



# Salem Lutheran Church

Ascension of Our Lord

5:00 p.m. / 9:30 a.m. Services

May 11/12, 2024

# Salem Lutheran Church

*"Living Christ's Love"*

1145 DeKalb Avenue  
Sycamore, Illinois  
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**Ascension of Our Lord  
Holy Communion**

**May 11/12, 2024  
5:00 p.m. / 9:30 a.m.**

*Salem is equipped with a Hearing Assistance System and Large Print Bulletins. Please ask an usher.*

**⌘ GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**PRELUDE**

*Bell Peal on OLD 100<sup>th</sup>*

Bourgeois

**WELCOME**

*Please stand as you are able ...*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**P:** Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God  
has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered  
over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve  
beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the  
flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed  
through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian  
official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**P:** At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Look, here is water!

**C:** **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*Jesus Shall Reign*

*ELW Hymn 434*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** 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.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Please be seated ...*

## **⌘ RECEIVING GOD'S WORD**

## **THE FIRST READING**

**Acts 1:1-11**

**A:** A reading from Acts ...

Luke writes: In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After 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. While 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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But 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.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They 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.”

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **GIFT OF MUSIC**

*The Best Is Yet to Come*

Carlson

## **PSALM**

**Psalm 47**

**A:** *Please join in praying the psalm responsively ...*

Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with a joyful sound.

**C: For the LORD Most High is to be feared:  
a great king over all the earth,**

**A:** who subdues the peoples under us,  
and the nations under our feet;

**C: who chooses our inheritance for us,  
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

**A:** God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of the ram’s horn.

**C: Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

**A:** For God is king of all the earth;  
sing praises with a song.

**C: God reigns over the nations;  
God is enthroned on high.**

**A:** The 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.

## THE SECOND READING

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

**A:** A reading from Ephesians ...

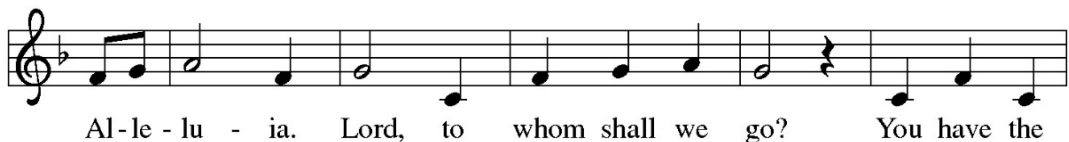
I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God 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, 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 age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able ...*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 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. John the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter ...

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And 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.”

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

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated ...*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – *Mother’s Day Blessing*

### MESSAGE

**Pastor Preston Fields**

*Please stand as you are able ...*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

***A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!***  
*(Stanzas 1-3)*

***ELW Hymn 393***

**⌘ RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

- A:** *Let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed ...*
- C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was**  
**conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,**  
**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was**  
**buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose**  
**again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of**  
**the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,**  
**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

- A:** Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.  
*(Each petition ends with ...)*
- A:** God of grace,  
**C:** **hear our prayer.**
- P:** Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love, through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living God.
- C:** **Amen.**

**SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

*Please be seated ...*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## OFFERING

**OFFERING HYMN** (*Saturday*)  
(*Sunday*)

***Be Not Afraid***  
*Meditation on Beautiful Savior*

***ELW Hymn 388***  
Moklebust

*Please stand as you are able ...*

## OFFERING PRAYER

- A:** *Let us pray...* Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ,  
our true vine.
- C:** **Amen.**

⌘ ***GATHERING AT GOD'S TABLE***

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P:** The Lord be with you.
- C:** **And also with you.**
- P:** Lift up your hearts.
- C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- P:** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P:** In the night . . .



**P:** O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. With Peter, Mary Magdalene, and all your disciples, your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P:** *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

