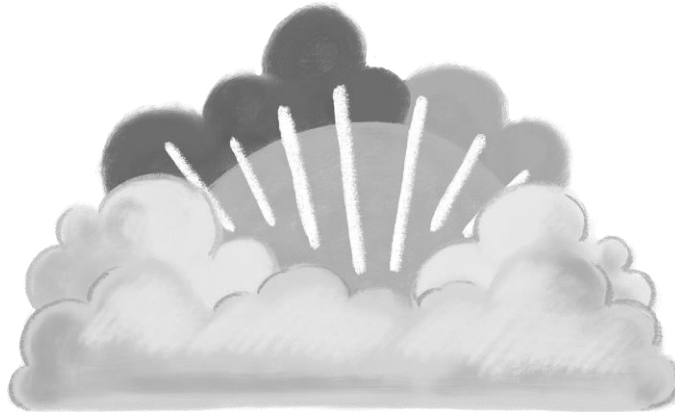


# THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 18, 2023

Worship Focus

**He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church**



ASCENSION DAY

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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## OPENING HYMN

476 – On Christ's Ascension I Now Build



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 ap - pre -  
tain - ing, my heart will rest in him a - lone, no oth - er rest re -  
cen - sion, that I may serve you faith - ful - ly, in thanks for my re -



hen - sion, for where the head is, there as well I know his  
main - ing, for where my trea - sure went be - fore, there all my  
demp - tion; and then, when all my days will cease, let me de -



mem - bers are to dwell when Christ shall come and call them.  
thoughts will ev - er soar to still their deep - est yearn - ing.  
part in joy and peace in an - swer to my plead - ing.

## INVOCATION

The Lord has ascended into heaven.

**Let us worship him with our hearts and voices!**

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill us with love for Jesus.

**That we may speak of his works and live in constant readiness for his return. Amen.**

## THE ASCENSION PSALM

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!**

He subdued nations under us, **peoples under our feet.**

He chose our inheritance for us, **the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.**  
 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.**  
 God reigns over the nations; **God is seated on his holy throne.**

**HYMN 747**

**Christ High-Ascended**



1 Christ high - as - cend - ed, now in glo - ry seat - ed, throned  
 2 Christ, from the Fa - ther ev - 'ry pow'r pos - sess - ing, who  
 3 Christ, who in dy - ing won for us sal - va - tion, lives  
 4 Christ in his splen - dor, all do - min - ion gain - ing, Christ  
 5 As at his part - ing, joy shall ban - ish griev - ing, faith



and ex - alt - ed, vic - to - ry com - plet - ed, death's dread do -  
 on his cho - sen lift - ed hands in bless - ing, sends forth his  
 now the first - born of the new cre - a - tion; to win dis -  
 with his peo - ple ev - er - more re - main - ing, Christ to all  
 in his pres - ence strength - en our be - liev - ing; filled with his



min - ion fi - nal - ly de - feat - ed, we are his wit - ness - es.  
 ser - vants, still in faith con - fess - ing, we are his wit - ness - es.  
 ci - ples out of ev - 'ry na - tion, we are his wit - ness - es.  
 a - ges, glo - ri - ous - ly reign - ing, we are his wit - ness - es.  
 Spir - it, love and pow'r re - ceiv - ing, we are his wit - ness - es.



# Meditation on the Ascension Account

Acts 1:1-11

<sup>1</sup>ACTS 1:1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach <sup>2</sup>until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>6</sup>Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

<sup>7</sup>He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.”

<sup>9</sup>After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup>They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup>“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.”

**After the meditation, the minister says:**

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.” Alleluia!

## Choir Anthem

## Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

### **Refrain**

*Do not let your hearts be troubled, have faith in God and faith in me.*

*I will go forth to prepare a place for you, then I'll come back to take you with me, that where I am, you may also be.*

*1. In God's house there are many places for you alone to dwell in safety.*

*You know the way to where I'll lead you, if you are lost, I will show the way. Refrain*

*2. I am the way, the truth and the life, only through me can you know what I know.*

*If you knew me, you would see the Father, if you see me, you see your God. Refrain*

*3. The words I speak are not only of myself, it is your God who lives within me.*

*If you believe that your God and I are one, I will provide when you call my name. Refrain*

# Meditation on the Ascension Epistle

Ephesians 1:15-23

EPHESIANS 1:15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>16</sup>I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup>he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**After the meditation, the minister says:**

God has placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body. Alleluia!

