**ascension of our lord- may 29, 2022**

**zion, philipsburg**

**call to worship**

Come and worship , people of God

**Let us celebrate with songs and words of praise!**

Our God has ascended with shouts of triumph

**Clap your hands all you peoples, shout to the God with loud songs of joy!**

Our God is exalted on high, empowering the nations with justice and love.

**Come let us gather and worship together!**

**ANNOUNCMENTS**

Welcome to worship on this Ascension of our Lord Sunday. The true day of Ascension was on Thursday so we will celebrate today.

I am back after a week of study leave; I attended the Festival of Homiletics online. The theme was “After the storm: Preaching and Trauma.” I heard many inspirational sermons and lectures about preaching into the events of the past two years and how the pandemic has affected pastors. I am thankful for the opportunity to grow in faith and learning during these study weeks.

Folks are still cleaning up around Ottawa and Uxbridge and the many other areas affected by the derecho storm last week. Our prayer are with the eleven victims and their families who lost their lives due to the storm.

Next Sunday we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism for Payton Egli, and Grace and Dean Mohr. All are welcome to share in the joy of the day.

Wednesday Wellness will take place on Wednesday June 1.

A short council meeting will take place after worship to discuss Zion’s participation in the NVMA worship service on June 12.

The Messenger is out, please look for it in your inbox, mailbox or church mail slot.

Any other announcements?

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**GATHERING SONG*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* (ELW 392) Verses 1-3**

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?
3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

**GREETING (ELW p. 213)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11**

A reading from Acts.

[Luke writes:] 1In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning 2until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3After 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. 4While 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; 5for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”
 6So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But 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.” 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 47**

 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.

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23**

A reading from Ephesians.

15I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17I 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, 18so 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, 19and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20God 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, 21far 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. 22And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

44[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.”45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things. 49And 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.”
 50Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. 51While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. 52And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON (ELW p. 217)**

**HYMN OF THE DAY*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!* (ELW 393)**

1 A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
ascends unto 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 faithful foll'wers see
their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 To whom the shining angels cry,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"This is the Savior!" thus they say,
"this is his glorious triumph day!"
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 "You see him now, ascending high
up to the portals of the sky."
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see
returning in great majesty."
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
all praise to you let earth accord:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**CREED (ELW p. 217)**

**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**

**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**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Holy One, ruler of heaven and earth, wash us in your Holy Spirit and make us witnesses to your resurrected life in this community. Let our fellowship be a sign to others of the presence of Christ. O Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Through thundering, mighty waters reveal your creative power at work in creation. Cleanse the air, land, and waters with the movement of your Spirit and the participation of your people. O Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

In faithful and diverse worship, turn all people toward you and your loving will for humankind. Bridge differences among traditions and across faiths. Unite us in mission for the sake of a world in need. O Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

In the suffering and death of Jesus, draw near to those who suffer from illness or injury and for whom death approaches. We especially remember Sarah, Summer, Chris, Marsha, Anne, Phyllis, John, Ruth, our members in Long Term Care; Esther, Barbara, Robert and Evelyn, and those we name out loud or in the silence in our hearts. Pause Surround all who call on your comfort and strength and place them in your loving arms. O Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Our hearts break to hear of yet another mass shooting, killing 19 children and 2 adults in Texas. In our shock and confusion, we come before you Lord. In our feelings of helplessness in the never-ending face of senseless violence, we lean on you. For the children of Robb Elementary school, we pray. For the families of those who have been killed, we pray. For all affected by gun violence and hate, we cry out how long O Lord, until meaningful change happens. Pause. O Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Rouse us to remember the faithful witness of the saints who have gone before us. By their lives and the life and death of Jesus, enlighten our hearts, give us hope, and lead us in wisdom. O Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 217)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (ELW p. 220)**

Let us pray.

Risen Christ, Living Word, you are the bread of life that nourishes and sustains us. By the power of your Word, dwell in our hearts and reveal to us again that we are the body of Christ: in our vulnerable flesh, though our baptism into your death and resurrection, and in service to the world you love. Be for us manna in the wilderness. Open us to recognize you in every meal and in all who hunger for bread, for human touch, and for healing and hope. We pray in your name, our healer and companion. **Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 221)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**BLESSING (ELW p. 221)**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*Lord, You Give the Great Commission* (ELW 579)**

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:

Refrain
With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community: Refrain

3 Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body, this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty: Refrain

4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society: Refrain

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity: Refrain

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**

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