# The Ascension of Our Lord May 21, 2023

## **The King Takes His Throne**

**As We Gather** - Ascension Day is an opportunity for God's people to celebrate Christ the King taking His throne in glory, honor, and authority at God the Father's right hand. Like the ancient believers, who clapped their hands and shouted praises to God at the coronation of their king, we rejoice in the victory King Jesus earned for us, His people, by means of His death and resurrection. Our praises keep rolling from our Easter celebration some forty days ago, all the way to today and even beyond, as we witness Jesus now seated in glory and majesty. Shout your praises to God! The same King who is exalted over all things in heaven and on earth is the King who stoops to serve us as we gather to worship Him!

**Offering and Registry of Worship Cards:** Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

**Saturday Worship:** Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

**About Protecting the Healthy:** To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

## **GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.**

**Prelude and Meditation:** Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

### **Prelude:**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace (stand)

#### **PREPARATION**

#### A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing **Hymn of Invocation:** LSB 493 $\Delta$ Please stand after a brief interlude $\mathbf{O}$ glo - ry New 1 A of sing! hymn let us 2 The ap - os ho - ly tol - ic band Up "Why shin - ing 3 To them the an - gels cry, 4 "You see Up Him now, as - cend - ing high $\mathbf{O}$ hymns through - out the world shall Al - le - lu - ia, ring: of Al - le - lu - ia. the Mount Ol - ives stand. on stand the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, and gaze up on Al - le - lu - ia, to the por - tals of the sky." al - le - lu ia! Christ, fore by road be a un al - le - lu ia! And with His faith fol - l'wers ful "This al - le - lu ia! the Sav ior," they is thus al - le - lu ia! "Here af ter Je shall sus you cends the throne trod, As un - to of Their Lord as - cend in maj - es see "This is His glo - rious tri - umph say; Re turn - ing in great maj - es see God. Al - le - lu ia, al - le - lu ia! Al - le -Al - le - lu al - le - lu ia! ia, Al - le ty. ia, dav!" Al - le - lu al - le - lu ia! Al - le -Al - le - lu al - le - lu ia, ia! Al - le -



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!

Stand

△ 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!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Tune: Public domain

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Remain Standing

#### Invocation

- ightharpoonup In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **Confession and Absolution**

Based on Colossians 1:15–19

Let us come before our Lord and King in a time of confession so that we may receive assurance of His mercy and forgiveness.

We take a moment of silence for personal prayers and reflection.

- P Lord Jesus, You are the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
- All things have been created by You: things in heaven and things on earth, visible and invisible.

- P All things are Yours, including us. We have been created by You and for Your glory.
- Yet our sinfulness separates us from You and Your will for our lives. By what we do and what we fail to do, we fall apart without You holding us together.
- P Lord Jesus, in all things You reign supreme. You are the King of all, the Sovereign of our souls. God the Father dwells fully in You.
- By Your blood, You have reconciled us to the Father. By Your cross, grant us Your forgiveness and peace. Amen.
- P Our merciful God is pleased to have all His fullness dwell in His crucified, risen, and ascended Son, Jesus Christ. He alone is the image of God, and in Him all things hold together. Through faith in Christ, you and I have been reconciled to God and stand renewed in His presence. As a called and ordained servant of Christ the King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### WORD

