



Sunday, May 16, 2021

9:00 am Livestream

GATHERING

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

GATHERING HYMN

"Oh, Love, How Deep"

GREETING

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

A reading from Acts.

[Luke writes:] In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After 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. While 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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But 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." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This

Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

¹Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a joyful sound.

²**For the LORD Most High is to be feared:
a great king over all the earth,**

³who subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet;

⁴**who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

⁵God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

⁶**Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

⁷For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with a song.

⁸**God reigns over the nations;
God is enthroned on high.**

⁹The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

A reading from Ephesians

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 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 age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Rise, O Sun of Righteousness”

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The response is:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

MEAL

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

OFFERING PRAYER

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

BENEDICTION

HYMN

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Pr. Jenn Collins

Pr. Justin Smoot

Joel Freiberg - Pianist

Sue Paisar - Layreader & Vocalist

Technical Support

Troy Radtke

Mark Clark

Joel Freiberg

Bob Wiederhoeft

Altar Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Denise Skare in honor of her and Don’s wedding anniversary.

Thank you for your offerings and continued support!

Now more than ever we are grateful for a gift of any amount you might share to further support the ministry of Saint Andrew. What you share makes a difference as we seek to be “open to all”. For the many ways you give, thank you.

MAY 13, 2021
ASCENSION OF
OUR LORD



God's promise to empower the church.

ASCENSION DAY BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Ascension Day observance.

Thursday	Luke 24:44-53	The ascension of Jesus
	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus is ascended
	Psalms 47	God rules the nations
	Ephesians 1:15-23	Paul's prayer for the church

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR ASCENSION DAY

And see, I [Jesus] am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Luke 24:49 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Ascension Day:

Almighty God, keep us open to your presence and guide us into the world to live as your people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

With this gift of food we give you praise with loud songs of joy for all our days. Amen.
(Psalm 47:1)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Spirit of Christ strengthen you and lead you each day in peace.



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MAY 13, 2021

HYMN FOR ASCENSION DAY

Lord of the Dance



ASCENSION DAY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When you get up each day, how do you decide what you will do that day?
- Our lives are filled with many possibilities for action and reflection. How does the Holy Spirit help you decide what is important for your daily life?
- Are you attentive to God's presence in your life? If so, how?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 24:44-53.

The ascension of Jesus is part of our creedal faith, but not given a lot of attention in the teaching of the church. Is it about Jesus' power and authority? Is it about the coming of the Spirit to continue Jesus' work in daily life? Is it about the mission of the church? Yes, all of that is true—with an emphasis on the continuation of God's presence and promise to empower the church. What is so fascinating about the end of the Gospel of Luke is that it seems to be missing an ending. The disciples are in the temple worshipping and blessing God, period! That's it. No clear mission statement, just worshipping and waiting. That presents an important point linked to the ascension. Jesus now rules with power given to the church, the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:23). We as the church now live by worshipping and waiting to be led by God's power. We as the body of Christ follow Jesus into the world by waiting and being attentive to God's leading, not ours. As you await Christ's coming again, how may God's presence in your life lead you each day?

Pray: **Come Holy Spirit; come Lord Jesus. May we as your church listen to your leading for our lives and your work of grace and mercy. Amen.**

SERVICE



Recall how you are strengthened and led by the power of Jesus, the one who is above all rule and authority on earth (Ephesians 1:21). Who would you like to bless with the power of God's love in Christ? Think of some creative ways to show God's love to that person today.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



At his Ascension, Jesus was "lifted up" into heaven. We sometimes talk about being "lifted up" emotionally by experiences we have in life. The encouragement of others is uplifting for us. Think or talk about people who have encouraged you or brought you joy. In celebration of Jesus' ascension, make and decorate a cloud shaped card. Write a prayer of thanks to God inside the card, place it next to your bed, and say the prayer tonight.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org