

Worship Service - Ascension

Invocation

God raised Christ from the dead,
and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places. Alleluia!

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

Confession and Declaration of Grace

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of each other.
**We confess to you, almighty God, before the whole company of heaven,
and to each other, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by our own fault.
Have mercy on us, for Jesus' sake, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to eternal life.
Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in his name he has given the right to become children of God, and has given them his Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.
Amen.

Hymn LHB 113 Crown Him with many crowns

Prayer of the day

Let us pray
Almighty God, grant that we who believe in the ascension of your Son, our Lord, into heaven may also there ascend in heart and mind, and dwell with him forever; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11 *Jesus' ascension, promise and commission*
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalms 47

Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,
a great king over all the earth.
He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.
He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves. *Selah*

God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises!

Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!

God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
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!

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23 *Christ is the supreme Lord over all things*
This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53 *Jesus commissions and blesses the disciples*
This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Jesus

Hymn LHB 169 The head that once was crowned

Sermon

Hymn LHB 221 Spread O spread almighty word

Prayer of the church

Our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ, has been raised to the right hand of God. Let us pray to him that he would intercede for us and for all the world before our Father in heaven.

Mighty God, we pray for those who exercise authority in our country, especially our Prime Minister, and all those involved in federal, state and local levels of government. Strengthen them in these difficult times of the COVID-19 pandemic, and help them to make good decisions for the benefit of all.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for those caught in sin that they may know the freedom that forgiveness brings. Help us to share your love with a world in desperate need of your grace and forgiveness.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Just and Merciful Father, we pray for the release of captives, especially those unfairly imprisoned, and for lands ruled by oppressive regimes. Let your peace and freedom reign!

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for justice for the poor. We give thanks to you that we live in a society which makes provision for people in difficult circumstances. Be with all

those facing unemployment and all kinds of hardships in our society, and give us eyes to see and hearts to care for them.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we especially pray for those who bear intolerable burdens of illness, grief, or anxiety, especially in this time of COVID-19. Bring healing, comfort and peace. Bless all those who care for the sick. In particular, we bring these people before you...[silence].

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, you ascended into heaven, to your Father and our Father, to your God and our God. Always remember us, and never cease to represent our cause before the throne of God, with whom you live and reign, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour, and give us peace.

Amen.

Hymn LHB 219 Jesus shall reign