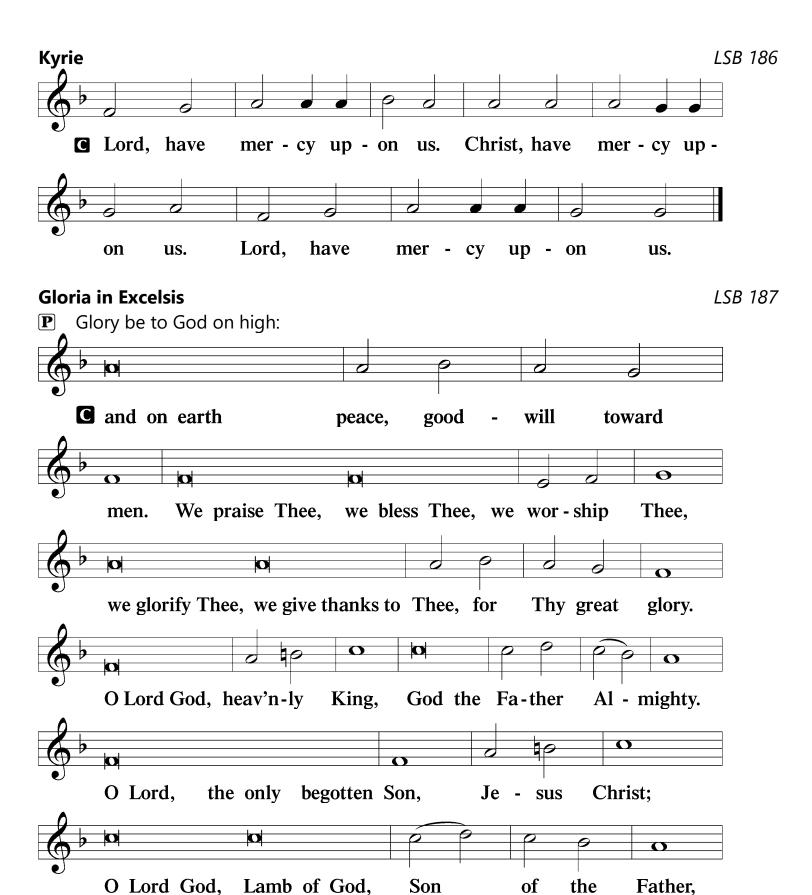
Introit

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

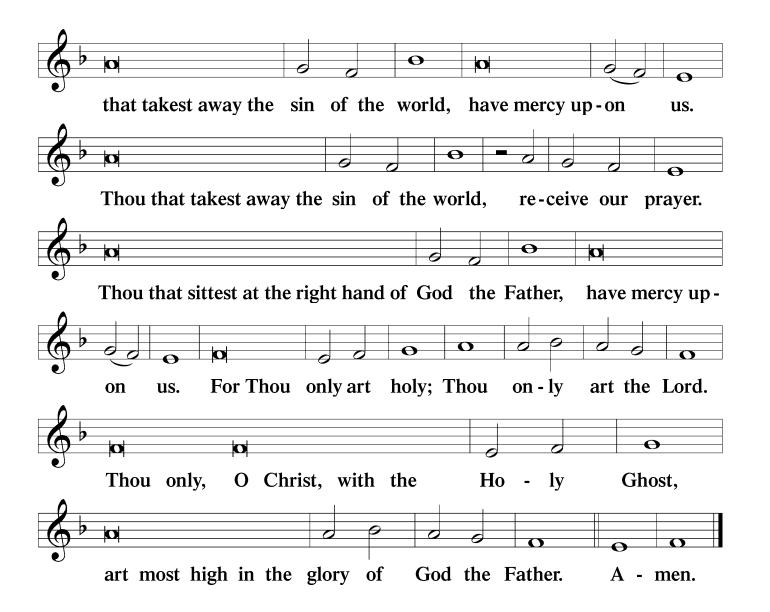
- P God has gone up with a shout,
- the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- P The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand,
- until I make Your enemies Your footstool."
- The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."
- The Lord is at Your 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 beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

- God has gone up with a shout,
- the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.



Continued on next page



#### **Salutation**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

- P Let us pray.
  - Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, gloriously took His throne, ascending to Your right hand,
- grant that 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.
- C Amen.

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."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

**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.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Luke 24:44–53

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

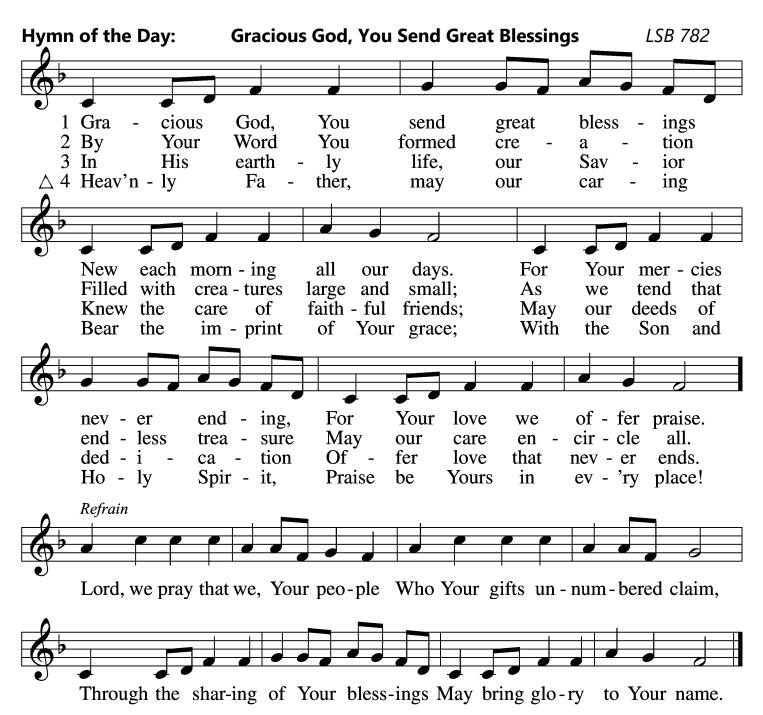
<sup>44</sup>Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said 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.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

## **Apostles' Creed**

Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.



Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946 Tune: Public domain Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati

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**Sermon:** 

"Blessed to be a Blessing"
Luke 24:44-53

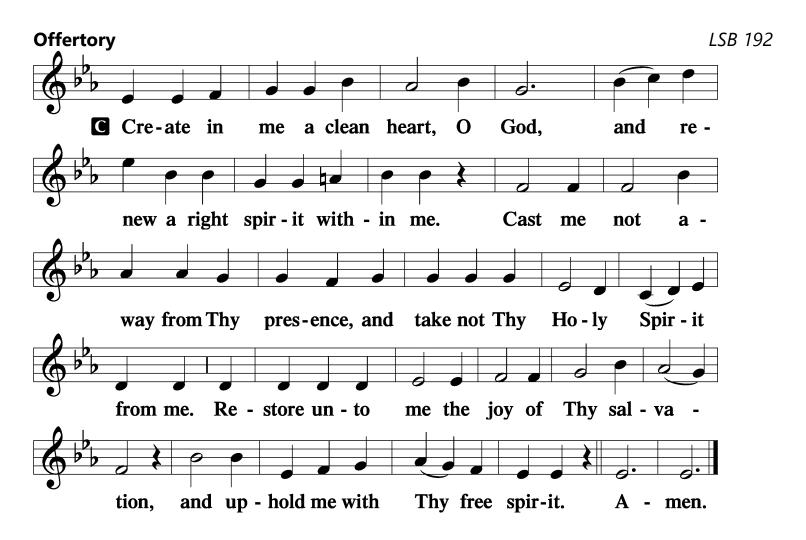
## **Prayer of the Church**

P The King invites His people to boldly pray and seek His will for our lives.

Loving Father, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to bear our sins and to be our Savior. By His death, He has destroyed death. By His rising to new life, He has given to us the guarantee of life forever with You. By His ascension to heaven's glorious throne, He has proven that He is King of kings and Lord of lords. Lord, in Your mercy,

- reign in our hearts.
- P Sovereign of all, we thank You that nothing is hidden from Your sight. In mercy, You have redeemed Your fallen creation by reconciling sinners to their Creator through the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross. Look with favor upon us and our families, our congregation and our community, guiding our steps in the way of peace. Grant boldness to all who bear Your name, raising up faithful men and women who serve in positions of leadership among us, that we each may live out our callings under Your authority and care. Lord, in Your mercy,
- reign in our hearts.
- Restoring Redeemer, the brokenness of our lives bears witness to the fact that, without You holding us together, we are lost and hopeless. Rescue those who despair, and grant patience to those suffering in times of trial, anguish, and loss. Comfort those who are saddened by the death of those they love. Fill with perfect peace those who belong to You, [including . . .]. Let all who hunger and thirst for what You alone can give find their solace and rest in You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- reign in our hearts.
- Crucified, risen, and exalted King, our Lord Jesus, with the ancient worshipers who clapped their hands and shouted their praises at the coronation of their sovereign, we rejoice in Your exaltation to the Father's glory and in Your promise to come again. Preserve us in faith until that coming, glorious, and awesome Day! Instill in us an ever-deepening reliance upon Your Word and Spirit. Create in us hearts that are ready to receive Your presence as You draw near to us again this day in Your body and blood. Make us one, Lord, even as You are one. Lord, in Your mercy,
- reign in our hearts.

- With confidence in the King who reigns supreme and governs all things in heaven and on earth for the benefit of His people, we entrust our prayers into Your care, O gracious Father, for You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.



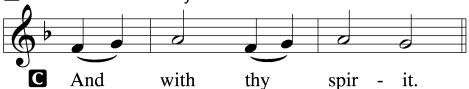
Sit

**Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only) Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only)** – Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.

#### **SACRAMENT**

Preface LSB 194





P Lift up your hearts.



