

# +The Seventh Sunday of Easter+

May 29, 2022 | 9 am



*The Ascended Christ: Our Intercessor and Great High Priest*

## The Divine Service

*Liturgy Note:* Our Lenten season of preparation is ended, and joyous feast of holy Easter is here. Alleluia! We return to Setting III for the Divine Service.

*The following may be prayed before the Service:*

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house,  
and the place where your glory dwells. *Ps. 26:8*

As a deer pants for flowing streams,  
so pants my soul for you, O God. *Ps. 42:1*

For a day in your courts is better  
than a thousand elsewhere.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of wickedness. *Ps. 84:10*

Almighty God, heavenly Father, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness; make thy way straight before my face. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments, for thou art the God of my salvation. Amen.

## Holy Baptism

*The Baptism of Michael James Pritchard*

*When the bells ring, stand and face the cross.*

*The baptismal party moves toward the font during the hymn.*

### **Baptism Hymn | 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It**

- P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own.

### **The Exorcism**

Therefore, depart, you unclean spirit, and make room for the Holy Spirit in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of the candidate while saying:*

- P Receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your T forehead and upon your T heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

### **Luther's Flood Prayer**

- P Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold *Michael James* according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him, which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- C **Amen.**

- P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

*The pastor places his hands on the head of the candidate, and the congregation joins in praying:*

- C **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.**

*Sit*

*The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:*

P *Michael James, do you renounce the devil?*

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P *Do you renounce all his works?*

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P *Do you renounce all his ways?*

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P *Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?*

R *Yes, I believe.*

P *Do you believe 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?*

R *Yes, I believe.*

P *Do you 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?*

R *Yes, I believe.*

P *Michael James, do you desire to be baptized?*

R *Yes, I do.*

*The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:*

P *Michael James, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

*The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:*

P *The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life T everlasting.*

C **Amen.**

P *Peace T be with you.*

C **Amen.**

All return to their places.

## The Service of the Word

### Introit

Psalm 61:3, 5–8; antiphon: v. 1

*Hear my cry, O God,  
listen to my prayer;*

**for you have been my refuge,  
a strong tower against the enemy.**

For you, O God, have heard my vows;  
you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.

**Prolong the life of the king;  
may his years endure to all generations!**

May he be enthroned forever before God;  
appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!

**So will I ever sing praises to your name,  
as I perform my vows day after day.**



**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

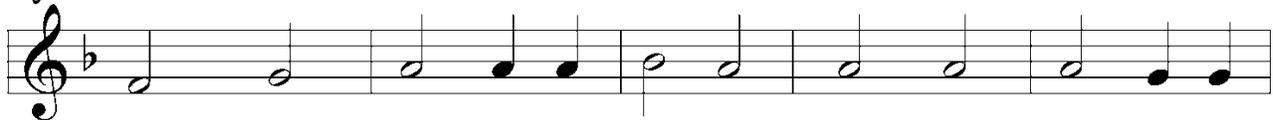


as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

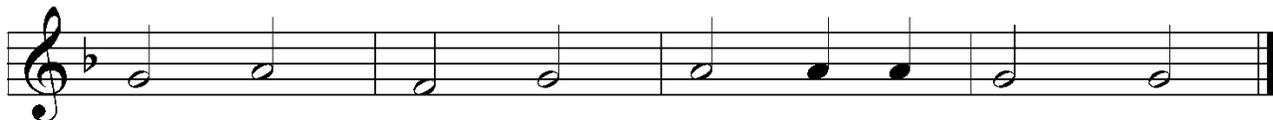
*Hear my cry, O God,  
listen to my prayer.*

### Kyrie

LSB 186



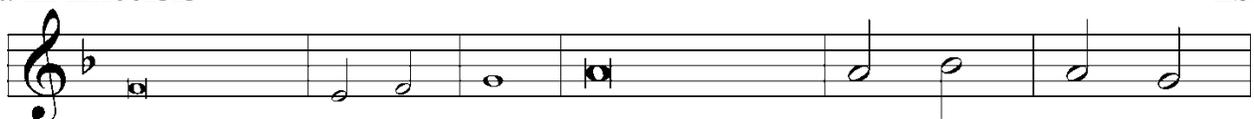
**G** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



