

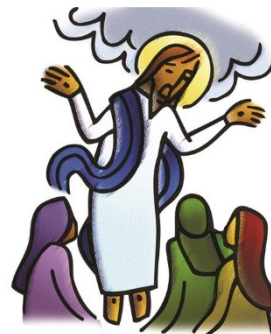
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Ascension of Our Lord

May 16, 2021

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4

Prelude Music



Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: Blessed Are Those (Who Do Believe)

Peterson

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe.
Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.
Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe.
Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

Some people doubt what they have not seen. They will not blindly follow what is said.
Others view this as a weakness but it can authenticate instead.
See my nail pierced hands. Come touch my wounded side.
I give what you need for faith as you give your trust completely my Spirit will guide.

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe.
Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.
Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe.
Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

As I've been given so I give you to the world, forgive the sins of all,
bringing hope to doubting faces, tearing down where hatred builds a wall.
And as you bring life to places here and far,
always keep in mind you are not loved for what you do but for whose you are.

(continued on next page)

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Greeting

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!

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.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,
C: Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading: 1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

9If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. 10Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. 11And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

L: The Word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia

Sinclair

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53 / Acts 1:1-11

Luke: On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.

Acts: Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

P: A reading from... **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

[Luke writes:] ¹ In 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor David Sprang

Song of the Day: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (*please see back page for music*)

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the Church / Sign of the Peace

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion

Communion Songs: **Bread of Life from Heaven** (*please see back page for music*)
 We Come to the Hungry Feast (*please see back page for music*)

Final Blessing

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Sending Song: I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (*please see back page for music*)

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

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1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith - ful fol-l'wers
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
sky." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.

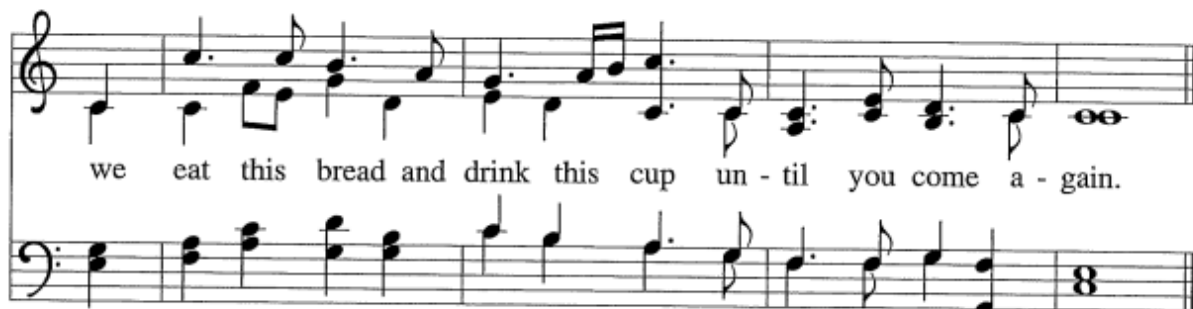


lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

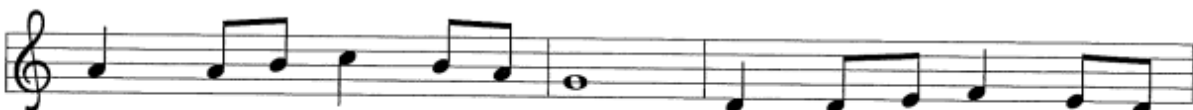
Bread of Life from Heaven

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Refrain



1	Break	now	the	bread	of	Christ's	sac - ri - fice;		giv - ing
2	Seek	not	the	food	that	will	pass a - way;		set your
3	Love	as	the	one	who,	in	love for you,		gave him -
4	Dwell	in	the	one	who	now	dwells in you;		make your
5	Drink	of	this	cup	and	de -	clare his death;		eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones,	gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be
hearts on the food that en - dures.		Come, learn the true and the
self for the life of the world.		Come to the one who is
home in the life - giv - ing Word.		Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn;		trust his re - turn and, with



sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that the full - ness of life may be yours.
food for you,	that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
One of God,	and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one in whom you are re - born.

