

**The Seventh Sunday In Easter
The Ascension
May 17, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
9:00 a.m.**



Rite Two with Communion - ELH page 60

1. Welcome

2. Opening Hymn #389 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"

*Sing stanzas 1, 2, 4, 6 in harmony as you are comfortable. Sing stanzas 3, 5, 7 in unison.
(Please stand for the last verse)*

1 A hymn of glory let us sing!
New songs throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod.
Ascendeth to the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
And with his followers they see
Jesus' resplendent majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 To whom the angels, drawing nigh,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"This is the Saviour!" thus they say,
"This is His noble triumph-day."
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 "Again shall ye behold Him so
As ye today have seen Him go."
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"In glorious pomp ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky."
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 O grant us thitherward to tend
And with unwearied hearts ascend,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Unto Thy kingdom's throne, where Thou,
As is our faith, art seated now.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 Be Thou our Joy and strong Defense,
Who art our future Recompense:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
So shall the light that springs from Thee
Be ours through all eternity.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to Thee let earth accord,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Who art, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

3. The Invocation

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

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

4. Confession of Sin and Absolution

Pastor Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor Our help is in the name of the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Congregation O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Congregation Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.

5. Introit (Latin, "Entrance")

Pastor Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? Alleluia! This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven. Alleluia! Alleluia! Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

6. The Gloria Patri (Latin, "Glory to the Father")

♪ **Congregation** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

7. The Kyrie Eleison (Greek, "Lord Have Mercy")

♪ **Congregation** Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

8. The Gloria in Excelsis Deo (Latin, "Glory in the highest to God")

♪ **Congregation** Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For You only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

9. The Salutation

Pastor The Lord be with you.

♪ **Congregation** And with your spirit.

10. The Collect

Pastor Let us pray: O Jesus Christ, almighty Son of God, You are no longer in humiliation here on earth, but are seated at the right hand of Your Father, Lord over all things: We beseech You, send us Your Holy Spirit; give Your Church pious pastors, preserve Your Word, control and restrain the devil and all who would oppress us; mightily uphold Your kingdom, until all Your enemies have been put under Your feet, that we may hold the victory over sin, death, and the devil; through You, who live and reign with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

11. Old Testament Lesson Acts 1:1-12

¹ In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ 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; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ 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." ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

12. The Epistle Ephesians 1:16-23

¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ 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. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

13. The Alleluia

♪ **Congregation** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

14. The Gospel *Luke 24:44-53* Please stand

Pastor The Holy Gospel for today is written in the...

♪ **Congregation** Glory be to You, O Lord!

⁴⁴ Then he 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." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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." ⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Pastor This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

♪ **Congregation** Praise be to You, O Christ!

15. The Confession of Faith *The Nicene Creed*

Congregation 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall 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 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.

16. Chief Hymn #388 "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 hath 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,
Near Himself prepares our place,
Harbinger of human race.

6 There we shall with Thee remain
Partners of Thy endless reign,
There Thy face unclouded see,
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in Thee.

17. Sermon – "Ascended At Last" *Acts 1:6-12*

18. The Offering

19. Prayer

The Service Of Holy Communion

Heritage Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of the ELS and WELS partake of the Lord's Supper today. Visitors, please speak with Pastor Anderson about receiving the Sacrament in the future.

20. The Preface (p. 72)

Pastor The Lord be with you.

♪ **Congregation** And with your spirit.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

♪ **Congregation** We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

♪ **Congregation** It is good and right so to do.

Pastor 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, therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

21. The Sanctus (Latin, "Holy") (p.76)

♪ **Congregation** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

22. The Lord's Prayer: (p.77)

Pastor 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.

♪ **Congregation** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

23. The Words of Institution (p.79)

Pastor Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "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, gave thanks, and 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 and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

24. The Pax Domini (Latin, "The Peace of the Lord")

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

25. The Agnus Dei (Latin, "Lamb of God")

♪ **Congregation** O Christ the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.

26. The Distribution

27. Distribution Hymns

#394 "We Thank Thee, Jesus, Dearest Friend"

1 We thank Thee, Jesus, dearest Friend,
That Thou didst into heav'n ascend.
O blessed Savior, bid us live
And strength to soul and body give.

Allelujah.

2 Ascended to His throne on high,
Hid from our sight, yet always nigh,
He rules and reigns at God's right hand

And has all pow'r at His command.
Allelujah.
3 The man who trusts in Him is blest
And finds in Him eternal rest;
This world's allurement we despise
And fix on Christ alone our eyes.
Allelujah.

4 We therefore heartily rejoice
And sing His praise with cheerful voice;
He captive led captivity,
From bitter death He set us free.

#391 "Lo, God to Heaven Ascendeth"

1 Lo, God to heav'n ascendeth!
Great joy doth there abound;
With shouts triumphant blendeth
The trumpet's thrilling sound.
Sing praise to Christ the Lord;
Sing praise with exultation,
King of each heathen nation,
The God of hosts adored!

2 With joy is heav'n resounding
Christ's glad return to see;
Behold the saints surrounding
The Lord who set them free,
Bright myriads, thronging, come;
The cherub band rejoices,
And loud seraphic voices
All welcome Jesus home.

3 No more the way is hidden,
Since Christ, our Head, arose;
No more to man forbidden,
The road to heav'n that goes;
Our Lord is gone before,
Yet here He will not leave us,
But soon in heav'n receive us:
He opens wide the door.