**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.**

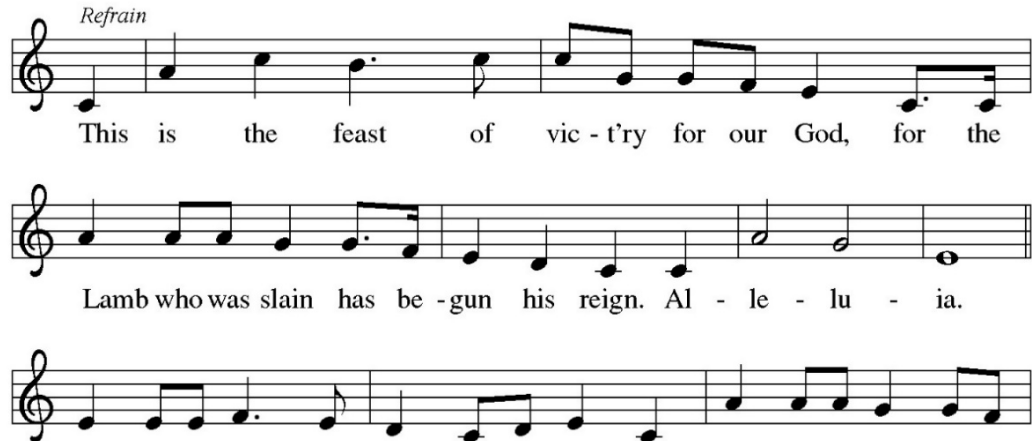
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P:** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.


*Please be seated ...*

## HOLY COMMUNION

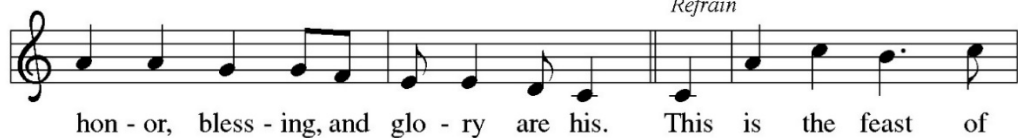
*Refrain*



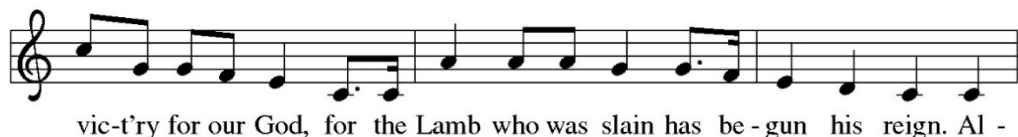
This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the  
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.  
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



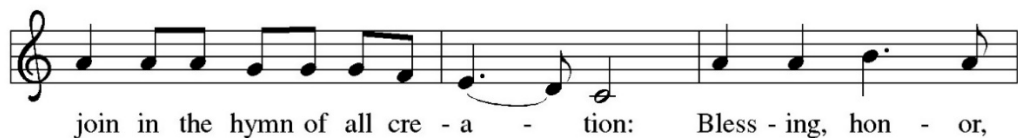
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



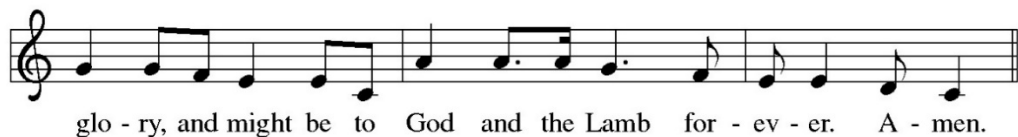
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

***Come to the Table***

***ELW Hymn 481***

*Please stand as you are able ...*

## TABLE BLESSING

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A:** *Let us pray ...* Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C:** **Amen.**

⌘ **GOING FORTH TO “Live Christ’s Love”**

## BLESSING OF HOME COMMUNION MINISTERS

**P:** Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## DEPARTURE BLESSING

**P:** May God give you grace never to sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. Almighty God, Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

***Lord, You Give the Great Commission***

***ELW Hymn 579***

*(Stanzas 1, 2, 5)*

## DISMISSAL

**A:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

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### Worship Leader Musicians

**Pastor Preston Fields  
Michael Carlson, Piano/Organ  
Sounds of Grace Bells**

*Bell Peal on OLD 100<sup>th</sup> ...*

Louis Bourgeois, arr. Linda R. Lamb  
© 2020 Agape (a Div. of Hope Publishing Company)

*Meditation on Beautiful Savior, SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU,*  
Silesian Folk Tune, arr. Cathy Mokebust © 2012 Choristers  
Guild.

*Jesus Shall Reign ... ELW 434*

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793  
Public Domain

*The Best Is Yet to Come ...*

By Rev. Michael Carlson  
© 2003 Michael Carlson

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! ... ELW 393*

Text: Bede, 673-735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin.  
Augsburg Fortress

*Be Not Afraid ... ELW 388*

Text: Matthew 8:5; Taizé Community  
Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994  
Text & Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé,  
admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

*Come to the Table ... ELW 481*

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942  
Music: Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956  
Text & Music © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music;  
Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music; and Word Music

*Lord, You Give the Great Communion ... ELW 579*

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934 Music: Cyril V. Taylor,  
1907-1991  
Text © 1978 Hope Publishing Company  
Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

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