

Grow ... Go ... Gather
May 29, 2022



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
(LCMS)

2040 Oakwood Avenue N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

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Offerings to the Lord: stjamesgr.com/give

The Seventh Sunday of Easter The Ascension of Our Lord (Observed)

Divine Service 5 (p. 213ff.)

As you enter the sanctuary, please keep talking to a minimal so that you, and those around you, can prepare your hearts and minds for worship by praying, or by reading hymns, or focusing your thoughts on the preservice music. Thank you!

*Why do we call this service a “divine” service? In this worship service, and really at every worship service, God is the one who is serving us. God gives His gifts to us through Word and Sacrament, and we receive His gifts in faith and respond to Him in prayer and praise. In the Introduction to *Lutheran Worship*, it states, “The rhythm of our worship is from him to us, and then from us back to him. He gives his gifts, and together we receive and extol them. We build one another up as we speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Our Lord gives us his body to eat and his blood to drink. Finally, his blessing moves us out into our calling, where his gifts have their fruition.” (p. 6)*

Preservice Music, The Call to Worship, and Welcome

The Opening Hymn: LSB 493, “A Hymn of Glory
Let Us Sing”

- 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!
- D 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!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553

The Invocation, Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus

Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 110:1, 4–5; antiphon: Psalm 47:5

God has gone up | with a shout,*
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.
The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my | right
hand,*
until I make your enemies your | footstool."
The LORD has sworn and will not | change his
mind,*
"You are a priest forever after the order of
Mel- | chizedek."
The Lord is at your | right hand;*
he will shatter kings on the day | of his
wrath.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**
God has gone up | with a shout,*
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

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.

The First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And 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; 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, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed 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 and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and 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."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A Hymn of Praise: "Lift High the Name of Jesus"
(Getty)

Verse 1

Lift high the name of Jesus
Of Jesus our King
Make known the power of His grace
The beauty of His peace
Remember how His mercy reached
And we cried out to Him
He lifted us to solid ground
To freedom from our sin

Chorus

*Oh sing my soul
And tell all He's done
'Til the earth and heavens are filled with His glory*

Verse 2

Lift high the name of Jesus
Of Jesus our Lord
His pow'r in us is greater than
Is greater than this world
To share the reason for our hope
To serve with love and grace
That all who see Him shine through us
Might bring the Father praise (Chorus)

Verse 3

Lift high the name of Jesus
Of Jesus our Light
No other name on earth can save
Can raise us a soul to life
He opens up our eyes to see
The harvest He has grown
We labor in His fields of grace
As He leads sinners home (Chorus)

The Epistle

Ephesians 1:15–23

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that 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, ¹⁸having 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked 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 one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

A Song: How Majestic Is Your Name

Chorus

Oh Lord our Lord how majestic is
Your name in all the earth
Oh Lord our Lord how majestic is
Your name in all the earth
Oh Lord we praise Your name
Oh Lord we magnify Your name
Prince of Peace Mighty God
Oh Lord God Almighty

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The Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44–53

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the
twenty-fourth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁴Then [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.”
⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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.” ⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried

up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon Hymn: LSB 492, "On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"

- 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.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604-40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873-1964, alt.
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553

The Sermon

The Offering

The Prayer of the Church and Lord's Prayer

A Hymn: LSB 467, "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"

- 1 Awake, my heart, with gladness,
See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light
Our spirit wings its flight.
- 2 The foe in triumph shouted
When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed,
His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free;
In glorious victory
He who is strong to save
Has triumphed o'er the grave.
- 3 This is a sight that gladdens—
What peace it doth impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son
In love for me has won.

- 6 Now I will cling forever
 To Christ, my Savior true;
 My Lord will leave me never,
 Whate'er He passes through.
 He rends death's iron chain;
 He breaks through sin and pain;
 He shatters hell's grim thrall;
 I follow Him through all.
- 7 He brings me to the portal
 That leads to bliss untold,
 Whereon this rhyme immortal
 Is found in script of gold:
 "Who there My cross has shared
 Finds here a crown prepared;
 Who there with Me has died
 Shall here be glorified."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Announcements/Blessing for Online Worshippers

The Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 216

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that

whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Institution

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei (Sung)

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

The Distribution (During the Distribution you are invited to sing, LSB 635, "O Gracious Lord, I Firmly

Am Believing” and LSB 630, “Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling” and)

LSB 635, “O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing”

- 1 O gracious Lord, I firmly am believing
Your boundless love will bless each
faithful soul,
As from this altar we are here receiving
Your body and Your blood to make us
whole,
Your body and Your blood to make us
whole.

- 2 Lord, I have sinned, a thousand times
offending;
My thankless thoughts and words and
deeds erase,
To me Your hand of mercy now extending,
O God, my Savior, I implore Your grace,
O God, my Savior, I implore Your grace.

- 3 You see my sin yet seat me at Your table;
Lord, as a guest, I surely am the least:
Unclean, unfit, of worthy deeds unable—
My heart prepare for this most holy
feast,
My heart prepare for this most holy
feast.

- 4 O Lamb of God, my faithful, loving Savior,
You I embrace in faith and holy love;
Grant me the strength to show by my
behavior
A life now hidden in Your reign above,
A life now hidden in Your reign above.