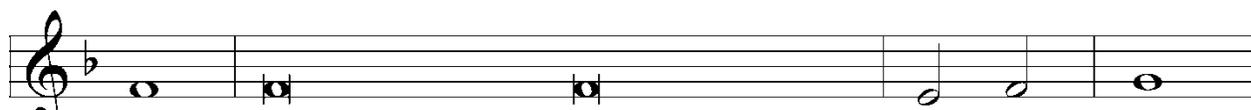
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

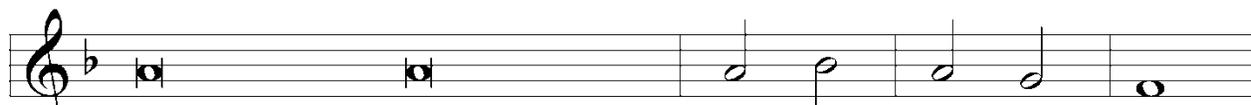
LSB 187



**P** Glory be to God on high: **G** and on earth peace, good - will toward



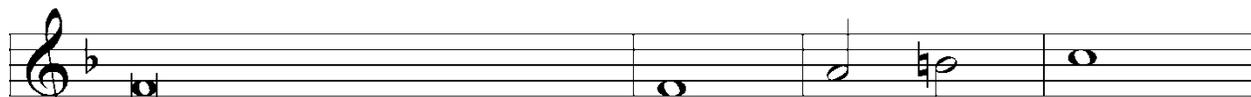
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



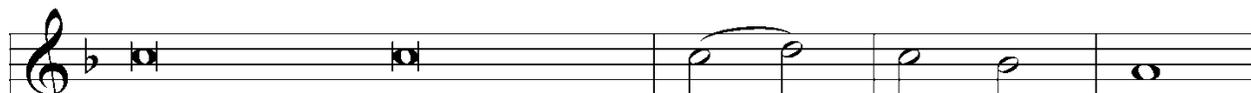
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



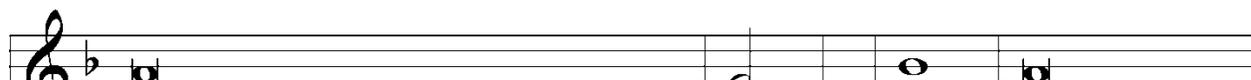
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



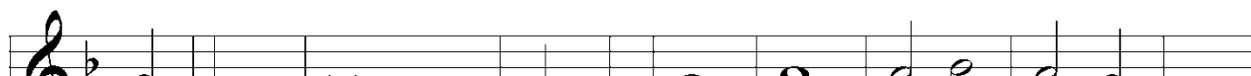
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



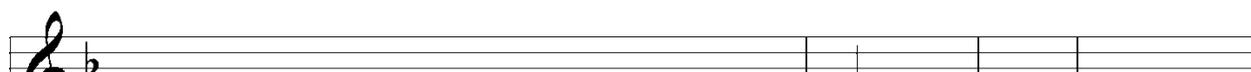
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



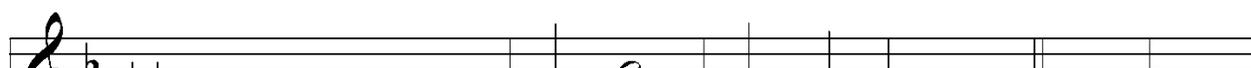
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

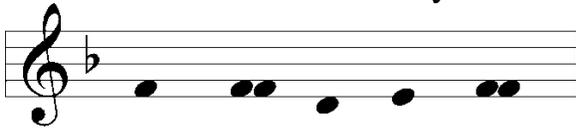


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

### First Reading

*Acts 1:12–26*

<sup>12</sup>Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, <sup>16</sup>“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup>For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>18</sup>(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. <sup>19</sup>And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) <sup>20</sup>“For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

“May his camp become desolate,  
and let there be no one to dwell in it’;

and

“Let another take his office.’

<sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his

resurrection.”<sup>23</sup> And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias.<sup>24</sup> And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen<sup>25</sup> to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.”<sup>26</sup> And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Revelation 22:1–6, 12–20*

<sup>1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb<sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.<sup>3</sup> No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him.<sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.<sup>5</sup> And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

<sup>6</sup>And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.” . . .