## HYMN 549

Across The Lands

*Sung by the worship team*

1 *You're the Word of God the Father  
from before the world began.  
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet  
has been fashioned by your hand.  
All creation holds together  
by the power of your voice.  
Let the skies declare your glory,  
let the land and seas rejoice! (Refrain)*

*Refrain You're the author of creation,  
you're the Lord of ev'ry man,  
and your cry of love rings out across the lands.*

- 2 *Yet you left the gaze of angels,  
came to seek and save the lost,  
and exchanged the joy of heaven  
for the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer you fed the hungry,  
with a word you calmed the sea,  
yet how silently you suffered  
that the guilty may go free! (Refrain)*
- 3 *With a shout you rose victorious,  
wresting vict'ry from the grave,  
and ascended into heaven,  
leading captives in your way.  
Now you stand before the Father,  
interceding for your own;  
from each tribe and tongue and nation  
you are leading sinners home! (Refrain)*

## Meditation on the Ascension Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

**STAND**

LUKE 24:44 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.”

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

<sup>50</sup>When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup>And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

**BE SEATED**

**After the meditation, the minister says:**

The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations. Alleluia!

After a brief introduction, the congregation sings:

## HYMN 472

## A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-  
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the  
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and  
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un -  
and with his fol - low - ers they see their Lord as -  
"This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his  
"Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



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

Verses 5-6 printed on next page

5 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!

6 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!

STAND

## THE ASCENSION CONFESSION OF FAITH (Article 3 of The Augsburg Confession)

We believe that God the Son, became man, born of the virgin Mary, and that the two natures, divine and human, are so inseparably united in one Person that there is one Christ, true God and true Man, who was truly born, suffered, was crucified, died, and was buried in order to be a sacrifice not only for original sin but also for all other sins and to reconcile God's wrath.

The same Christ also descended into hell, truly rose from the dead on the third day, ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God, that He may eternally rule and have dominion over all creatures, that through the Holy Spirit He may sanctify, purify, strengthen, and comfort all who believe in Him, and He bestow on them life and every grace and blessing, and that He may protect and defend them against the devil and against sin. The same Lord Christ will return openly to judge the living and the dead. Amen.

BE SEATED

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MUSICAL OFFERING

*We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.*

*Offerings can be given in any of four ways:*

- *Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary*
- *On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>*
- *On your phone with the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app*
- *Scan the QR code to the right...*



*Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the code to the left...*



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*YOU MAY REMAIN SEATED FOR PRAYER*

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

O ascended Prophet, equip your Church to proclaim the precious gospel message of God's love for all the world. **Give courage to our hearts, power to our words, and success to our efforts.**

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

O ascended King, direct the affairs of governments and nations that they may serve the best interest of your Church. **You are our Lord, Master, and King.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

As the disciples lifted their eyes to watch your ascension, so lift our eyes daily to look for your coming again in glory. **Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.**

## 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.**

## BLESSING

Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

700 – Draw Us to Thee



1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy  
2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lov - ing - ly; let us de -  
3 Draw us to thee; O grant that we may walk the  
4 Draw us to thee that al - so we thy heav'n - ly  
5 Draw us to thee un - ceas - ing - ly; in - to thy



steps for - ev - er and has - ten on where thou art  
part with glad - ness that we may be for - ev - er  
road to heav - en! Di - rect our way lest we should  
bliss in - her - it and ev - er dwell where sin and  
king - dom take us. Let us for - e'er thy glo - ry



gone to be with thee, dear Sav - ior.  
free from sor - row, grief, and sad - ness.  
stray and from thy paths be driv - en.  
hell no more can vex our spir - it.  
share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

