



Zion Lutheran Church – LCMS  
 20-141 County Road X – P.O. Box 37 – Ridgeville Corners, OH 43555  
 Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: zionrco@bright.net  
 Education Hour 8:45 AM - Divine Worship 10:00 AM  
 Communion First and Third Sundays  
 Rev. Dr. Carl Rockrohr, Pastor  
 Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: pastor.zionrco@bright.net

**Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**The Ascension of Our Lord**

Prelude  
 Tower Bells and Welcome  
 Announcements

*Visitors are encouraged to note their attendance by filling out the "Welcome" side (blue print) of the pew cards and putting the card into the offering plate near the entrance doors.*

Opening Hymn

*On Christ's Ascension I Now Build*

**LSB 492**

Invocation (*congregation stands*)

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

**Amen.**

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World,  
 Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
 Let Your light scatter the darkness

**the light that no darkness can overcome.  
 and the day is almost over.  
 and illumine Your Church.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

**Service of the Word**

Introit Psalm 47

1 Clap your hands, all peoples!  
**Shout to God with loud songs of joy!**  
 2 For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,  
**a great king over all the earth.**  
 3 He subdued peoples under us,  
**and nations under our feet.**  
 4 He chose our heritage for us,  
**the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**  
 5 God has gone up with a shout,  
**the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
**Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**  
 7 For God is the King of all the earth;  
**sing praises with a psalm!**  
 8 God reigns over the nations;  
**God sits on his holy throne.**  
 9 The princes of the peoples gather  
 as the people of the God of Abraham.  
**For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
 he is highly exalted!**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.      **C: And also with you.**

**All: O 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. Amen.**

First Reading                      Acts 1:1-11 (*Congregation sits*)

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

4 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; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

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

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem (*7pm only*)              *Abide with me*

New Testament Reading              Revelation 5

1 Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. 2 And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" 3 And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, 4 and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. 5 And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

6 And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. 8 And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll

and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth.”

11 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice,  
“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!”

13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

14 And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading                      Luke 24:44-53 (*Congregation Stands*)

44 Then he 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.”

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

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

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.                      **C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Hymn

*See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph*

**LSB 494**

Sermon

*Apostles’ Creed (Stand – Inside back cover of the pew hymnal.)*

Prayer of Zion Lutheran Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For eyes of faith fixed on Jesus, who is seated at the Lord’s right hand, ruling in the midst of His enemies, that we may have no fear of them but abide in Christ’s peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For an increase of faith, knowledge and wisdom, that God would open our minds to understand the Scriptures and see Christ proclaimed throughout His Holy Word, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our homes, that God who established Jesus at His right hand would give Him as companion and consolation for those who live alone, strengthen the love of husbands and wives, and bless parents and children as they gather around His Word, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the rulers, authorities, powers and dominions of this world, that mindful of Christ who reigns far above them, they might govern with wisdom and integrity, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who despair of possessing forgiveness, that God would comfort them with the news that Christ is their High Priest forever, full of grace and life, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

**O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Evening Prayer

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us bless the Lord.                      **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

*Abide, O Dearest Jesus*

**LSB 919**

Silent Prayer and Extinguish Candles

Postlude and Depart in His Peace

Acknowledgments. Adapted from Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

Zion Lutheran Prayer adapted from LC-MS One-Year Series Prayers - <https://www.lcms.org/worship/one-year-series-prayers>