

# *Our Saviour Lutheran Church*

*Where we gather to celebrate God's love for us revealed in Jesus!*

*Pastor Steve Chambers (250) 228-9398*

## *Ascension Sunday*

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

*May 12, 2024*

*If you are a visitor today, welcome!  
We're glad you're here to worship.  
Please sign the guest book as you leave  
(it's on a stand, near the church office).  
If you would like to leave an offering,  
please place it in the basket at the rear of  
the worship area, before or after the  
service. We hope you will come back  
and join us again!*



## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

- P** In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P** Even more, Christ has ascended into heaven, where He is now seated at God's right hand.
- C** **Because He suffered and died for us all, repentance and forgiveness is being preached in His name to all nations.**
- P** We are witnesses of these things.
- C** **We know the hope to which our Saviour has called us—the riches of His glorious inheritance among His holy people.**  
*(Luke 24:46-47, 51; Ephesians 1:18, 20)*

## OPENING SONG: “Lord, I Lift Your Name On High”

Lord, I lift Your name on high;  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises  
I’m so glad You’re in my life;  
I’m so glad You came to save us

*Chorus: You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky  
Lord, I lift Your name on high!*

Rick Founds/© Maranatha Music . Used by permission CCLI#355572

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Dear friends: Throughout the Easter season, we focused on the power of Jesus’ resurrection. Today, we celebrate His ascension. Although His promise to return at the End gives us great hope, we miss His bodily presence among us. Our life as His disciples is full of trouble, and suffering of many kinds. Come, let us confess our sin, so that the risen and ascended Lord Jesus may once again assure us of His mercy. *(silence for reflection)*

P Heavenly Father,

C **Have mercy on us, Your needy children here on earth. We need Your forgiveness and help every day. For we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as Your people, we take refuge in Your infinite mercy, seeking Your grace on account of Christ and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Forgive me all my sins and lead me to everlasting life. Amen.**

P As Jesus Himself said, His suffering and resurrection are the basis for the hope that is preached in His name to all people. Do you believe that the forgiveness I share is truly yours, because of Jesus?

C **Yes, I believe.**

P On the basis of your confession, 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.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**SONG OF PRAISE: “He Is Exalted”**

**He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him**

**He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name**

**He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign**

**Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name**

**He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!**

Twila Paris/1995 StraightWay Music.CCLI #355572

## **GREETING AND PRAYER**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, Quicken and sustain our joy at the ascension of Your only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, into the heavens. Enable us also to ascend in heart and mind, and continually dwell with Him there. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **THE FIRST READING** *Acts 1:1-11*

**A** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter:

**A** In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach <sup>2</sup>until the day He was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles He had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After His suffering, He presented Himself to them 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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For John baptised with water, but in a few days, you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.’

<sup>6</sup>Then they gathered round Him and asked Him, ‘Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’

<sup>7</sup>He said to them: ‘It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.’

<sup>9</sup> After He said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> ‘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.’

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **THE EPISTLE READING** *Ephesians 1:15-23*

A A reading from Paul’s letter to the Christians in Ephesus, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter:

A <sup>15</sup> For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, <sup>16</sup> I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. <sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, <sup>19</sup> and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24:44-53*

P The Holy Gospel according to St Luke the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter:

### C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P He [Jesus] said to them [His disciples], “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.’

<sup>45</sup>Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He told them, “This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>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.’

