

# Celebration of the Ascension

Thursday, May 30, and Sunday, June 2, 2019

After He rose from the dead, the Lord Jesus presented Himself alive to the apostles, “*appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God*” (Acts 1:3). After 40 days, He ascended to the heavens.

40 days past Easter is Thursday, May 30,  
but we celebrate with both our Thursday and Sunday worship.

“Seven Stanzas at Easter - Stanza 7

awakened

*Conclusion of the “Seven Stanzas at Easter” series*

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## **BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

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# ***SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE***

Thursday 6:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays and the Thursday prior  
Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,  
Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist

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## ***WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS***

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

## ***HOLY COMMUNION***

The Lord's Supper is celebrated according to the Lutheran Confessions based on the teaching Jesus gave his disciples and us that he is truly present in this meal. Confident that our sins are forgiven, we experience our oneness with him and each other as he gathers us at his table. His true body and blood, given and shed for us, we share in this meal as he invites in Matthew 26:26-28, "Take and eat; this is My Body ... This is My Blood..." Baptized Christians sharing these beliefs are invited to receive Communion. All others are invited to the altar rail for a blessing. Wine can be taken by common chalice, individual cup, or by dipping your wafer into the chalice. Please address questions to the Elders or the Pastor. ***Non-alcoholic wine is in purple-colored cups.***

## ***NURSERY***

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

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## ***SERVING TODAY***

### ***Thursday 6:30 PM***

### ***Sunday 9:00 AM***

<b><i>Elders:</i></b>	Mike Bandman	Jack Wameke
<b><i>Comm/Asst. Elder:</i></b>	<b>OPEN</b>	Bob Souza
<b><i>Acolytes:</i></b>	Kaylee Leicht, Mae Anderson	Jude Squires, Brooke Ratzburg
<b><i>Lay Readers:</i></b>	Joan Blasko, Elizabeth Blasko	Owen Squires, <b>OPEN</b>
<b><i>Ushers:</i></b>	<b>OPEN, OPEN</b>	John Schulz, Jay Souza
<b><i>Greeters:</i></b>	Traynor Family	Dawn Werfelmann, White Family
<b><i>June Altar Guild:</i></b>	Diane Rogala	Margie Tatgenhorst
<b><i>June Counters:</i></b>	Margie Tatgenhorst	Sue Best

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## ***TODAY'S FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:***

Bill and Lynda Oesterreich for their 61st Wedding anniversary.

# In Today's Prayers



*If you have something you'd like added,  
please go to one of the Prayer Stands,  
write down your request, & put in the plastic rack.*

In our weekly Worship Prayers, we lift up praises, thanksgivings, requests, and concerns to our Lord. In order to help us pray to God about the wholeness of our lives in the world, we have a schedule for when we will focus on specific areas for prayer. Any immediate needs will always take priority, but in general, we will follow this schedule. Please note that this means on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month, Pastor will speak the names of everyone on our health concerns list, but on other Sundays, this will be lifted up only as a general prayer for health and healing.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

### **Missionaries**

Pastor Nicholas Salifu and churches in Northern Ghana  
Chris, Heather, Moses & Micah  
Carlos & Suzanne Tejada, former preschool family, Costa Rica

### **Prayers for Justice**

Heal our communities, break systems of injustice, use us as Your people  
help us see others as children of God

### **Our local partners**

Love INC—serving churches to help Christians serve those in need  
COOL—food bank and transitional housing  
PADS—homeless advocacy and support  
A Safe Place—support for those affected by domestic violence  
Ricky Bueno & Frontline Street Intervention—local gang outreach & ministry  
Informed Choices—Pregnancy & Parenting centers, Grayslake & Crystal Lake

### **Congregation: Care in Community**

We will provide direct assistance and build supportive relationships

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## ***THE WORD OF GOD SERVICE***

*This service celebrates the Word of God, using words from Paul's letters to Timothy.*