Refrain

We Come to the Hungry Feast

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- 1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HUNGRY FEAST

77889

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

860



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual

JESUS LIFTED ME
Irregular



Bethlehem LUTHERAN CHURCH

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May 16, 2021

Wear Red for Pentecost on Sunday, May 23rd

Altar Flowers have returned! Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. You may use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the Administration Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

Today's altar flowers are donated by: *by Barbara Oster in celebration of her Bethlehem Church family.*

Pr Ruth Overdier has given Bethlehem many books from Pr Fred's collection. Please feel free to take what you would like from the table in the area between the Gathering Space and Narthex.

"Zoom Bible Study" gathering via Zoom is on a break right now. Our current study is on Paul's letter to the Philippians from Augsburg Fortress. Besides the thought-provoking discussions, we also have great conversation and fellowship. Please contact Pr. Paul if you are interested in joining.

The BLC book club will meet via ZOOM at 5:30 on Tues May 25. We will be discussing This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger. The author lives in Minnesota where BLC book club founders Dave and Laurie Gabel now reside. They have graciously agreed to lead the discussion of this amazing book. If you are not already on the list and want to be added to the group for May just send your email to Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net.

Summer is just around the corner and here at Bethlehem we're planning a new exciting VBS

Adventure not only for your kids...but for the entire family! Are you looking for a safe, friendly and fun environment that you can all enjoy together? Then sign up today for Great Bible Reef One Day VBS! This outdoor fun-filled vacation bible school is for the young and the young at heart for one day only on Sunday, June 27th 2PM - 5:45PM.

Registration is going on now until the June 13th deadline! For more information or to register for VBS, go to myvbs.org/blcvbs2021 or reach out to Annie Slabaugh at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880 extension 16!

The MAY issue of the STAR is ready! This is an early publication so we can include Holy Week and Easter information. Feel free to check online at www.bethlehemtc.org < About Us > "The Online Bethlehem Star" or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>

The outdoor "**Shooting STAR Dispenser**" at BLC is now full with several paper publications, including the May STAR and the current week's worship folder/bulletin. If you would like a copy of a DVD, please contact the church and one will be produced for you.

Drive My Way, the driver's ed school using Bethlehem's facility is in need of experienced driver's ed teachers. If you are experienced or know someone who is experienced, please contact Mark or Ashley Ingraham, the Father/Daughter Team; Drive My Way Driver Education; (231)492-6612. Time and pay are negotiable.

Christ in Our Home Devotionals for available for April/May/June. They can be picked up at the name tag table on Sunday mornings, from the STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion. The newest *Living Lutheran* magazine is also available in the same locations.

A big thank you to those who have turned in Oleson's receipts. For 2020, we received a total of \$545.66. Please continue saving your Oleson's receipts for Bethlehem. Please drop them off in the bin under the mailbox counter. Thanks.

Calling all Knitters!! There is an overabundance of yarn skeins in the bin under the mailboxes in the narthex. PLEASE feel free to grab some to make hats, mittens, prayer shawls, etc.! The yarn is sorted according to kind, so you can be sure to find something appropriate for whatever project you have in mind. Questions? Call Betty R. (947-1013)

Keep "Hope Spreading": Don't forget our blog "Hope Spreads Further" is still going strong! We've had many very inspiring entries and hope to read more. We invite you to help us build this blog or just read current entries at <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/hope-spreads-further>. Reach out to Pastor Paul at paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org if you'd like to contribute to the blog!

The church calendar has returned below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231-9437-9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.

CALENDAR

Monday, May 17

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

Tuesday, May 18

9:00am—Property Work Group

10:00am—Zoom Staff Meeting

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

6:00pm—Council Meeting

7:00pm—Lautner SG (Offsite)

Wednesday, May 19

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

Thursday, May 20

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)