

ASCENSION



# ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

May 9, 2024

Reverend Dr. Dan Hahn

Luke Swanson – Organist  
Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus Director – Ruth Miller

*Bethel Lutheran Church – 301 Scott Avenue, Glenshaw  
St. Johns Lutheran Church – 501 North Avenue, Milville  
Zion Lutheran Church – 237 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Lawrenceville*

Greeting

493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (vs 1-5)

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

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 the por - tals of the sky." 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

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 -

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 -

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!

△ 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!

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand-----Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

*Stand*

**Introit**

*Psalm 110:1, 4-5; antiphon: Psalm 47:5*



- P:** God has gone up | with a shout,\*  
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.
- C:** **The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my | right hand,\*  
until I make your enemies your | footstool.”**
- P:** The LORD has sworn and will not | change His mind,\*  
“You are a priest forever after the order of Mel- | chizedek.”
- C:** **The Lord is at your | right hand;\***  
**He will shatter kings on the day | of His wrath.**  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
**God has gone up | with a shout,\***  
**the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.**

**Kyrie**

*LSB 186*



- C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Acts 1:1-11*

<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.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*



**Christ has risen | from the dead.\***

**[God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and | honor.**

**He has given Him dominion over the works | of His hands;\***  
**He has put all things un- | der His feet.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 1:15–23*

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, <sup>18</sup>having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might <sup>20</sup>that He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far 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 one to come. <sup>22</sup>And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 24:44–53*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup>Then [Jesus] said to 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 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 Gospel of the Lord.



## Nicene Creed

**C** 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels



1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph  
 2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual  
 3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,  
 Δ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the



in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,  
 to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther  
 prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure  
 Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -  
 As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our  
 With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as  
 Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.  
 world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!  
 You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.  
 al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008  
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Sermon

Stand



Offertory

LSB 192

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit*

Offering

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”.....Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus

*Stand*

Prayers of the Church

Preface

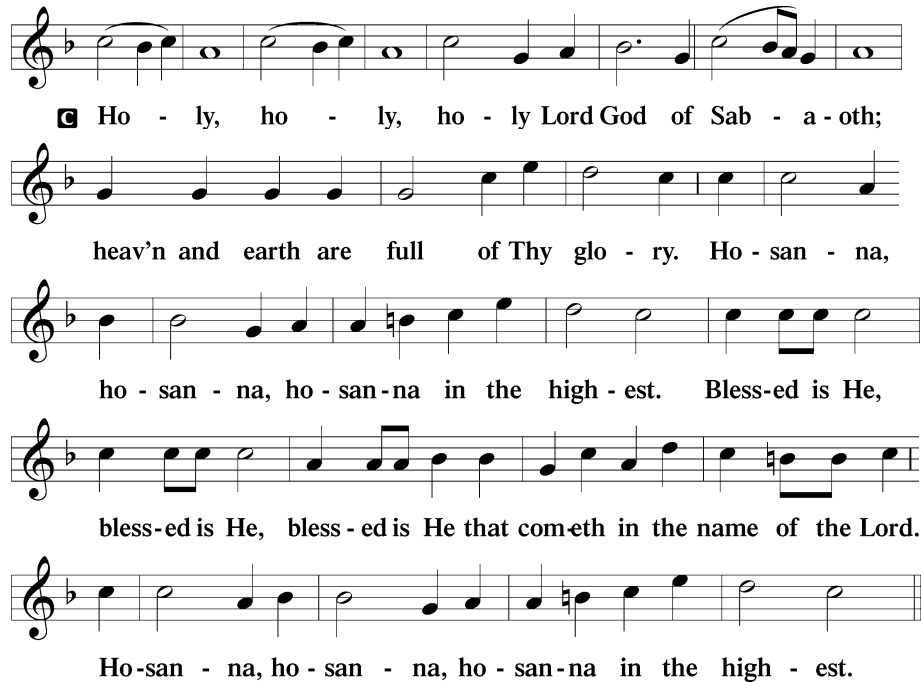
LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.  
**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**C**: 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 Our Lord