#321 "Zion, To Thy Savior Singing"

1 Zion, to thy Saviour singing,
To thy prince and shepherd bringing
Sweetest hymns of love and praise,
Thou wilt never reach the measure
Of His worth, by all the treasure
Of thy most ecstatic lays.

2 Of all wonders that can thrill thee,
And with adoration fill thee,
What than this can greater be,
That Himself to thee He giveth?
He that eateth ever liveth,
For the Bread of Life is He.

Allelujah.
5 Through Him we heirs of heav'n are made;
O Brother, Christ, extend Thine aid
That we may firmly trust in Thee
And through Thee live eternally.
Allelujah.

4 Christ is our place preparing.
To heav'n we, too, shall rise,
And, joys angelic sharing,
Be where our Treasure lies:
There may each heart be found,
Where Jesus Christ has entered!
There let our hopes be centered,
Our course still heav'nward bound!

5 May we, His servants, thither
In heart and mind ascend;
And let us sing together.
We seek Thee, Christ, our Friend--
Thee, God's anointed Son--
Our life, and way to heaven,
To whom all pow'r is given,
Our joy and hope and crown.

3 Fill thy lips to overflowing
With sweet praise, His mercy showing
Who this heav'nly table spread:
On this day so glad and holy,
To each longing spirit lowly
Giveth He the living Bread.

4 Here the King hath spread His table
Whereon eyes of faith are able
Christ our Passover to trace:
Shadows of the law are going,
Light and life and truth inflowing,
Night to day is giving place.

5 Lo, this blessed food descending
Heav'nly love is hither sending,
Hungry lips on earth to feed:
So the paschal lamb was given,
So the manna came from heaven,
Isaac was His type indeed.

6 O Good Shepherd, Bread life-giving,
Us, Thy grace and life receiving,
Feed and shelter evermore;
Thou on earth our weakness guiding,
We in heav'n with Thee abiding
With all saints will Thee adore.

#320 “Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Bestowed”

1 Lord Jesus Christ, You have bestowed For our weak souls' true feeding
This meal, Your body and Your blood, To it as guests us bidding.
We, pressed with sin's load burden-some, Thus as Your chosen guests here come
And seek Your help and counsel.

2 Though visibly from earth You've gone, Already now ascended,
And here to us remain unseen Till this brief time is ended,
Until the judgment shall begin When we will stand before Your throne
And joyfully behold You.

3 Still You are here, as says Your Word, With us, Your congregation,
With now Your flesh and bones, O Lord, Not bound to one location,
Your Word stands as a tower sure, None can o'er throw its truth secure,
Be he most shrewd and subtle.

4 “This is My body,” thus You say, “Eat orally, so take Me;
All drink My blood; by you I stay, And you shall not forsake Me.”
Thus You have spoken, so 'tis true; Naught is impossible with You,
For You, Lord, are almighty.

5 And though my mind here does not see How in so many places
Your body at one time can be, Yet faith Your Word embraces.
I leave to You how this can be, Your Word, O Lord, suffices me;
Faith stands upon it solely.

6 Lord, I believe, dear Lord, I trust; Help for faith's weakness give me!
See, I but ashes am and dust; Ne'er of Your Word deprive me!
Your Baptism, Supper, and Your Word My comfort here below afford;
Here lies my heart's true treasure.

7 O help, Lord, that we worthily Go to Your holy Table,
Our sins lamenting heartily, and with Your merits noble
And Your great kindness us refresh; Then surely e'er we'll strive afresh
Thereby our life to better.

8 Lord Christ, to You be highest praise For this blest Supper given
While 'gainst it men bold falsehood raise, keep it for us from heaven!
Help that Your body and Your blood May be my soul's consoling food
In my last moments! Amen.

28. The Nunc Dimittis (Latin, “Now Dismiss Us”) (p.81)

♪ **Congregation** Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word.
For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all
people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever
shall be, forevermore. Amen.

29. The Prayer of Thanksgiving (p.83)

Pastor O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

♪ **Congregation** And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them 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 true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

30. The Hymn Of Thanks #392 “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”

1 On Christ’s ascension I now build The hope of mine ascension:
This hope alone has ever stilled All doubt and apprehension
For where the Head is, there full well I know His members are to dwell
When Christ shall come and call them.

2 Since He returned to claim His throne, Great gifts for men obtaining,
My heart shall rest in Him alone, No other rest remaining;
For where my Treasure went before, There all my thoughts shall ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.

3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Recalling Thine ascension,
That I may ever walk with Thee, Adorning Thy redemption;
And then, when all my days shall cease, Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.

31. The Salutation

Pastor The Lord be with you.

♪ **Congregation** And with your spirit.

32. The Benedicamus

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to God.

33. Heritage Choir “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” Rutter

Numbers 6:22-27

*The Lord bless you and keep you: The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
to shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you.*

*The Lord bless you and keep you: The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
to shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you.*

*The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you,
The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you
and give you peace, and give you peace,
and give you peace, and give you peace.
Amen*

34. The Benediction

Pastor 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.

♪ **Congregation** Amen, amen, amen

35. Closing Hymn #55 “Crown Him With Many Crowns”

Sing stanzas 1-3 in harmony as you are comfortable. Sing stanzas 4-5 in unison.

1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! how the heav’nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

2 Crown Him the Virgin’s Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose,
As of that rose the stem;
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.

3 Crown Him the Lord of Love,
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye
At mysteries so bright.

4 Crown Him the Lord of Life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

5 Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above;
Crown Him the King to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is King of all.



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