<sup>12</sup>“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done.<sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

<sup>14</sup>Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.<sup>15</sup> Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

<sup>16</sup>“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

<sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

<sup>18</sup>I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book,<sup>19</sup> and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

<sup>20</sup>He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

Face the cross as it enters the nave.

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 190



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## The Gospel Procession | 477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

st. 1



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;



He who on the cross a vic-tim For the world's sal - va-tion bled—



Je-sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.

## Holy Gospel

John 17:20–26

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup>[Jesus said:] “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup>that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup>The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup>I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. <sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup>O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup>I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”



# The Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



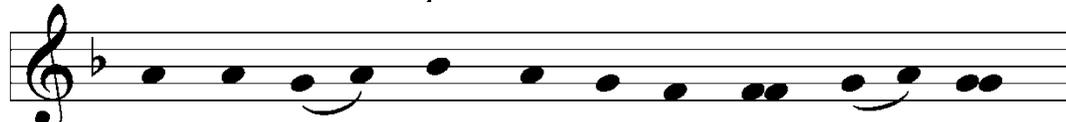
**C** And with thy spir - it.



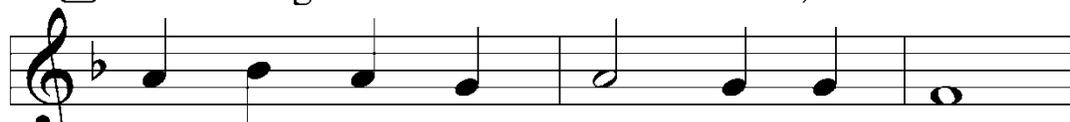
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB 196*

### The Words of Our Lord

*LSB 197*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **T** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **T** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

*LSB 197*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei

*LSB 198*



**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.  
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

**Distribution**

**Holy Communion at St. Paul**

Our congregation confesses the bodily presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar. To care for those who are about to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Altar is open to those baptized Christians who repent of their sins, have been catechized in the Faith, and are members of our congregation, another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, or of another Church body with whom we are in fellowship. If you have not communed in a year or are visiting, please speak with one of our Pastors before communing today.

**Distribution Hymn | 564 Christ Sits at God's Right Hand**

**Distribution Hymn | 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray**

**Distribution Hymn | 680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise**

*Stand*

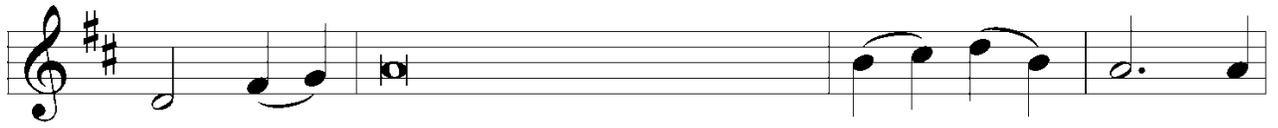
**The Dismissal**

P The holy body and precious blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the one true faith unto life +everlasting! Depart in peace.

C **Amen.**

# Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



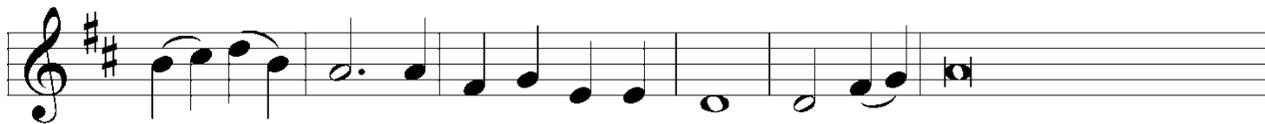
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



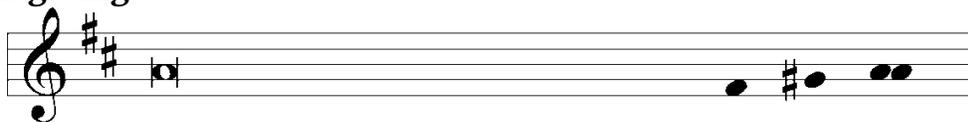
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



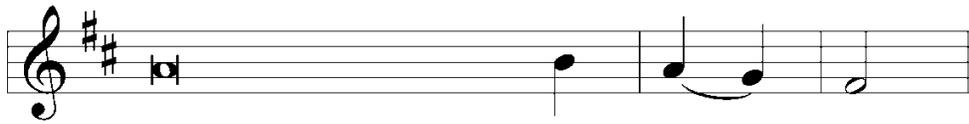
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

