

The Ascension of Our Lord (observed)

Sunday, May 17, 2026 - 11:15am

Pre-service Music

Invocation

- P** We begin in the Name of the Father,
C **Who raises His only Son, so that we might have life.**
P We begin in the Name of His Son, Jesus Christ,
C **Who redeemed us on the cross with His own blood.**
P We begin in the Name of the Holy Spirit,
C **Who comforts us, and gives us power to live. Amen. Christ is risen, Alleluia!**

Exhortation

LSB 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** 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.

Confession of Sins

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

(Silence for prayerful confession)

Absolution

Song:

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

by Paul Baloche

Chorus: Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see You. I want to see You. *(Repeat)*

Verse: To see You high and lifted up. Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love. As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Chorus: Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see You. I want to see You. *(Repeat)*

Verse: To see You high and lifted up. Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love. As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see You.
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see You.
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see You.

Song:

“King of Kings”

By Jason Ingram & Brooke Ligertwood

(Verse 1):

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

(Chorus):

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

(Verse 2):

**To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross**

**For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died**

(Chorus)

(Verse 3):

**And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death**

**And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored**

(Verse 4):

**And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint**

**By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me**

(Chorus)

Praise forever to the King of Kings.

Prayer Time Concluded with Our Lord's Prayer

- ☐ 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.**

Welcome

Pastor Tim Eden

Children's Time

DCE Jeff Bellach

First Reading

Acts 1:1–11

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But 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.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and 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.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

A Christ has risen from the dead.

C God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

A He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

C He has put all things under his feet. Amen.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 1:15–23

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that 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, ¹⁸having 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he 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 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. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44–53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then [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.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them.

⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

G 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.**

Sermon: “The Plan”

Our Offerings to the Lord

(Members & guests please fill out the attendance card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate. E-Giving available online at www.blcbcs.org)

The Service of Holy Communion

Preface Prayer

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth,
C For You have shown us mercy beyond what we could ever imagine. You gave for us Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We thank You for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive Him Who comes to us in His body and blood. Amen.

Pastor Speaks the Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you. Amen and Amen.

The Congregation shares "The Peace of the Lord".

Distribution of the Sacrament and Songs:

“Above All”
by Paul Baloche

**Verse: Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began
Above all kingdoms, above all thrones Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,**

There's no way to measure what You're worth

***Chorus:* Crucified, laid behind a stone, You lived to die rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me Above all**

(Repeat Verse)

(Repeat Chorus 2 times)

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me Above all

"The Power of The Cross"

Verse 1

**Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day
Christ on the road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood**

Chorus 1

**This the pow'r of the cross
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross!**

Verse 2

**Oh to see the pain written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow**

Chorus 1

**This the pow'r of the cross
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross!**

Verse 3

**Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life;
Finished the vict'ry cry**

Chorus 1

**This the pow'r of the cross
Christ became sin for us**

Took the blame bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross!

Verse 4

Oh to see my name written in the wounds
For through Your suff'ring I am free
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love!

Chorus 2

This the pow'r of the cross
Son of God slain for us
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross!

We stand forgiven at the cross!

Benediction

Closing Song:

"Shout to the Lord"

by Darlene Zschech

Verse: My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You;
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
My Comfort, my Shelter, Tower of refuge and strength;
Let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.

Chorus: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King;
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands, forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

(Verse)

Chorus: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King;
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands, forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

Announcements

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. Other songs and titles, to the best of our knowledge and from available sources are public domain or covered under CCLI # 1557439.