May 29, 2022
The Ascension of Our Lord
Baptism Sunday

+ WE GATHER BEFORE GOD +

WELCOME

PRELUDE Meditation - Everett E. Truette

LIGHTING OF THE TRINITY CANDLE
St. John's is a community that is
Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love.
We begin our worship in the name of the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
As we celebrate the ascension of our Lord, let us confess the disconnect between our proclamation of faith and the way we live.
Forgiving and gracious God, **you have called us to be the church, to live out our resurrection faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to bring to all the good news of your saving love. But we have failed to do this. We have given our faith a back seat to the troubles of the world and to the stresses in our own life. We look for quick and easy answers. Forgive us for the smallness of our faith. You, who raised Christ from the dead, have promised to raise our spirits and bring us to new life. You have done this and yet, we remain static in our response to you. Clear our spirits of the clutter of everyday living. Help us to be open always to your word and your love. Challenge us to move in directions of peace and hope for all people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

Forgiveness and love have been poured out upon us, to offer hope to all nations. As forgiven and loved children of God, you are called and blessed to be messengers of God's good news to all people.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN ELW 392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus vs. 1-2

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, first born of the dead and wellspring of eternal life,
the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW 823 Praise the Lord! O Heavens

Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, adore him;
praise him, angels, in the height;
sun and moon, rejoice before him;
praise him, gleaming stars and light.
Praise the Lord, for he has spoken;
worlds his mighty voice obeyed;

laws which never shall be broken
for their guidance he has made.

Praise the Lord, for he is gracious;
never shall his promise fail.
God has made his saints victorious;
sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation;
hosts on high, his pow'r proclaim;
heav'n and earth, and all creation,
laud and magnify his name!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

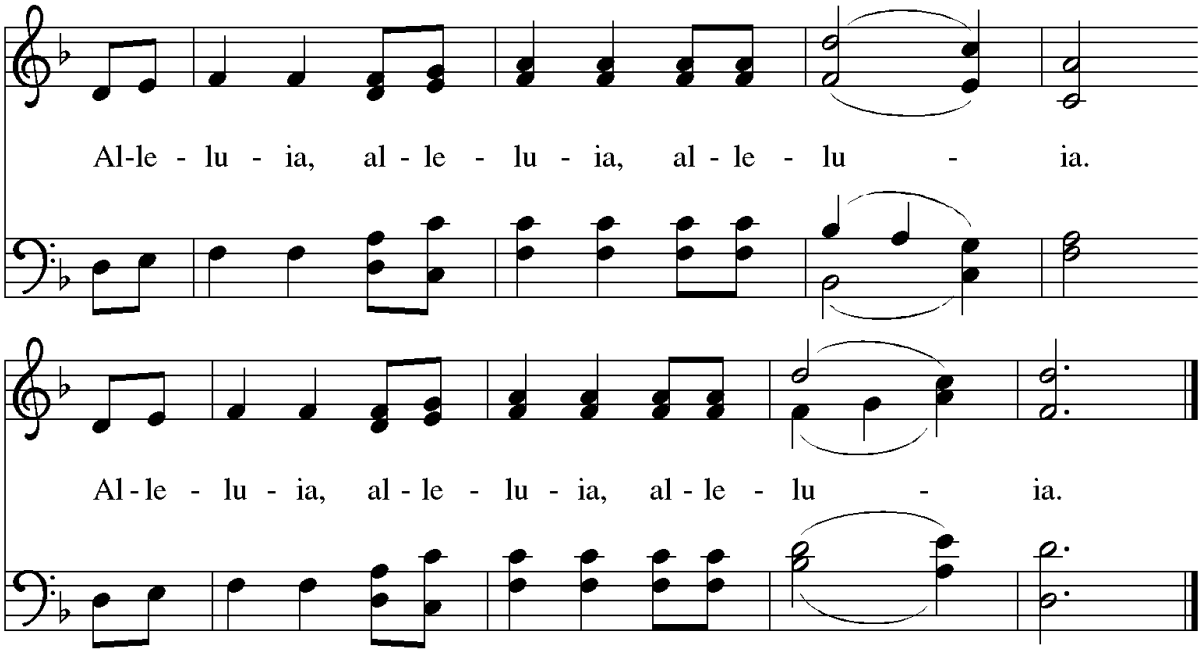
Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

At the conclusion of the reading:
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:44-53

At the beginning of the reading:
The holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the reading:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 579 Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community:
With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity:
With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM pg. 227

BAPTISM HYMN ELW 443 Dearest Jesus, we are here vs. 1-3

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING Come away to the skies (Middlebury) - Russell Schulz-Widmar

OFFERTORY ELW 685 Take My Life, That I May Be vs. 1-4

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

OFFERING PRAYER

LITANY FOR ASCENSION DAY
Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new world has broken into ours—
a world in which justice does come for the poor,
freedom comes for the prisoners,
and healing for the sick.