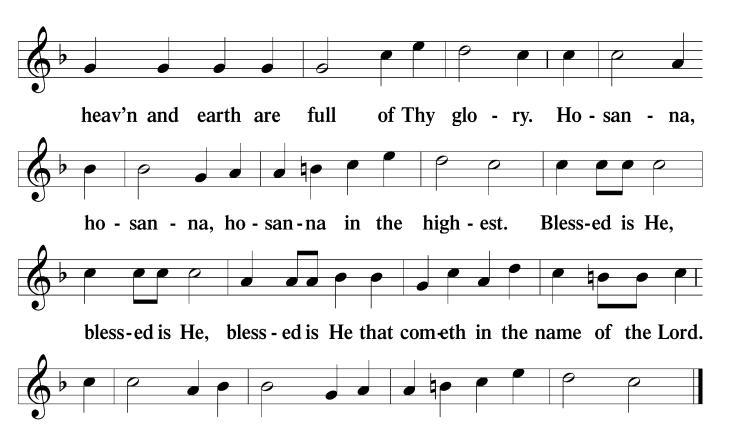
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



## **Proper Preface**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to humble Himself for our salvation and now reign on His glorious throne as King of kings and Lord of lords. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

## **Lord's Prayer**

LSB 179

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

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Sit

Distribution: Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build LSB 564 Christ Sits at God's Right Hand

sts. 1–5

Stand

LSB 199



# Post-Communion Thanksgiving (Saturday)

- P Let us pray together.
- 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.

## (Sunday)

- **P** Let us pray.
  - O God the Father, the One who reigns in glory with Your Son and is seated upon His throne of victory, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this sacred sharing of His body and blood.
- Reign in us as we trust in You as King of kings and Lord of lords.
- We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and King, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

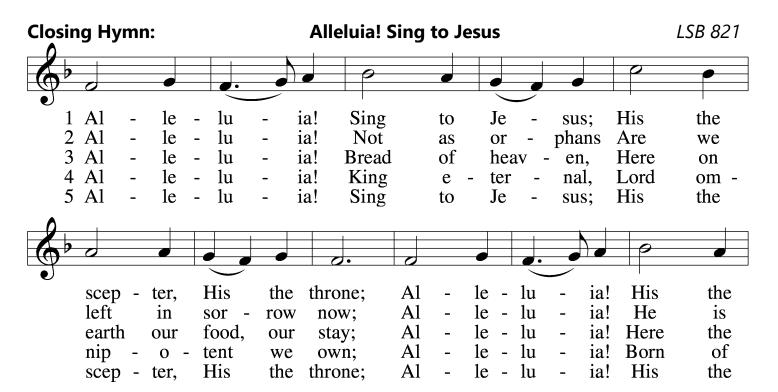
Benediction LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.







#### **Postlude:**

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## **LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

## **Saturday Elder**......Lee Crapo **Lector** .......Rick Smith Audio Lee Crapo/Robin Fox Sunday Audio Maria Hazzard Video TD: Kris Welch GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox Altar Guild Debbie and Rick Smith **LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY** Pastor Christopher Hazzard Organist .......Marvin Dalton **Elder**.......Carlos Orellana Greeter......Robert and Cheryl Langanke Video ......Video TD: Kris Welch GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox Altar Guild Debbie and Rick Smith ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK Saturday Worship Attendance......30 Sunday Worship Attendance......102 Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings..... Simply Giving/Vanco..... Paypal Offerings ...... Website (ShareFaith)..... Total of Offerings Received.....

Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts.....

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH- Easter VII** – The demise of Judas (Acts 1:18) confirms death is always the devil's work (1 Peter 5:8). We are not ashamed to resist its enticements, for the sake of both the Gospel and our neighbors. The work of God, on the other hand, always seeks to adopt even the ones the world discards and number every human life among His household (Psalm 68:5-6). Let us be about the Father's business!

**FLOWER SPONSOR**– Barbara and Alfred Miller in celebration of their 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR** – No Bulletin Sponsor this week.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** (*SUNDAY*) – Team 2 is serving today. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary. This will be the final Fellowship Hour until the Fall.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** – There will be a Congregational Meeting today, Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, after service in the Fellowship Hall.

**STEWARDSHIP MEETING** – The Stewardship Committee will meet next Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> after service.

**COMMUNICATIONS BOARD** – The Communications Board will meet next Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> after service.

**DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS** – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

**RECIPES WANTED** - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** – If you are a seasonal visitor and would be interested in an Associate Membership with Christ Lutheran, please see an Elder.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

**GREETERS NEEDED** – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

**TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY –** If you are interested in volunteering to help with maintenance around the church, please contact Sandy Spanier at 863-665-5572.

**NAMETAGS** – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Acts 1:11 – "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." Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is ascended, and Christ will come again. We live our lives in this world in the sure confidence of the world to come. We live as people who know our Lord Jesus and who know that He is coming back. This knowledge makes all the difference in how we approach the things of this world.

#### THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Tuesday	Trustee Workday @ 9 am
	Quilters @ 10 am
Wednesday	Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
	Bible Study @ Noon
	Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Choir @ 7 pm
Thursday	Paper Pumpkin Club @ 6:30 pm
Friday	Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Saturday	
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship Service @ 10 am
	Bible Study @ 11:15 am
	Stewardship Meeting
	Communications Board Meeting