



## Ascension Day Worship

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, West Bend, WI

May 21, 2020

### WELCOME & INVOCATION

M: We worship our Triune God; the Father, who created us, our risen and ascended Savior, Jesus, who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit, who has sanctified us by the power of the Gospel to be children of God.. Amen.

### RESPONSIVE READING - Ephesians 1:16-23

M: 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.

**C: I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you,**

M: the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

**C: and his incomparably great power for us who believe.**

M: That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

**C: far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given,**

M: not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

**C: And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church,**

M: which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

### Prayer of the Day

**M:** Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING

#### Acts 1:1-11

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he showed himself to these men 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. 4 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. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 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." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he

was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 "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."

## SECOND LESSON

**John 14:1-6**

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going." 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

## THIRD LESSON

**Ephesians 1:17-23**

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. 18 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, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 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. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

## SERMON

**Ephesians 1:17-23**

**"Our Ascended Lord Continues to Serve as our Prophet, Priest and King"**

## OFFERING

### ASCENSION DAY PRAYER

**M:** Blessed Jesus, you ascended to the right hand of your Father's majesty, power, and glory and now reign as eternal King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

**C:** **We praise you for your victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell.**

**M:** O ascended Prophet, equip your church to proclaim the precious gospel message of God's love for all the world.

**C:** **Give courage to our hearts, power to our words, and success to our efforts.**

**M:** O ascended High Priest, represent us before the Father as his own dear children and heirs. Defend us against Satan's every accusation. Ask for the Father's rich blessings in our everyday lives.

**C:** **Plead for his mercy and grace on our behalf.**

**M:** O ascended King, direct the affairs of governments and nations that they may serve the best interest of your church.

**C:** **You are our Lord, Master, and King.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

**M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

**M:** As the disciples lifted their eyes to watch your ascension, so lift our eyes daily to look for your coming again in glory.

**C:** Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen**

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

**M:** Thank you, Lord for nourishing our faith with your Word and holy supper. You have given us forgiveness, life and salvation. Let us always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and serve to your praise and glory. Amen.

### **BENEDICTION**

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.