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new community has been formed—
a community that loves and cares for all members,
a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected,
a place where all find a place of belonging.

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new creation has begun—
all that was distorted is being restored,
all that is corrupted is being renewed,
all that was broken is being made whole.

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
God's new world has begun.
And that new world – that new community –
that new creation begins in us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
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.

+ WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING
As people of faith, we have gathered for worship.
As people of faith, we now return to the world.
Go out to share the story of faith,
the story of life, with the world around you.
We share the faith in word and in deed,
in speech and in action.

As you go out to give a living witness,
as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world,
go knowing that God,
Father, Son and Spirit,
goes with you,
sharing the laughter and the hope,
the fears and the tears.
Amen

SENDING HYMN ELW 890 Mine eyes have seen the Glory

DISMISSAL
The service is ended. Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?
Go in peace - into the world, for the love of the world!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Let Tyrants Shake Their Iron Rod (Chester) - Robert J. Powell

The liturgy for today's worship service was reprinted by permission from Sundays and Seasons.com, copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #45176. The hymns and songs unless otherwise noted, are covered under copyright licenses; CCLI 1490857, OneLicense.net A-709256, or are Public Domain. Copyright 2022. Litany for Ascension Day adapted from one written by Christine Sine, and posted on Godspace. Benediction adapted from one written by Rev Gord on his blog, Worship Offerings.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Bob Moran, Brian Allebach, Charles Krupp, Ann Brown Hager, David Mounts, Melissa Snyder, Sandy Umstead, Leah Crater, Steve Keyser, Sydney Crossin, Kathy Reese, Paige Seasock, Peyton Seasock, Tal Umstead, Dorothy Rudolph, Andrew Robison, Jeff Hart, Margaret Simon, Hailey Mientus, the Mientus family, Jeff Jadick, Loretta Diehl, Judy Ockenlaender, Ed Brown, Bruce Aldinger, Kassondra Sowden, Susan Miklo, Heidi Slook, Silas Reed and Pastor Susan Lynch.

This morning, we welcome Atlas Ronald and Benjamin Abel Wink into the family of faith at St. John's through the sacrament of baptism. Atlas and Benjamin's parents are Kristopher and Amy Wink and her sponsors are Tom and Krystal Huguenin.

Mark your Calendar

Monday, May 30	Memorial Day - Office Closed
Tuesday, May 31	7pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting
	7pm VBS Meeting
Friday, June 3	5:30pm Wedding rehearsal
	7-9pm YPO Fire Pit night
Saturday, June 4	3pm Renninger/Kuberski Wedding
Sunday, June 5	8:45-9:15 Summer Kick off and Closing Celebration *All Ages*
	9:30 Pentecost & Graduate Recognition

Announcing…. Passport to Peace VBS Day Camp Meeting, Tuesday, May 31st at 7pm. Are you interested in helping with VBS this year? We need you! Please consider coming to our meeting and be a part of our planning team. If you can't make it and still want to help, please let us know. Thanks, Faith Formation

Sunday, June 12th is our annual Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic. Worship will be at 10:30am with the picnic to follow. Sign up charts are available outside of Pastor Becky's office and online (see the website or weekly email). Be sure to mark your calendar to be here… Sunday, June 12th!

Coffee Bar Help—Help keep the fellowship going by supporting the coffee bar at St. John's. There are slots to sign up to bring treats and help with making the coffee. Please bring treats to church by 8:30am on Sunday so they can be set out for the enjoyment of all. Sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4EACAD2FAA8-coffee

Heavenly Helper Hoagies—June orders are due Thursday, June 9th—contact Elaine Keller or sign up on the sheet outside PB's office to get your delicious hoagie while supporting the Heavenly Helpers on their next mission trip. Pick up date for the June hoagies is Thursday, June 16th from 2-6:30pm.