LSB 197

### Pax Domini

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

*Sit*  
Distribution

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared



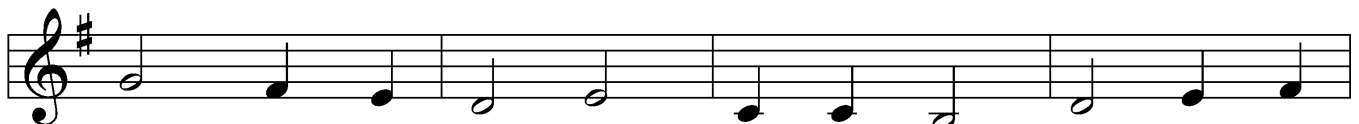
1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for  
 2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel  
 3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y  
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y  
 hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence  
 hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent  
 Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion  
 they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,  
 e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.  
 and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to  
 And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry  
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by  
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.  
 and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,  
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.  
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

5 Though reason cannot understand,  
 Yet faith this truth embraces:  
 Your body, Lord, is even now  
 At once in many places.  
 I leave to You how this can be;  
 Your Word alone suffices me;  
 I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said;  
 Help me when doubts assail me.  
 Remember that I am but dust,  
 And let my faith not fail me.  
 Your supper in this vale of tears  
 Refreshes me and stills my fears  
 And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive  
 Your supper, Lord, our Savior,  
 And, truly grieving for our sins,  
 May prove by our behavior  
 That we are thankful for Your grace  
 And day by day may run our race,  
 In holiness increasing.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,  
 Be praised throughout all ages!  
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place  
 The world against it rages.  
 Grant that this sacrament may be  
 A blessed comfort unto me  
 When living and when dying.

Text: Samuel Kinner, 1603-68; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841-1931, alt.  
 Tune: Peter Sohren, c. 1630-c. 1692, alt.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB 199*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

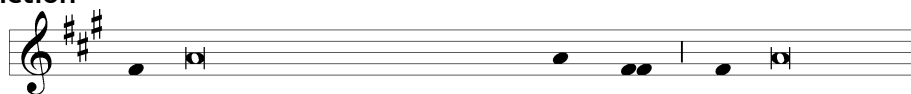
### Benedicamus

LSB 202

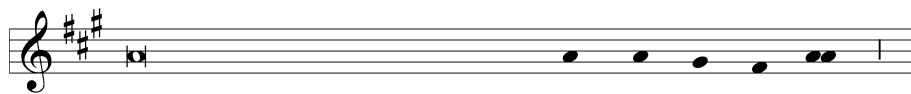
**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

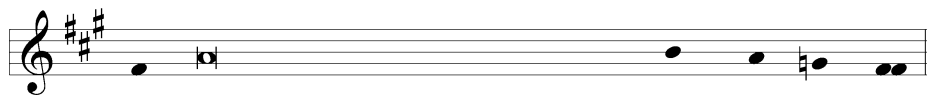
Benediction



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\dagger$  give you peace.



**G** A-men, a-men, a - men.

“The Benediction” ..... *The Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus*

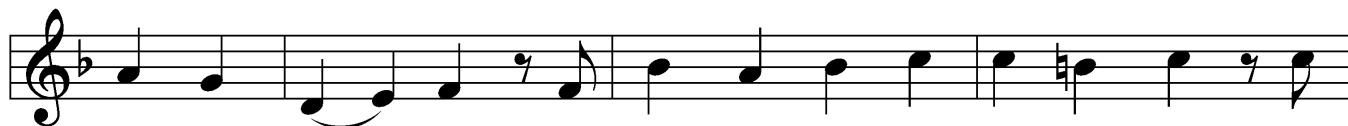
492 On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build



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  
 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.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt.  
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