



***St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran
Church & School***

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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"Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious"

Hymn: #606 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
Has redeemed us by his blood."

2 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

3 Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?

Invocation

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth will declare your praise.

P: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Psalm 47

¹Clap your hands, all you nations;
shout to God with cries of joy.

²How awesome is the LORD Most High,
the great King over all the earth!

³He subdued nations under us,
peoples under our feet.

⁴He chose our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.

⁵God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

⁶Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

⁷For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.

⁸God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.

⁹The nobles of the nations assemble
as the people of the God of Abraham,

for the kings of the earth belong to God;
he is greatly exalted.

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.

Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Epistle: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵This is why, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is, ¹⁹and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. ²⁰It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church. ²³The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel: Mark 16:9-20

⁹After Jesus had risen early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. ¹⁰She went and reported to those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept. ¹¹When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe it.

¹²After these things, Jesus appeared in another form to two of them as they were walking along on their way to the country. ¹³These two also returned and reported it to the rest. But they did not believe them either.

¹⁴Later, he appeared to the Eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table. He rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen him after he had risen.

¹⁵He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

¹⁷“These signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons. They will speak in new languages.

¹⁸They will pick up snakes. And if they drink any deadly poison, it will not harm them. They will lay their hands on the sick, and they will get well.”

¹⁹Then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

²⁰Those who went out preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn: #473 “Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious”

1 Look, ye, saints, the sight is glorious--

See the man of sorrows now,

From the fight returned victorious!

Ev'ry knee to him shall bow.

Crown him! Crown him! Crowns become the victor's brow.

2 Crown the Savior! Angels, crown him!

Rich the trophies Jesus brings;

On the seat of pow'r enthrone him

While the vault of heaven rings.

Crown him! Crown him! Crown the Savior King of kings!

3 Sinners in derision crowned him,

Mocking thus the Savior's claim;

Saints and angels crowd around him,

Proud to glorify his name.

Crown him! Crown him! Spread abroad the victor's fame.

4 Hark, those bursts of acclamation!

Hark, those loud, triumphant chords!

Jesus takes the highest station;

Oh, what joy beyond all words!

Crown him! Crown him! King of kings and Lord of lords!

Sermon Text— Acts 1:1-11

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

⁶So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Look, Ye Saints, The Sight Is Glorious

I. Look above you

Hymn: #474 “Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise”

**1 Hail the day that sees him rise To his throne above the skies!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Reascends his native heav'n.**

**2 There the glorious triumph waits: Lift your heads, eternal gates.
He has conquered death and sin; Take the King of glory in!**

3 See, the heav'n its Lord receives, Yet he loves the earth he leaves;
Though returning to his throne, Still he calls mankind his own.

4 See, he lifts his hands above; See, he shows the prints of love.
Hark! His gracious lips bestow Blessings on his Church below.

5 Still for us he intercedes; His prevailing death he pleads.
He, the first of all our race, Near himself prepares a place.

II. Look around you

Hymn: #747 "Christ High-Ascended"

1 Christ high-ascended, now in glory seated,
Throned and exalted, victory completed,
Death's dread dominion finally defeated—
We are his witnesses.

2 Christ, from the Father ev'ry pow'r possessing,
Who on his chosen lifted hands in blessing,
Sends forth his servants, still in faith confessing—
We are his witnesses.

3 Christ, who in dying won for us salvation,
Lives now the firstborn of the new creation;
To win disciples out of ev'ry nation,
We are his witnesses.

4 Christ in his splendor, all dominion gaining,
Christ with his people evermore remaining,
Christ to all ages, gloriously reigning—
We are his witnesses.

5 As at his parting, joy shall banish grieving,
Faith in his presence strengthen our believing;
Filled with his Spirit, love and pow'r receiving,
We are his witnesses.

III. Look ahead of you

Hymn: #487 "Lo, He Comes on Clouds Descending"

1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Once for ev'ry sinner slain.
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ reveals his endless reign.

2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold him
Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who ridiculed and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshipers.
With what wonder, With what wonder, With what wonder,
Gaze we on those glorious scars.

4 Yea, Amen, let all adore you
High on your eternal throne.
Ev'ry knee shall bow before you;
Come and take your people home!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
You shall reign and you alone!

Offering

Prayer for Ascension Day

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we praise and worship you today, for you are the eternal Son of God and the Savior of the world. On this day, after finishing the great work of our redemption, you ascended into heaven and were seated at the right hand of the Father. Now you, who humbled yourself to bleed and die on the cross, reign in heaven far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

C: How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth!

P: Lord Jesus, you are our eternal High Priest, our only Mediator with the Father. Appear in the presence of God on our behalf for we have sinned against our heavenly Father and do not deserve to be called his children. We have set our minds on earthly things and failed to seek those things which are above. We have spent our money on that which is not bread and labored for that which cannot satisfy.

C: For the sake of your name, O LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, our exalted King, as you rule over all things for the good of your church, so rule in our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Draw our hearts to you today and every day and fill our hearts with pure and holy desires, so that on the wings of faith and with true devotion we may continually ascend to you. Teach us to make the treasures of heaven, which do not perish or spoil or fade away, the true treasures of our souls. Lead us to seek first your kingdom and righteousness and to trust that you will graciously give us all the other things we need for this life.

C: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, our ascended Prophet, extend your Church which you bought with your own blood. Keep us steadfast in your saving Word and preserve the right use of your Sacraments among us. Send out faithful messengers of the Gospel so that all the earth may be filled with your glory. Govern the hearts of parents and teachers that they bring the children entrusted to their care to you, and guide and direct young people to walk the way that leads to life. Awaken the unconverted and raise those who have fallen so that they may no more cling to this world but look ahead to the true Promised Land. Have mercy upon all who are in affliction and distress, in sickness and temptation, hear their prayers and refresh them with your heavenly comfort.

C: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy.

P: Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory as the Judge of the living and the dead. Grant that in view of your coming we may fight the good fight of the faith with patience and hope and obtain the crown of

eternal life. On that last great day, raise our mortal bodies, transform them to be like your glorious body and draw us to yourself in heaven where we will see you face to face and live in your glory forevermore.
C: You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Amen.

Benediction

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

C: Amen.

Hymn: #472 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"

(All) 1 A hymn of glory let us sing!

New songs throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**(Men) 2 The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And with his followers they see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**(Women) 3 To them the shining angels cry,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

"This is the Savior," thus they say.

"This is his glorious triumph day."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**(Pulpit Side) 4 "You see him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky."**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Hereafter Jesus you shall see

Returning in great majesty."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**(Lectern Side) 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! (Please stand)

**(All) 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! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"



**“I AM GOING TO
THE FATHER.”**

JOHN 14:28

