



Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

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Pastors:

John J. Petersen
Luke Ulrich

Principal:

Adam Pavelchik

Ascension Day Service

May 13, 2021
6:30 pm



*“No more the way is hidden,
Since Christ our Head arose:
No more to man forbidden,
The road to heav’n that goes;
Our Lord is gone before,
Yet here He will not leave us,
But soon in heav’n receive us:
He opens wide the door.”*

(ELH 391 “Lo, God to Heaven Ascendeth,” vs. 3)

Welcome! In the name of our risen and ascended Savior! We welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us. If you are a guest, please fill out a “**Get Connected!**” card (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack and on the “Welcome” table). We invite you to worship with us again soon.

Order of Service: Vespers

(ELH, p. 120)

~**Prelude** — *Preservice music & opportunity for prayer*

*(See “Prayers for Worship”
—ELH p. 40)*

~**Hymn 389, vv. 1-4, 7** *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

1. A hymn of glory let us sing!

New songs throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ, by a road before untrod.

Ascendeth to the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. The holy apostolic band

Upon the Mount of Olives stand.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And with His followers they see

Jesus’ resplendent majesty.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. To whom the angels, drawing nigh,

“Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”

Alleluia! Alleluia!

“This is the Savior!” thus they say,

“This is His noble triumph-day.”

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. *“Again shall ye behold Him so
As ye today have seen Him go.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!
“In glorious pomp ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

7. *O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to Thee let earth accord,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Who art, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia*

~Confession of Sin

(ELH p. 120)

P: Dearly beloved! We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

C: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~Versicles

(ELH p. 120-121)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪ And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: forevermore. Amen. Alleluia

~**Men's Choir** -Psalm 47

Refrain: Let the people praise you, O God. Let all the people praise you.

*Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.
How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth!
God reigns over the nations; God is seated on His holy throne. (Refrain)*

God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth; sing to Him a psalm of praise.

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. (Refrain)

~**Epistle Lesson**

Ephesians 1:15-23 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which 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 principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

~**Gospel Lesson**

Luke 24:44-53 He said to them, "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." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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." When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

~Hymn 392 *On Christ's Ascension I Now Build*

*1. On Christ's ascension I now build
The hope of mine ascension;
This hope alone has ever stilled
All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there full well
I know His members are to dwell
When Christ shall come and call them.*

*2. Since He returned to claim His throne,
Great gifts for men obtaining,
My heart shall rest in Him alone,
No other rest remaining;
For where my Treasure went before,
There all my thoughts shall ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.*

*3. O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling Thine ascension,
That I may ever walk with Thee,
Adorning Thy redemption;
And then, when all my days shall cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.*

~Sermon Text

Acts 1:1-11 The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John

truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

~Sermon Theme

“You Shall Be Witnesses to Me”

1. *Jesus’s disciples had the facts needed to witness of Him.*
2. *They also had the power to witness.*
3. *They also had the promise to witness.*
4. *So do we!*

~Men’s Choir -Hymn 394, v. 1, 2, 4 *We Thank Thee, Jesus, Dearest Friend* (arr. L. Lenel)

*1. We thank Thee, Jesus, dearest Friend,
That Thou didst into heav’n ascend.
O blessed Savior, bid us live
And strength to soul and body give.
Alleluia.*

*2. Ascended to His throne on high,
Hid from our sight, yet always nigh,
He rules and reigns at God’s right hand
And has all pow’r at His command.
Alleluia.*

*4. We therefore heartily rejoice
And sing His praise with cheerful voice;
He captive led captivity,
From bitter death He set us free.
Alleluia.*

~**Kyrie** — *“Lord, Have Mercy”*

(ELH p. 124)

C: ♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

~**Lord’s Prayer**

(ELH p. 125; Mt. 6:9-13)

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 pow’r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

~**Collect for Ascension**

(ELH p. 157)

P: O Jesus Christ, almighty Son of God, You are no longer in humiliation here on earth, but are seated at the right hand of Your Father, Lord over all things: We beseech You, send us Your Holy Spirit; give Your Church pious pastors, preserve Your Word, control and restrain the devil and all who would oppress us; mightily uphold Your kingdom, until all Your enemies have been put under Your feet, that we may hold the victory over sin, death, and the devil; through You, who live and reign with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. **C:** ♪ **Amen.**

~**Benedicamus** — *Call for blessing*

(ELH p. 84; 2 Cor. 13:14)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

~**Benediction** — *Final blessing for God’s people*

(ELH p. 127; Num. 6:24-26)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

~**Hymn 55** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*1. Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav’nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.*

2. *Crown Him the Virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose,
As of that rose the stem;
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.*

3. *Crown Him the Lord of Love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye
At mysteries so bright.*

4. *Crown Him the Lord of Life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.*

5. *Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many
crowns,
For He is King of all.*

~Postlude — *Opportunity for prayer & to greet one another!*

*(See "Prayers for Worship"
—ELH p. 40)*

Preacher: Pastor John J. Petersen

Organist: John Baumann | Bulletin Artwork: Bill Bukowski

Men's Choir Accompanist: Joni Bode