# Thanksgiving

LSB 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

### Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same 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 God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Salutation



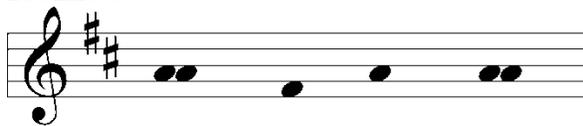
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

### Benedicamus

*LSB 202*



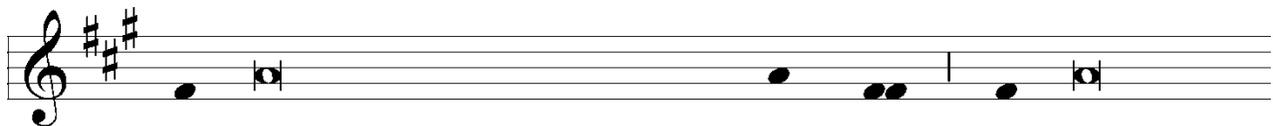
**A** Bless we the Lord.



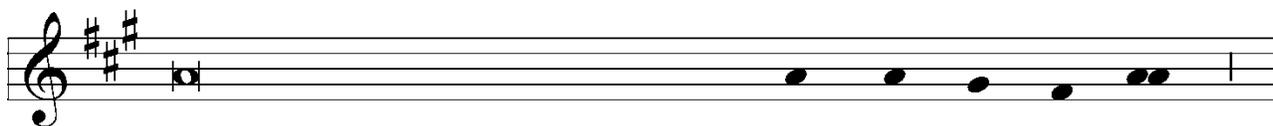
**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

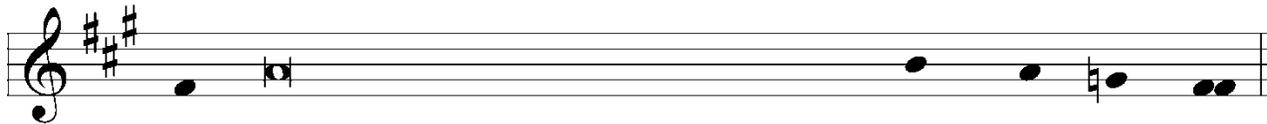
*LSB 202*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and He give you peace.

**Sung: Amen! Amen! Amen!**

**Hymn to Depart | 529 Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus**

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## Announcements

### St. Paul

**We rejoice** with Michael James Pritchard, son of Michael and Holly Pritchard, who receives the new birth of water and the Spirit today in Holy Baptism this morning in the Divine Service. We rejoice with Michael's family and his sponsors, Delainey Melton and Tom and Christy Barnett and witnesses Jim and Dawn Melton on this, Michael's baptism day.

**Summer services.** Starting this morning, St. Paul will host one Sunday service at 9AM through to Labor Day weekend. Should vacations or work take you away from Sunday worship, please note that we will offer a **weekly Wednesday service** at 7PM through summer, and throughout the entire year. This service is usually sung a cappella and is usually attended by 10-20 members weekly. We alternate between praying Vespers and Holy Communion week to week. Join us!

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** Next year (2023) St. Paul celebrates her 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Incorporated in 1873, our historic Lutheran congregation in Preble, Indiana has enjoyed the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament for generations. This is a great blessing which calls for our rejoicing.

The Voters Assembly has directed the formation of an Anniversary Committee for the purpose of celebrating our 150 years of life together. Our Anniversary Committee has events planned for an entire year's worth of celebrations. The [schedule of events](#) to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> are as follows:

Aug/Sept 22—Logo Contest

Oct 22—Wittenberg Door; history of FCD Wyneken in Bible Class

Nov 22—Ornament Tree

Jan/Feb 23—Memorabilia

Mar/Apr 23—Thumbprint Tree

May/Jun 23—Seminary Students past and present

July 23—Veteran recognition

Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (*anniversary date*)—service, banquet, unveiling of stained glass

*Details on each of these events will be forthcoming. However, for now, you should want to mark the evening of Saturday, Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 on your calendar.* This is the signature event of our Committee will be the culmination of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. The plan is to host a service in early evening and then a banquet with music and speakers following the service.