- 5 Heavenly Bread, my life and benediction,
This cup You give can take away each
ill.
Come and relieve my soul from all
affliction;
Calm ev'ry sigh until my heart is still,
Calm ev'ry sigh until my heart is still.

Text: Spanish or Latin American, 20th cent.; tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955
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LSB 630, "Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling"

- 1 Now, my tongue, the myst'ry telling
Of the glorious body sing,
And the blood, all price excelling,
Which the Gentiles' Lord and King,
Once on earth among us dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.
- 2 Giv'n for us, and condescending
To be born for us below,
He with us in converse blending
Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow,
Till He closed with wondrous ending
His most patient life of woe.
- 3 That last night at supper lying
Mid the Twelve, His chosen band,
Jesus, with the Law complying,
Keeps the feast its rites demand;
Then, more precious food supplying,
Gives Himself with His own hand.
- 4 Word made flesh, the bread He taketh,
By His word His flesh to be;
Wine His sacred blood He maketh,
Though the senses fail to see;

Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.

D 5 Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
Honor, thanks, and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too His love confessing
Who from both with both is One.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225–1274; tr. The Hymnal 1940
Text: © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553

The Post-Communion Prayer

Benedicamus

LSB 218

P Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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 T give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn: LSB 494, “See, The Lord Ascends in Triumph” (Sung to LSB 803)

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.
- 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.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, abr., alt.
 Text: Public domain

The Postlude

Events of the Week: May 29-June

Monday: OFFICE CLOSED
 Wed: 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Darrell
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. ISJ Golf Tournament
 Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Gizmo Devotion on FB Page
 9:30 a.m. WORSHIP at St James & FBL.
 11:00 a.m. Bible study

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: May 22, 2022

General Fund	\$2,375.00
Plate Collections	\$24.00
On-line giving	\$290.00
Total:	\$2,689.00

Announcements

Nursery Available: Parents, we have a nursery that you can use during the service. There is a tablet with speakers located in the nursery that livestreams our worship service. If it is not operational, ask one of the ushers to help you turn it on.

Two Sundays ago, we celebrated Dr. Rachel Palmer's induction into the Concordia University Ann Arbor Athletic Hall of Fame. Not only was Dr. Palmer inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, but a scholarship has been established in Dr. Palmer's name. Scholarships will be granted to Concordia students who are studying to be Lutheran school teachers and who are part of the athletic program. studying to be a Lutheran school teacher. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, please send a check made out to "CUAA" to:

Concordia University
Attn: Donor Relations
4090 Geddes Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

On the "memo" line of the check write: "*Coach Palmer Project.*"

Dear St James family,

Thank you so much for celebrating my induction into the Concordia Ann Arbor University Athletic Hall of Fame. I loved the Concordia sports cake and thanks to so many of you for your personal greetings, cards, gift cards and Facebook posts. Also, a sincere thank you to those who contributed to the scholarship in my name at Concordia. Your financial support will be a blessing to future teachers in our Lutheran schools.

Rachel Palmer

Stop the Abortion Amendment! A committee called the Reproductive Freedom for All is working to amend the Michigan Constitution. Led by Planned Parenthood and the ACLU, this committee's amendment would create a new unlimited and unregulated right to abortion in the state of Michigan. You are urged not to sign the amendment. Pray that this committee is frustrated in their attempts to get the Abortion Amendment passed into law.

Seasonal Residential Staff Positions - Available at Camp Concordia, these positions, *designed for recent high school graduates and college-aged students*, live and work at our Lutheran Camp on a chain of lakes here in Western Michigan, helping make life-changing camp experiences happen. Paid positions (Health Officer & Kitchen Assistant) as well as weekly volunteer opportunities available. Apply at [Use your talents to make a difference at Camp Concordia!](#)

The Dorcas Society invites all women to join us for lunch on Thursday, June 9 at 1 pm. We will meet at Cheers Restaurant on Plainfield Avenue. If her schedule allows, Karen Swanson will join us and we can personally thank her for her faithful service to our group. Contact Rachel Palmer (616-883-6949) with questions.

Paper copies of the June/July newsletter are available on the table in the lobby of the church.



The LWML MI District Convention is scheduled for July 7-9th under the banner “My Sheep Hear My Voice” John 10:27. Carol B., Marjie, Grace, and Sandra are planning on attending.

If you would like to contribute to a **convention in-gatherings** there are **two options. The LWML is collecting:**

* New or gently used children’s clothing, including early teens to be given to **Orphan Grain Train.**

* Walmart or Target gift cards to be given to **seminarians at our Ft. Wayne and St. Louis Seminaries.** (Write the amount of the donation on the gift card.) Please, give ingathering donations to one of the ladies who are attending.

It's time to say Cheers to a terrific year of LWML!

- Cheers to Bible Study!
- Cheers to Fellowship!
- Cheers to Service Projects!
- Cheers to Mites!
- **Cheers to our Ladies!**

To celebrate, we are headed out to lunch at *Cheers* on Plainfield on Sunday, June 5th at 12:30. Please, let Sandra know a.s.a.p. if you would like to attend. (*Please, note this outing is separate from the Dorcas event scheduled for June 9th! Cheers to that lovely gathering of St. James’ ladies as well!*)

Those who serve Today:

Deacons: Craig Popma and Bryan Ensing

Ushers: Caleb Butler

Lector: Charlie Kirk

Organist/pianist: Beth McKay

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John Weiss, Marjie Weiss

May Altar Guild: Irene Talen