Opening Hymn

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

LSB 493 sts. 1-4, 6



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New  
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -  
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why  
 4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up  
 Δ 6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, All



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,  
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,  
 to praise the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,  
 praise to You let earth ac - cord: Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
 al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers  
 al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they  
 al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall  
 al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less a - ges



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of  
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -  
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph  
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -  
 run, With Fa - ther and with Spir - it



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

### ***Invocation and Greeting***

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 1 Tim. 1:2b

C: **And also with you.**

### ***The Word of God***

P: In worship, we become acquainted with the sacred writings,

C: **which are able to make us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**

P: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching,  
for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

C: **so that we may be equipped for every good work. Amen.**

2 Tim. 3:15-16

### ***Confession of Sin***

P: The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance:

C: **that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.**

1 Tim. 1:15

P: For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men:

C: **Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all.**

1 Tim. 2:5-6

*Silence for meditation on our need for Christ's forgiveness.*

### ***Absolution (Forgiveness)***

1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 1:9-10; 2 Tim. 2:21

P: God our Savior desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. He saved you and called you to a holy calling, not because of your works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave you in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. You have been cleansed of your sin, set apart as holy, useful to our Lord, and ready for every good work in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

### ***Children's Message about the Christ Candle***



*The Christ Candle was lit on Good Friday, remaining lit through the dark days of crucifixion and burial of Christ, reminding us that death was not victorious. The Christ Candle continued to burn on Easter Morning—the Day of Resurrection. We've lit the Christ Candle on the altar each week since in celebration of the same. But the Christ Candle is removed from the altar, as a reminder that Christ ascended into heaven and was hidden from the eyes of the disciples. They awaited His promise to send His Holy Spirit.*

**Ascension Refrain****Hail Thee, Festival Day**

LSB 489, ref-a

All

Ascension Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;

Day when our ris - en Lord Rose in the heav - ens to reign. reign.

**Ascension Reading from the Gospel of Luke****Luke 24:44–53 (ESV)**

<sup>44</sup>Then [Jesus] said to [His disciples], “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.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>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.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Ascension Reading from the Book of Acts****Acts 1:1–11 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>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.**

### ***Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)***

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### ***Ascension Verses from 1 Timothy & Removal of the Christ Candle***

P: Jesus was revealed in the flesh,

1 Timothy 3:16; liturgical verse based on Luke 24:49,53

**C: declared righteous in Spirit,**

P: seen by angels,

**C: proclaimed among the nations,**

P: believed on in the world,

**C: taken up in glory.**

P: Send us Your power from on high through Your Holy Spirit,

**C: So that we may go forth with joy,  
proclaiming Your Name. Amen.**

**Ascension Refrain****Hail Thee, Festival Day**

LSB 489, ref-a

All

Ascension Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;

Day when our ris - en Lord Rose in the heav - ens to reign. reign.

**Epistle (New Testament Letter)****Revelation 22:1–6, 12–13, 18–20 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. <sup>4</sup>They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

<sup>6</sup>And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.” . . .

<sup>12</sup>“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” . . .

<sup>18</sup>I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, <sup>19</sup>and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

<sup>20</sup>He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

L: This is the Word of the Lord      C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Holy Gospel for the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter****John 17:20–26 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup>[In the presence of His disciples, Jesus prayed to the Father saying:] “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup>that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup>The glory that you have

given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup>I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. <sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup>O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup>I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”  
 L: This is the Word of the Lord      **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn of the Day**

**We Are Called to Stand Together**

LSB 828 sts. 1–3, 5



1 We are called to stand to- geth - er With the saints of  
 2 Those whom Je - sus called a - pos - tles Jour - neyed with Him  
 3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the  
 5 To each com - ing gen - er - a - tion Tell the truth, per -



a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets  
 side by side, Heard His teach - ing, felt His pow - er,  
 Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - als took the mes - sages,  
 suade, ex - plain, Till the time when time is end - ed,



In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and  
 Saw the way He lived and died; Then the news of  
 Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y  
 Till the Sav - ior comes a - gain— Till the saints are



hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!  
 res - ur - rec - tion They de - liv - ered far and wide.  
 grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.  
 all u - nit - ed Un - der Christ's e - ter - nal reign!