*Join us for an ice cream social immediately following this service.*

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## Hymn 476 – On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604-1640; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873-1964, alt.  
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941  
Scripture references: Jn 14:1-4; Heb 6:19,20; Col 3:1-4  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House  
Music: public domain

## Hymn 747 – Christ High-Ascended

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926  
Music: Antiphoner, Paris, 1681  
Scripture references: Mt 28:18-20; Ac 1:8; Eph 1:20-23  
Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Company  
Music: public domain

## Hymn 549 – Across the Lands

Text and music: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953  
Scripture references: Jn 1:1-3; Isa 53:7; Lk 19:10; Ro 8:34; Isa 49:1-3  
Text and music: ©2002 Thankyou Music (PRS) (adm. worldwide at CapitolCMGPublishing.com)

## Hymn 472 – A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

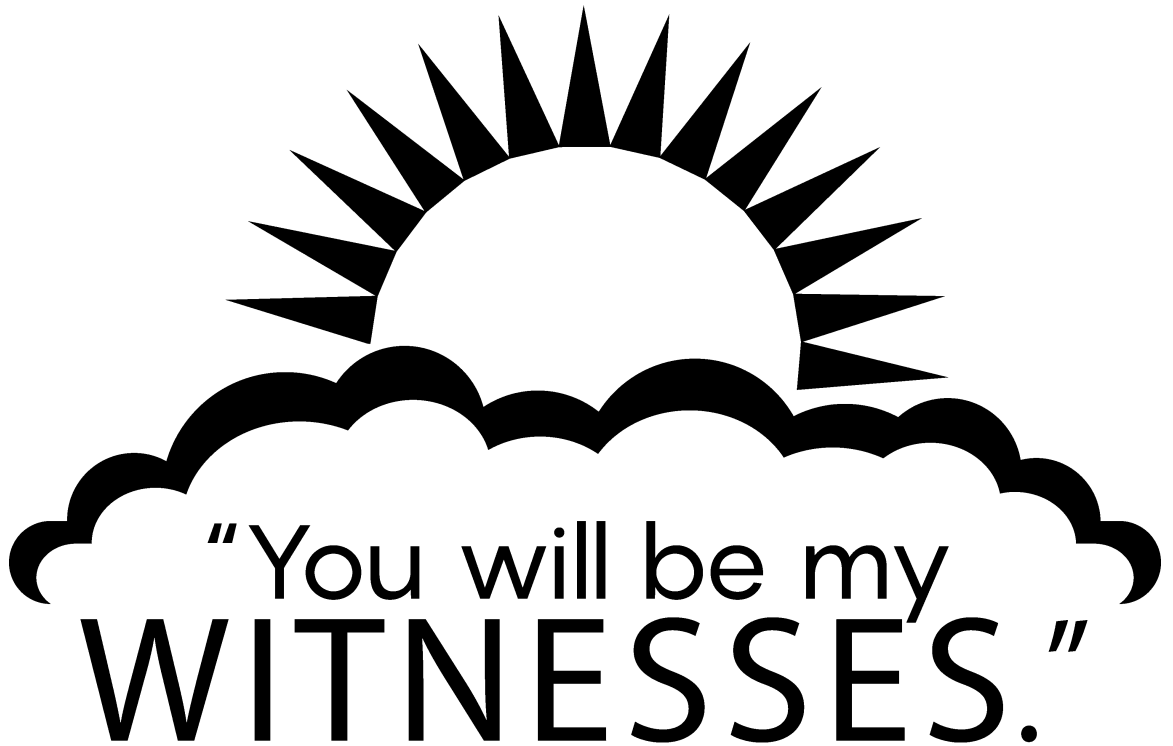
Text: *The Venerable Bede*, 673-735, abr.; tr. Composite  
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesang, Koln, 1623; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958  
Scripture references: Lk 24:50,51; Ac 1:9-11; Ps 47:5-9  
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## Hymn 700 – Draw Us to Thee

Text: Friedrich Funcke, 1642-1699; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.  
Tune: As hymmodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, alt.  
Scripture references: Jn 6:44,45; Mt 7:13,14; Col 1:12-14; Ro 8:17  
Text and music: public domain

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**ACTS 1:8**