



ASCENSION
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H



April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME!

Thank you for worshipping with us today!



About Communion

God's gift of Holy Communion is celebrated this morning. It is a great joy for us to share the REAL PRESENCE of Jesus' body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. **Should I receive Communion?** All who confess to God that they are a sinner, believe that the true body and blood of Jesus are present in this meal, and have faith in the words of Christ that this is "given and shed for you for remission of sins are welcomed to receive Communion today! If you are not sure or have any questions, please ask our Pastor or an Elder. If you are not receiving Communion today, we invite you to come up to the rail with everyone to receive a blessing. (If receiving a blessing, don't have your hands out to receive the Sacrament to give the Pastor a heads-up)

(Note: the individual cups in the center of the trays have white grape juice for those who need a non-alcoholic option)

Note for parents of small children:

We LOVE children to be a part of our worship service! We understand that kids can get restless during worship: trust us, that's OK! If, for whatever reason, you need a separate space for you and your child(ren), there is a cry room available to you next to the sanctuary. Also, we have "Busy Bags" available at the entrance of the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to assist you!



Today's service can also be found in the Lutheran Service Book:
Divine Service, Setting I — Page 151

- P** = Pastor speaks
C = **Congregation responds**
✙ = Sign of the cross

▲ *Stand for the processional*

Sing: LSB 478— The Day of Resurrection

Welcome

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

▼ *Kneel (or be seated)*

We take a moment of silence to reflect on God's Word and to examine our hearts in silent
CONFESSION of our sins.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

▲ *Stand*

We sing together the **INTROIT** (Latin for “**enter**”). This is a selection from the Psalms that sets the tone for our worship and introduces the rest of the Divine Service.

The Introit tune for today:



Introit Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

A little while, and you will see me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

**I will extol you, my | God and King,*
and bless your name forever and | ever.**

Every day I will | bless you*
and praise your name forever and | ever.

**The LORD is gracious and | merciful,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

**My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,*
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.**

**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.**

A little while, and you will see me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

The **KYRIE** is short for **Kyrie Eleison** (Greek for “**Lord, have mercy**”) and we sing it that God would have mercy on us and help us in our needs and troubles.

(Sing)

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

This is the Feast is a hymn that recalls the imagery found in Revelation 5:12-13 and 19:5-9 to remind us that our voices are joined with all the saints in heaven praising God now and forever!

- C** **This is the feast of victory for our God.**
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray together:

C **O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

▼ *Sit*

Old Testament Reading (*found on back of announcements insert*)

After the reading:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Solo Psalm 95 (Come Worship the Lord) (insert)

Anna Hallwood

Epistle Reading (*found on back of announcements insert*)

After the reading:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

▲ *Stand*

(Sing)

C **Alleluia.**
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to . . .

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(after the reading)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The **CREED** is a statement of faith: what we believe. By confessing this together, we express our unity in the same faith that the Church has confessed throughout the world and across the ages.

Nicene Creed

P Together we confess:

G **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.

▼ *Sit*

Children's Message

Children are invited to come up to the chancel for a special lesson and a treat.

Sing: LSB 595 — O Blessed Spring

Sermon

▼ *Kneel (or be seated)*

In the **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**, we pray for the needs of the world, the Church, this congregation, and any other special concerns. We add our voices to each petition, requesting that God hears our prayers as He has promised to do.

(after each petition)

P Lord, in Your mercy.

C **Hear our Prayer.**

(at the conclusion)

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

▼ *Sit*

As we prepare the Lord's Table for Communion, please fill out one of the blue contact cards in the pew rack or you can fill one out online by scanning the QR code to the right.



If you have an offering, you may place that in one of the offering baskets in the narthex (entry area) after the service. We also have the following giving options:

Text "Ascension" to **45777**

Give online at **ascensioneastlansing.org/give**

▲ Stand

(Sing)

- C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

*This last portion of worship is the **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** in which we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. We begin with the **PREFACE**, an ancient dialogue between the pastor and the people. It is followed by the **SANCTUS** (Latin for "Holy") which is the angelic hymn described in Isaiah 6.*

- 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 Him thanks and praise.
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:
- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to

eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, 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. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 INSTITUTION are Jesus' own words that seal His promise of forgiveness and salvation through His body and blood that He assures us is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine. Once again, God's grace comes to us in the Divine Service: Jesus is present and forgives our sins.

When the pastor says the **PAX DOMINI** (Latin for "**the peace of the Lord**") it is a statement of fact: the peace of the Lord is with you always because Jesus is truly present in this Sacrament. We then sing the **AGNUS DEI** (Latin for "**lamb of God**") in which we acknowledge that Jesus is the sacrifice who brings us peace and eternal life

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

(Sing)

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

▼ Sit

The **DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** now begins. An usher will invite you to come to the altar. You may kneel if you are able, otherwise standing is perfectly fine. If you are receiving the Sacrament, please hold your hands out. If you are receiving a blessing, please keep your hands at your side.

See page 329 in the LSB to help you prepare you to receive Communion.

While Communion is served, the congregation sings:

LSB 691 — Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing

LSB 680 — Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

▲ *Stand*

P The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the one true faith to life everlasting. Your sins are forgiven!

C **Amen.**

(Sing)

C **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

P Let us pray together:

C **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. Amen.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace

C **Amen.**

▼ *Sit*

Announcements

Be sure to read through the announcement insert for important news and information

▲ *Stand*

Sing: LSB 706— Love in Christ Is Strong and Living (tune of 753)

Serving Us Today

Usher Team: John and Linda Putz

Lector: Erin Ford

Elder: Chris Kroll

Altar: Carolyn Boger

Counters: Sherry Fent

Worship: Pastor Sean McCoy,
Deacon Jim Phillips, Alix Jenkins

Mission & Ministry Directors

Kelly Treiber (*Trustee*)

Mary Scherer (*Member-at-large*)

Laura Osminski (*Member-at-large*)

Sheryl Crossman (*Member-at-large*)

Nathan Bultman (*Elder*)

Joan Nancy (*Treasurer*)