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### ***The Charge for the Pastor***

E: Paul instructed Timothy as a pastor. His letters speak of the calling and duties of pastors... Pastor, we remind you of your duty now:

**C: We charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus:  
Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season to speak His Word;  
Point out errors, warn people, and encourage us,  
with complete patience and teaching. Amen.**

2 Tim. 4:1-2

### ***Sermon “Seven Stanzas at Easter: Stanza 7 – awakened”***

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,  
for our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,  
lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are  
embarrassed by the miracle,  
and crushed by remonstrance.

Full poem on pages 18-19

### ***Offering & Prayer Requests***

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

### ***Offertory***

### ***We Praise You, O God***

LSB 785, sts. 1 & 3

*(Sung as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)*



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;  
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.

We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.  
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

### **Confession of Faith**

### **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.*

### **Prayers**

**P:** Supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings  
are to be made for all people,

**C:** *thanking God whom we serve,*

**P:** as we remember others constantly in our prayers night and day.

**C:** *And praying for our leaders and all who are in high positions,  
that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life,*

**P:** godly and dignified in every way.

**C:** *This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.*

1 Tim. 2:1-3; 2 Tim. 1:3

*(Pastor then offers the Prayers of the Church).*

## **The Lord's Supper: What We Believe**

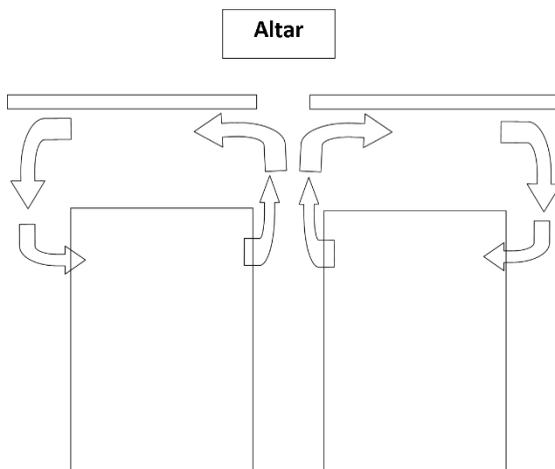
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



## **Communion Distribution**

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



### ***Preparation for the Lord's Supper***

P: The Lord was revealed in the flesh,

**C: *declared-righteous by the Spirit,***

P: seen by messengers,

**C: *proclaimed among the nations,***

P: believed in the world,

**C: *taken up in glory.***

1 Tim. 3:14

P: He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,  
who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light,  
whom no one has ever seen or can see.

To him be honor and eternal dominion.

1 Tim. 6:15-16

**C: *Amen.***

P: The Lord be with your spirit and grace be with you.

2 Tim. 4:22

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

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

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

**All: *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.***

### ***Words of Institution***

#### ***Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)***

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

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

(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;  
 2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;  
 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,  
 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

- 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,  
 On this terrestrial ball  
 To Him all majesty ascribe  
 And crown Him Lord of all.  
 To Him all majesty ascribe  
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
 We at His feet may fall!  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 And crown Him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 And crown Him Lord of all.

**Second Distribution Hymn**

**Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise**

LSB 680



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -  
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the  
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the  
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the  
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head  
 prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree  
 ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee  
 won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise  
 dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree



Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
 All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the  
 Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the  
 Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
 Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly



sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the  
 rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the  
 sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the  
 sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the  
 ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the



vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
 sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
 liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
 won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.  
 splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

### **Common Dismissal**

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord...