<sup>50</sup>When He had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>Then they worshipped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup>And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

### “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

*(Lutheran Worship #149) (verses 1, 2, 6, 7)*

## SERMON: “Hen and Chicks”

*(based on Acts 1:1-11)*

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you—how often I have longed to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you were not willing!”  
(Luke 13:34)

*(Mosaic: Dominus Flevit church, Mt. of Olives, Jerusalem)*



## THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made—who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**OFFERING:** *You are welcome to place your offering in the basket at the rear of the church, as you enter or leave worship. During the Offertory, these gifts will be presented at the altar—along with our thanks for all the gifts God’s people give, including online, and on other occasions.*

## OFFERTORY: “Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

*Lutheran Worship pages 143-144*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence,  
And take not Your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
And uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(Each petition ends: P Lord, in Your mercy, C Hear our prayer.)*

## THE LORD'S SUPPER *Please read before communing.*

- We believe that, in Holy Communion, Christ is here, truly present, body and blood with the bread and wine.
- We believe that as we come to the Supper having confessed our sins, we receive what Jesus offers: forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.
- We believe God desires all adult baptized Christians, who share this understanding, and trust that Jesus can forgive them, to come to His table.
- If this is your belief, we welcome you to receive the Lord's Supper here at this, the Lord's Table.

\*The Lord's Supper is for young people who are able to self-evaluate and have received instruction as to its meaning and purpose.

\* *Alcohol-free wine, and gluten-free bread, are available as indicated by the Pastor.*

### PREFACE

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, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God... with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### SANCTUS *LSB 208*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

# 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.

# THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C Amen.

## AGNUS DEI *LSB 210*

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

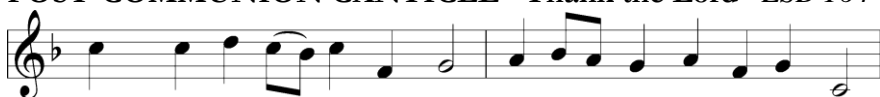




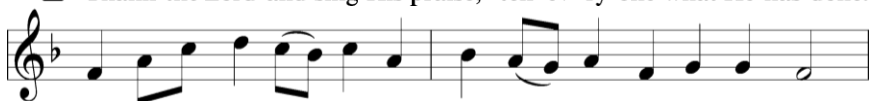
## DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

“Beautiful Saviour” (*Lutheran Worship* #507)

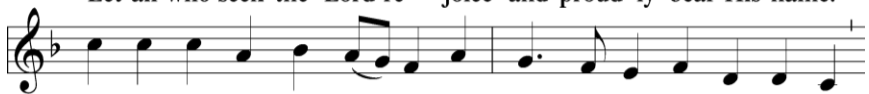
## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord” *LSB* 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

### GREETING AND BENEDICTION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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 favour and T give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN: “For All The Faithful Women”

(LSB 855) (including v. 2 as below)



1 For all the faith-ful wom - en Who served in days of old,  
3 O God, for saints and ser - vants, Those named and those un-known  
△ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



To You shall thanks be giv - en; To all, their sto - ry told.  
In whom through all the a - ges Your light of glo - ry shone,  
All praise the Ho - ly Spir - it, Who binds the Church in one!



They served with strength and glad - ness In tasks Your wis - dom gave.  
We of - fer glad thanks-giv - ing And fer - vent prayer we raise  
With saints who went be - fore us, With saints who wit - ness still,



To You their lives bore wit - ness, Pro - claimed Your pow'r to save.  
That, faith - ful in Your ser - vice, Our lives may sing Your praise.  
We sing glad Al - le - lu - ias And strive to do Your will.

- 2 **We sing Your praise for mothers  
Who love and serve us all  
From cradle to adulthood—  
It's such a special call.  
Pour out on them Your mercy,  
Sustain them in Your grace;  
Make ev'ry home and fam'ly  
A warm and joyous place.**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, alt. Tune: Finnish, 19th cent. Text: © 1993, 1997, 2003  
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P Go in peace and serve the risen Lord.  
C Thanks be to God!

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**In our Parish this week:**

Sun. May 12	10:00 AM	Worship with Communion
Mon. May 13	2:00 PM	Ladies' Sing & Share
Wed – Fri.	9:00–1:00 PM	Church office OPEN
Wed. May 15	9:00-1:00 PM	Cookie Drop-Off
	2:00 PM	Ladies' Talent Tea

*\*Pastor away at Lutheran Bible Translators' meeting Thursday-Monday, May 16-20*