At the service, we will unveil our stained glass sculpture which will hang above the *reredos* (wood-

structure behind the altar) which will be an artistic rendering of *the Agnus Dei*: Christ as the Lamb of God. The stained glass is currently being created by stained-glass artists Brad Butler and Andrew Vargo (butlervargo.com) out of Indianapolis. These stained-glass experts have worked with many Lutheran Churches before, including Immanuel, Union Twp. (check out their very cool website).

For now, we want to give details on our **Logo Contest**. We are calling for an official design for our anniversary which can be put on apparel, cups, mugs, pens, etc. *The entire congregation is invited to submit designs on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper now* to Pr. Yeager, who will share with the committee. The design **MUST** include (1) something signifying our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and (2) something that signifies St. Paul (words, an icon like our steeple, etc). Once the committee makes their selection, the winner of the contest will be awarded with a \$100 gift. We would like all creative and artistic members, young and old, to come up with ideas. The design could be produced by any medium: drawing, markers, crayons, colored pencils, paint, or through a computer program. We will then take the winning design and create apparel and swag to be sold throughout the congregation in coming months, used for evangelism, etc. All submissions will be put on display at some point. The deadline for submissions is August 15<sup>th</sup> of this year. Put your creativity to use!!

**Acolyte Schedule for summer.** Dear acolytes, as always, your Church appreciates your service toward the Lord’s glory in the services of his Church. Please call another acolyte to switch if you cannot make your scheduled service. Thank you—Pastor Yeager

Acolyte Schedule at St. Paul, Preble		
June—August 2022		
Day	9am	Notes
6/5	Jon Miller	Pentecost
6/12	Aiden Faurote	Trinity
6/19	Jacob Miller	
6/26	Henry Faurote	
7/3	Drew Kolter	
7/10	Derick Vogel	
7/17	Eli Steiner	
7/24	Kord Fuelling	
8/7	Skyler Steiner	
8/14	Hilton Bluhm	
8/21	Evan Sovine	
8/28	Jack Hamilton	
9/4	Max Nussbaum	Labor Day Weekend

June/July Youth Events

Middle School Youth Activities

Sunday, June 12 – Gathering at Roger and Lisa Hormann’s Home (10537 N. 700 W.-1; Ossian, IN 46777)

Sunday, July 24; 1-6 p.m. – Putt-Putt Golf, Go-Go Karts, Hop-Hop Frog, Choo-Choo Train, Twisty-McTwisterton, and the Himalaya We have great participation in the past for this event at the Fun Center in Columbia City. Bring \$10 to Bingen’s parking lot at 1 p.m., and we will have fun times.

### High School Youth Activities

Sunday, June 5; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Gathering @ Parsonage 1

Sunday, June 12; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Gathering at Roger and Lisa Hormann’s Home (10537 N. 700 W.-1; Ossian, IN 46777)

Sunday, June 19 – Father’s Day – No Youth Gathering

Sunday, June 26; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Wyneken Service Night

Sunday, July 3 – No Youth Gathering

Sunday, July 10; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Gathering @ Parsonage

Sunday, July 17 – Gathering @ Parsonage 1

Sunday, July 24; 1-6 p.m. – Putt-Putt Golf, Go-Go Karts, Hop-Hop Frog, Choo-Choo Train, Twisty-McTwisterton, and the Himalaya

We have great participation in the past for this event at the Fun Center in Columbia City. Bring \$10 to Bingen’s parking lot at 1 p.m., and we will have fun times.

Sunday, July 31 – Slip-n-Slide Kickball

### Wyneken/Sister Congregations

**SGO Applications** Due June 1 - We encourage all families to apply. Applications were mailed to families April 29. The application deadline for the 2022-2023 school year is by noon on June 1, 2022. All forms and a completed application must be in the school office by this date.

**Teacher’s aide sought.** Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School is seeking a part-time teacher’s aide for the 2022-2023 school year. Interested individuals should send a cover letter along with resume to Mr. Andrew Gavrun. For additional information, please contact Mr. Gavrun at 260-639-6177 or [principal@wyneken.org](mailto:principal@wyneken.org).