C: **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P: Father, You have strengthened us by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, through His body and blood shared with us in the holy meal. May what we have received from You enable us to share Your grace with others. May we endure all suffering in this world without swerving from the faith. And when we depart from Your Word, grant us repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth so that we may receive the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

C: **Amen.**

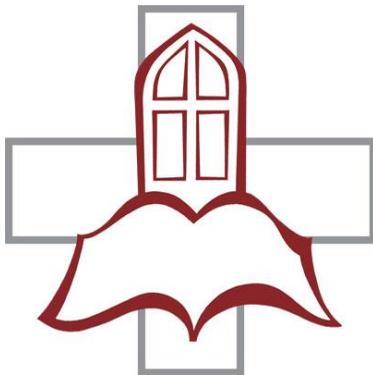
*2 Tim. 2:1-2, 1 Tim. 6:21, 2 Tim. 2:10,2:25*

### **Benediction**

P: There is stored up for you the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to you on the Last Day, and not only to you but also to all who have longed for his appearing. The Lord will rescue you from every evil deed and bring you safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*2 Tim. 4:8,18*

C: **Amen.**



**Closing Hymn**

**On Christ's Ascension I Now Build**

LSB 492



1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -  
 2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -  
 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and  
 tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er  
 cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I  
 rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There  
 my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.  
 all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.  
 me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

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**Announcements**

**Acknowledgments**

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# “Seven Stanzas at Easter” by John Updike

Make no mistake: if He rose at all  
it was as His body;  
if the cells' dissolution did not reverse, the molecules  
reknit, the amino acids rekindle,  
the Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,  
each soft Spring recurrent;  
it was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled  
eyes of the eleven apostles;  
it was as His flesh: ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes,  
the same valved heart  
that-pierced-died, withered, paused, and then  
regathered out of enduring Might  
new strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,  
analogy, sidestepping, transcendence;  
making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the  
faded credulity of earlier ages:  
let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché,  
not a stone in a story,  
but the vast rock of materiality that in the slow  
grinding of time will eclipse for each of us  
the wide light of day.

And if we will have an angel at the tomb,  
make it a real angel,  
weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with hair,  
opaque in the dawn light, robed in real linen  
spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,  
for our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,  
lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are  
embarrassed by the miracle,  
and crushed by remonstrance.



This poem was written by John Updike (1932-2009) for a religious arts festival sponsored by the Clifton Lutheran Church, of Marblehead, Massachusetts, in 1960. It can be found in Updike's poetry collection titled *Telephone Poles and Other Poems* (New York: Alfred A Knopp).



**GO** TOGETHER

## Prayer Room

GO TOGETHER is a partnership of congregations in Gurnee (Bethel, Epicenter, Gurnee Community, House of Prayer, Immanuel, Joy! Lutheran, La Vina, Lakeland, Life, Village, and New Abbey). We encourage one another and work together in reaching out to our communities with the Gospel of Jesus.

One of the visible expressions of our partnership is the GO TOGETHER Prayer Room. This is a place for individuals and ministry groups to go to the Lord in prayer on behalf of friends, families, neighbors, the greater Gurnee Community and the nation. The room is located on Old Grand Ave (near Gurnee Community Church) and is available through the sign-up at [www.go-together.org](http://www.go-together.org), 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year. For access to the prayer room, contact the church office.

This year we will once again focus on the month of June and encouraging our congregation to have someone in the Prayer Room for every hour of the month.

This year's theme will be  
**"Just Come . . . - June 2019 24/7 prayer".**

Prayer walk stations will be:

**Look up, Look Inward, Look Outward.**

Also, we are asking for some tangible prayer requests from our partners like Love, Inc., PADS, Gurnee police department, etc. that we can share as we pray for the community.

Bethel's days in the Prayer Room are:

**Saturday, June 8, Wednesday, June 12, & Wednesday, June 26.**

You can sign up for a slot on any day that is available, but those 3 days are the ones that Bethel will especially try to fill.

