

He was taken up to heaven.

ACTS 1:2



Ascension Day (Observed)

9 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

May 24, 2020

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
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Welcome! On this Seventh Sunday of Easter, we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven 40 days after His resurrection to take His rightful place in power and glory. Jesus promises that he will not leave us as orphans but instead be with us in Word and Sacrament. By these means, He sends His Holy Spirit and remains present in and through His Church. Jesus also promises to return in glory and usher in a restored creation.

+ **Order of Worship** +

Song

“Here I Am to Worship”

Invocation and Easter Greeting

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Versicles

P: Alleluia! Christ reigns as King, seated at the right hand of the Father.

C: **Our Lord has promised: “I will be with you always to the end of the age.”**

P: All of His enemies, he has placed under His feet.

C: **Our Lord has promised: “I will not leave you as orphans. I will come to you.”**

P: God has ascended with shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

C: **Our Lord promised: “I am going to the Father ... And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.”**

P: The Lord is at His right hand; he will crush kings on the day of His wrath.

C: **Our Lord has promised: “I will be with you always to the end of the age.”**

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking 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.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

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 deserve 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 to 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit *(Psalm 110:1, 4-5; antiphon, Psalm 47:5)*

P: God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**C: The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”**

P: The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind,
“You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek.”

**C: 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 beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

P: God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

Song “Your Love, O Lord”

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.

He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 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; 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, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed 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 and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” 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. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 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.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked 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 one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

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." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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."

And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

P: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C: **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C: **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

The Ten Commandments

C: **You shall have no other gods.**

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

The Ten Commandments (continued)

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or his maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Apostles' Creed

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.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.**

Hymn

"Because He Lives"

Sermon

Offertory

"Offering"

Prayer of the Church

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the holy Christian church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For seasonable weather, and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who are married, that they may fulfill their vocation to honor, cherish and love their spouse; for those who are single and desire to be married, that God would provide companionship according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those in distress of mind, body or soul, for the sick and the dying, and all those who have requested our prayers, including _____, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Collect of the Day

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.

Collect for the Word

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear, mark, and take them to heart that by the power and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger, and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Blessing and Easter Greeting

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Closing Song

“All the Earth Will Sing”