**Wyneken SCRIP:** The SCRIP order form is available on the school website. A limited variety of gift cards/certificates are available for purchase in the school office during business hours, 8am-3pm. To make a special order, contact any of our representatives - SCRIP Coordinator is Heather Yeager (Preble); SCRIP Representatives are: Jennifer Faurote (Preble), Teegen Brock (Bingen), Cheryl Lengerich (Friedheim).

**A new Scrip Coordinator** is needed to take over at the end of this school. Please prayerfully consider serving your church and school in this volunteer capacity. If interested, contact Mr. Gavrun at Wyneken at [principal@wyneken.org](mailto:principal@wyneken.org) or 260-639-6177. Thank you.

**Open house** to celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Larry and Rae Fuhrmann, Sunday, June 5, 2-5pm at the Friedheim Family Life Center. All Preble members are invited. Rae: 639-3441.

# The Doctrine of the Ascension of Our Lord

Last Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup> was the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord.

Let us briefly consider the doctrine of our Lord's ascension into heaven:

**The Event of the Ascension.** The Word of God teaches that Christ ascends into heaven by a cloud (Lk. 24:51) to sit at the right hand of God (Mk. 16:19). The right hand of God is not a *physical place* in heaven but *the throne of God's rule and kingly reign* whereby God rules all things in heaven and on earth (Ps. 47:1,5-8). Exalted at the right hand of God, Christ ascends to take up and exercise this authority which the Father gives to him (Mt. 28:18).

**The Mode of the Ascension.** Christ ascends into heaven as a *complete human being*. By virtue of the personal union of the two natures (God and Man), Christ ascends not only as a spirit or by the divine nature alone, as the Gnostics teach, but *as a man*, with his risen body (which he will never discard for all eternity). He ascends *to fill all things* both in heaven and on earth and to be present everywhere (Eph. 1:23), especially for his Church on earth. Christ's body is not enclosed or circumscribed in heaven, as the Calvinists teach, as it is for saints Elijah and Enoch who have also bodily ascended. Christ ascends as the exalted Son of God, invested with the full use, revelation, and demonstration of his divine majesty, in such a way that he knows everything, is able to do everything, is present for all his creatures, and has under his feet and in his hands all that is in heaven and on earth (*The Formula of Concord, Epitome, VIII*).

**Christ's Work for Man on Earth by virtue of his Ascension.** Christ ascends: 1. to rule and reign over all creatures *as a Man* (Ps. 110:1; Mt. 28:18); 2. to send the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, by the Means of Grace (Jn. 16:7); 3. to shield and protect us from the devil, sin, death, world, and hell, all which, by virtue of his ascension, are put under his feet (Ps. 68:18-20); 4. to be bodily present for us in the Lord's Supper. It is no issue for the ascended Lord to be bodily present in the Lord's Supper because 1. By virtue of the personal union, his two natures are forever united, and, 2. By virtue of his Ascension, he is made to fill all things in heaven and on earth. The doctrine that Christ cannot be present in the Lord's Supper because he is in heaven and no longer on earth is a claim of the sacramentarians. It is false doctrine.

**Christ's Work for Man in Heaven by virtue of his Ascension.** Christ ascends: 1. *to take the rightful place of Adam: the throne of dominion over all creation*, once given to Adam in paradise but lost through the Fall into Sin (Heb. 2:5-8). At the Ascension, Adam's throne is not unmanned! Christ sits upon the throne. We are one with him on that throne (Col. 3:3; Eph. 2:6). We draw near to the throne of God through him (Heb. 7:25; 10:22). He is our Forerunner to the throne; we are headed there with him and will one day reign with him (Heb. 6:20; Jn. 14:3). Secondly, Christ ascends: 2. to be our High Priest in the heavenly Sanctuary (Heb. 10:11): to make propitiation for our sins by the blood which won our redemption (Heb. 9:12); and, to make intercession for us as our Great High Priest (Heb. 7:25). It is this last aspect of Christ's work, epitomized by the High Priestly Prayer in John 17, which will be the topic for the sermon.

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*He has raised our human nature/on the clouds to God's right hand;/ there we sit in heav'nly places/there with him in glory stand./Jesus reigns, adored by angels/Man with God is on the throne./By our mighty Lord's Ascension/we by faith behold our own. LSB 494 stanza 5.*

