

Ascension Sunday
“Right Hand of the Father”

May 29, 2022

As We Gather

Shootings. Pandemic. War. Corruption. Immorality. Political and Social tension. Incivility. It’s a very troubled world. And yet today as we celebrate Ascension Sunday, we confess that Jesus is truly Lord of all, reigning at the “right hand of the Father.” What does this mean in a fallen world? How do we square that confession with the reality of brokenness? Today we look at the Lordship of Christ – in our lives and in our world, and what the Lord has done, is doing, and will do for this fallen world.

Welcome

Gathering

“Up Through Endless Ranks of Angels” LSB 491

Up through endless ranks of angels,
Cries of triumph in His ears,
To His heavenly throne ascending,
Having vanquished all their fears,
Christ looks down upon His faithful,
Leaving them in happy tears.

Through our lives of fear and failure
With Your power and love abide:
Welcome us, as You were welcomed,
To an endless Eastertide.

(Please rise)

Death-destroying, life-restoring,
Proven equal to our need,
Now for us before the Father
As our brother intercede:
Flesh that for our world was wounded,
Living, for the wounded plead!

Alleluia, alleluia,
Oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace!
Alleluia, alleluia,
Oh, to see the Father's face!
Alleluia, alleluia,
Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!

To our lives of wanton wandering
Send Your promised Spirit-Guide,

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution (from Divine Service IV, page 203)

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

**C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

“On Christ's Ascension I Now Build” LSB 492

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

2 Since Christ returned to claim his throne,
Great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart shall rest in him alone,
No other rest remaining;

For where my treasure went before,
There all my thoughts will ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.

3 Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling your ascension,
That I may serve you faithfully,
Adorning your redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.

Prayer

Children's Church

Service of the Word

First 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 presented himself to them 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 Then they gathered around him and 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.”

⁹ 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.”

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ 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.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:44-52

⁴⁴ 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.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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.”

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You O Christ

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon

“The Right Hand of the Father”

Offering

Musical Offering

“Rejoice the Lord is King”

Sanctuary Choir

Stan Pethel

Rejoice the Lord is King,
Your Lord and King adore,
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, I say, rejoice!
Jesus, the Savior reigns,
The God of truth and love,
When He had purged our stains,
He took His seat above:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope,
Our Lord and judge shall come,
And take His servants
Up to their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, I say, rejoice!

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the chat.

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: Thanks be to God.

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

St. John's People and Families

Lance & Dove Bain
Pastor Mark & Anne Heine, Dylan, & Travis Goodrich
Doug & Georgia Marum
Wayne, Barbara, Wanda, & Robert Miller
Melanie Dal Ciego, Cullen, Trent, Carson, & Brodie Mooers
John, Meghan, & Delaney Asikainen
Benjamin, Lindsay, & Weston Deters
Michael, Robyn, Connor, & Natalie Mathison
Dustin, Jillian, Brianna, & Jenna McNab
Jeremy, Jennifer, & Anneke Threat

The Service of Holy Communion

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish by have eternal life.

Having revealed Your glory in the face of Your only-begotten Son, who suffered, died and rose for our salvation, You have exalted Him to the highest majesty at Your right hand, that He might graciously fill all things.

Grant us faithfully to eat and drink this Holy Supper, trusting our reigning Savior Jesus, who, though unseen in His ascended glory, is here present to save by His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**People: 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.**

The Words of Institution

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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

People: Amen.

Communion

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

People: Amen. *(Take and eat)*

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

People: Amen.

(Take and drink)

Communion Songs

"Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious" LSB 495

1 Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious;
See the Man of Sorrows now!
From the fight returned victorious,
Ev'ry knee to Him shall bow.
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crowns become the victor's brow.
Crowns become the victor's brow.

2 Crown the Savior! Angels, crown Him!
Rich the trophies Jesus brings;
On the seat of pow'r enthrone Him
While the vault of heaven rings.
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown the Savior King of kings.
Crown the Savior King of kings.

3 Sinners in derision crowned Him,
Mocking thus the Savior's claim;
Saints and angels crowd around Him,
Own His title, praise His Name.
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Spread abroad the victor's fame.
Spread abroad the victor's fame.

4 Hark, those bursts of acclamation!
Hark, those loud triumphant chords!
Jesus takes the highest station;
Oh, what joy the sight affords!
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
King of kings, and Lord of lords!
King of kings, and Lord of lords!

“Beautiful Savior” LSB 537

1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer;
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

People: Amen.

Prayer

Benediction

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” LSB 493

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!

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!

To whom two 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!

“You see Him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”

Alleluia, alleluia!
“Here after Jesus You shall see
Returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise Your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

Memory Verse for This Week

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.

Ephesians 1:22-23

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Readers	Gunnar De Young & Ruth Peterson
Communion Assistants	Pastor Greg & Trudi Stringer, Hayden Kirkman, Mike Newton
Sound Technician	Joshua Wright
Streaming Technician	Martin Meissenhalter
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Worship Preparation Team	Betsy Gewirz, Bob & Doris Klein
Ushers	Lisa and Bob De Young
Projection Technician	Brian Schoenfeld
Children's Church	Sarah Santora, Michelle & Tyler Roberts