

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SONGS OF ASCENSION

June 17, 2018

11:00 am



AS WE GATHER

“Now the green blade rises from the buried grain” is the first line of a well-known Easter carol. The wonder of God’s handiwork can be seen in the smallest things of God’s great creation. Even in a grain of mustard seed there is the promise of new life and fruitfulness. God provides for all of our needs out of love for His creatures. And He rejoices in the growth that occurs. As the “rolling seasons in fruitful order move” (*LSB* 893:1), we celebrate that in Christ we have a central role in God’s amazing plan as we grow in love.

PRESERVICE “There is Power in the Blood”

Instrumental



WELCOME

OPENING SONG “Cornerstone” Mote/Liljero/Myrin/Morgan/Batchelder-Bradbury

Tied for #31

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name REPEAT**

**CHORUS: Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all**

**When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil CHORUS**

He is Lord Lord of all CHORUS

**When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne**

Faultless stand before the throne

(Please Stand)

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 150*

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary;
praise Him in His mighty heavens!

People: Praise Him for His mighty deeds;

praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

Pastor: Praise Him with trumpet sound;
praise Him with lute and harp!

**People: Praise Him with tambourine and dance;
praise Him with strings and pipe!**

Pastor: Praise Him with sounding cymbals;
praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

**People: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!**

**ALL: 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.**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning,
People **grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life;**
Pastor through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



OLD TESTAMENT *Ezekiel 17:22–24* (The Lord promises a new planting in Israel.)

²² Thus says the Lord GOD: “I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³ On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴ And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 5:1–10* (God promises a house eternal in the heavens.)

¹For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

ALLELUIA and VERSE

LSB 205

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 4:26–34* (Jesus teaches the parable of the mustard seed.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶ And he said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰ And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹ It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth,³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴ He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 207

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus 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.

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN'S TIME “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” LSB 790, v. 1

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,

Joining in glad adoration!

HYMN OF THE DAY “Song of Ascension”

Ranked #8



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs. For the whole Church throughout the world, that as people united in faith and active in love we witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all nations of the earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule there be times of peace and reconciliation, and for our own nation that it be an ensign of hope, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our families as on this day we honor our fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers, that they be supportive of and caring toward each person, seeing Christ in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the special needs of this day, remembering those who are ill and those who mourn and for all those matters on our hearts this day, [*including . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Christ Be My Leader” AGPS 81

Tied for #16

**Christ be my leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care;
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.**

**Christ be my teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him, though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.**

**Christ be my savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.**
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(Please Stand)



✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christian to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 209

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name as He has taught us:

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

LSB 209

PAX DOMINI — *The Peace of the Lord John 20:19* *LSB 209*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "I Will Rise" Giglio/Tomlin/Maher/Reeves

Tied for #28

**There's a peace I've come to know Though my heart and flesh may fail
There's an anchor for my soul I can say it is well**

**Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won He is risen from the dead**

**CHORUS: (And) I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow no more pain
I will rise on eagle's wings
Before my God fall on my knees and rise
I will rise**

**There's a day that's drawing near When this darkness breaks to light
And the shadows disappear And my faith shall be my eyes**

**Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won He is risen from the dead CHORUS
And I hear the voice of many angels sing Worthy is the Lamb
And I hear the cry of ev'ry longing heart Worthy is the Lamb
And I hear the voice of many angels sing Worthy is the Lamb
And I hear the cry of ev'ry longing heart
Worthy is the Lamb Worthy is the Lamb CHORUS**

I will rise.

**Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
 For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
 Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
 Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
 From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
 Fills our souls with alleluias, Alleluias without end!**

**God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, Light revealer; Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!**

(Please Stand)



BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Psalm 103:1

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG “Mighty to Save”

Fielding/Morgan

Tied for #28

**Everyone needs compassion. Love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.
 Everyone needs forgiveness. The kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations.**

**CHORUS: Savior, He can move the mountains
 My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.
 Forever, Author of salvation.**

He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

Interlude

**So take me as You find me. All my fears and failures. Fill my life again.
I give my life to follow. Everything I believe in, now I surrender. CHORUS**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus, Shine your light and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King. CHORUS, BRIDGE**

POSTLUDE

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