

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
***COME TO RECEIVE – GO TO SHARE***  
***May 21, 2023***

## The Ascension of Our Lord

### Pre-Service Music: O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire

Grace Choir, 11 am only

Arrangement by David N. Johnson

*Stand*

## ✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

### Hymn of Invocation: 538 Praise Be to Christ

LSB 538

#### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

#### Exhortation

151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel/Sit*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

#### Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

#### Absolution

LSB 151

#### Declaration of Grace

LSB 151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this

**C** Amen.

good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

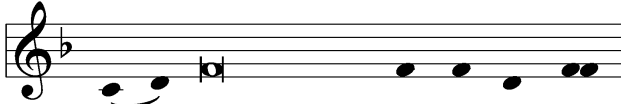
*Stand*

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

**Kyrie**

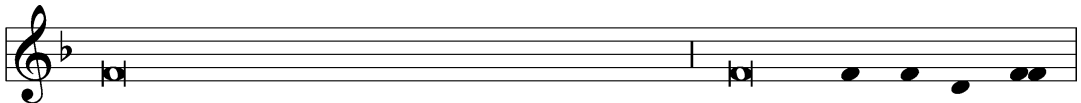
LSB 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.




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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



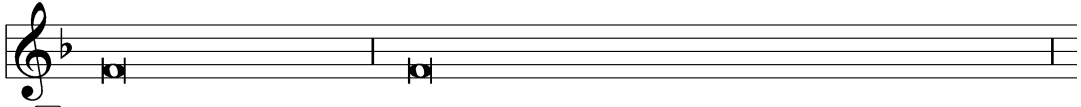
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



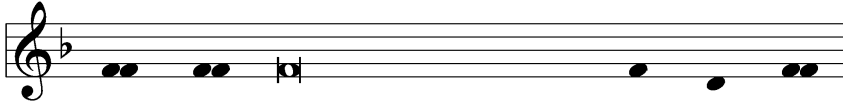
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 154*



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

*Ascension*

**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.

*Sit*

## 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.”

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## 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.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## 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.**

*Sit*

## Children's Message

*11 am only*

## Hymn of the Day: 491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

*LSB 491*

*st. 1 – Grace Choir*

*st. 2 - Men*

*st. 3 – Women*

*st. 4 - All*

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Apostles' Creed

**G** **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**

- A** O Lord, Your Son has ascended to sit at Your right hand until You make all enemies His footstool. Fix our eyes on Him, ruling in the midst of His enemies, that we may have no fear of them but abide in His peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Merciful God, You have put all things under Jesus' feet and given Him as head to the Church. Have mercy on the congregations where You gather Your people. Give Your pastors wisdom and insight to hold fast to the message of repentance and the forgiveness of sins. Open the ears of all who hear, that we may rejoice to be Christ's Body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Heavenly Father, Your Son fulfilled everything written about Him in the Law of Moses, the prophets and the Psalms. Open our minds to understand the Scriptures, that we may grow in faith, wisdom and knowledge of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Almighty God, You have raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at Your right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion. Guide all such authorities on earth, that they govern wisely, operate with integrity and maintain peace after Your good pleasure. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Lord of all, look with care upon those who suffer with illness and injury, especially those in our midst including... we also ask you to comfort all those who mourn. We ask you to look in love and kindness all those in any kind of need according to your good and gracious will. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer**
- A** O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. To You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**



## Offering

## Offertory

*Stand*

# ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

## Preface

160

**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.**

## Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

161

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. 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.

- G** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- G** **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 Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**G** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

163



**G** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Distribution of Holy Communion

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION AT GRACE LUTHERAN

*We believe, teach and confess that those who commune receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord---in, with and under the bread and wine---for forgiveness of sins and strengthening in faith and life. All baptized, believing Christian guests are invited to examine themselves, as exhorted by St. Paul. Those who are in agreement with this statement are invited to join us at the Altar. If you have a question regarding this, please ask to speak with the Pastor or one of the Elders.*

*Both individual and common cups are available. Also, if you would prefer to receive non-alcoholic white grape juice, there are individual cups in the center of the tray.*

*Please hand your completed family attendance card to the usher on your way to receive communion.*

## Distribution Hymn: 597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

LSB 597

## Distribution Hymn: 821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

LSB 821

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

### The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

**G** Amen.

### Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

### Benediction

LSB 166

**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.

**G** Amen.

### Hymn to Depart: 525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525

### Closing Response

**A** Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### Acknowledgments

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