strong and holy, just and true,  
Working both to will and do.
- 5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;  
Ripe the promise of its yield.  
But the reapers, oh, how few  
For the work there is to do!
- 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,  
Rouse to action heart and mind;  
Let the gath'ring nations all  
See Your light and heed Your call.

**SERMON** "Open for Business" Luke 24:44-53

## APOSTLES' CREED

**☩** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition, please respond with the following:*

**P** Let us pray to the Lord,

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

*At the end of the prayer:*

**C** **Amen.**

## 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.

## BENEDICTION

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

## PATRIOTIC MEDLEY

God bless our native land:

Firm may she ever stand through storm and night:

When the wild tempest rave, Ruler of wind and wave,

Do Thou our country save by Thy great might.

My country, 'tis of Thee,

Sweet land of liberty, Of Thee I sing;

Land where my fathers died,

Land of the pilgrims' pride,

From every mountain-side, Let freedom ring.

O beautiful for spacious skies,

For amber waves of grain,

For purple mountains majesty

Above the fruited plain!

America! America! God shed His grace on Thee,

And crown Thy good with brotherhood,

From sea to shining sea.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;

He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;

He has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;

His truth is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

God bless America, Land that I love.

Stand beside her and guide her,

Thru the night with a light from above.

From the mountains, to the prairies,

To the oceans white with foam.

God bless America, My home sweet home,

God bless America, My home sweet home.

## Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

**Invocation** In the name of the Father, and of the Son  $\text{✠}$ , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Introit** (found on front page)

**Catechism Review** (found on front page)

**Meditation:** Portals of Prayer, [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions), Other

### ***Daily Scripture Readings***

Sunday: Numbers 14:1-25; Luke 18:18-34  
Monday: Numbers 14:25-45; Luke 18:35-19:10  
Tuesday: Numbers 16:1-22; Luke 19:11-28  
Wednesday: Numbers 16:23-40; Luke 19:29-48  
Thursday: Numbers 16:41-17:13; Luke 20:1-18  
Friday: Numbers 20:1-21; Luke 20:19-44  
Saturday: Numbers 20:22-21:9; Luke 20:45-21:19

### ***In Our Prayers This Week*** (as of Thursday morning)

Doug, health issues	Al, health issues
Barb	Terri, Cancer
Larry, heart issues	Marilyn, recovering
Glenn, recovery	Jean, health issues
Camilla, 6-year-old with brain cancer	Chris, sick
Jack, ongoing health issues	Denise, addictions
Judy, cancer	Tim, recovering
Eunice, Health Issues	Terry
Kathy's mother	Jim, Alzheimer's
Roger, Hospice	Vonna's mother
Jerry	Peter
Tony	Jeanette

Sidney, granddaughter of Steinkes with medical issues

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand.

**Our Savior Families:** Richard, Curtis, Vicki, Bill & Julie, Mike, Lois, Pastor Chuck, Cody

**Hymn of the Week** "Spread the Reign of God the Lord" LSB 830

**Collect** (found on front page)

**Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction**