



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

➔ Know Jesus, ➔ Grow in the Bible, ➔ Excel in Loving God and Others

Thursday, May 21 at 7:00

The Ascension of Our Lord – 2020



Today's service is **Divine Service, Setting One** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 151-166).

SPECIAL CHANGES DURING THE VIRUS:

- **Social Distancing:** Sit in the **RESERVED** pews.
- **Shaking Hands:** Not at this time.
- **Offering Plate:** Not passing it at this time.
- **Common Cup:** Not at this time.
- **Enter:** Healthy – come in; ill – stay in your car.

WELCOME TO DIVINE SERVICE: *We gather to receive God's gifts through Word and Sacrament!*

- ✦ **Visitors:** We are glad you are here! This folder will guide you through today's service. We look forward to getting better acquainted, so please complete the green attendance slip!
- ✦ **Prayer Request:** See a "yellow" card (Narthex) and the "Receive Prayer" section (end of folder).
- ✦ **Young Children:** Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).

- ✦ **Phone:** Please silence at this time!
- ✦ **Hearing Assistance:** Available in Narthex.
- ✦ **Service Folder:** Get it on your smartphone: www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder

GOOD NEWS:

L: He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PRELUDE

PREPARTION TO RECEIVE: Use One or More...

- ⇒ **Prayers for Worship:** Inside front cover of LSB
- ⇒ **Table of Duties:** Page 328 in LSB
- ⇒ **Christian Questions:** Pages 329-330 in LSB

LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

† **New Visitors:** See the "New Visitors" brochure.

† **Others:** Think about these statements; do you understand and agree? Not sure? Let's talk!

1. I believe the Bible is God's Word!
2. I am baptized!
3. I am sorry for my sins!
4. I believe in Jesus for eternal life!
5. I desire to live for Christ!
6. I believe the Lord's Supper is bread and wine, as well as Jesus' very body and blood, to assure me of God's forgiveness!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

↑ GOD'S WORK of SORROW and ASSURANCE:

Corporate Confession and Absolution, LSB 290-291

L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sins, humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness. May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish those things in us.

C: Amen.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L: Let us confess our sins to God, imploring Him for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

A: O almighty God, merciful Father, I confess unto You all my sins and iniquities, and I pray for Your boundless mercy on the basis

of the finished work of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

L: Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C: Yes.

L: Let it be done for you as you believe. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN: *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

Procession: *Please face the entrance!*

See the words below / TLH 212 / LSB 493

- 1 A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto 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 faithful followers see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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KYRIE (LSB 942):

L: Kyrie! God Father in heaven above,

C: You abound in gracious love,

L: Of all things the maker and preserver.

C: Have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

L: Kyrie! O Christ, our King, salvation for all You came to bring.

C: O Lord Jesus, God's own Son, our Mediator at the heavenly throne:

L: Hear our cry and grant our supplication.

C: Have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

L: Kyrie! O God, the Holy Ghost,

C: Guard our faith, the gift we need the most,

L: And bless our life's last hour,

C: That we leave this sinful world with gladness.

A: Have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:

L: The LORD be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: *Let us pray.* Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so let us rejoice that He is reigning over all things for the ultimate good of all believers; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. ↓

CHOIR: Look ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious

LBW 495

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11 ESV

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1690 / Own Bible

Luke's intro to Acts; Jesus' pre-ascension conversation with His disciples; Jesus' ascension!

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 [His disciples] [Jesus] 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."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: 47 ESV

See Below / Front of LSB / Own Bible

This Psalm points to the Son of God coming, saving us, ascending, and, now, reigning!

- 1 Clap your hands, all | peoples!*
Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!
- 2 For the LORD, the Most High, is | to be feared,*
a great king over | all the earth.
- 3 He subdued peoples | under us,*
and nations un- | der our feet.
- 4 He chose our heritage | for us,*
the pride of Jacob | whom he loves.
- 5 God has gone up | with a shout,*
the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing | praises!*
Sing praises to our King, sing | praises!
- 7 For God is the King of | all the earth;*
sing praises | with a psalm!
- 8 God reigns over the | nations,*
God sits on his | holy throne.

9 The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of | Abraham.*
For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly ex- | alted!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 ESV

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1818 / Own Bible

Let us think about God, realize how much He has blessed us, and remember that Jesus is our head and we are united in His body with all believers!

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

↑ **ALLELUIA and VERSE** (LSB 156):

See the words below / LSB 156

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e-ter-nal life.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53 ESV

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1644 / Own Bible

Some very important words spoken by Jesus, *just before He ascended into heaven!*

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

C: **Glory 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.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** ↓

R: Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

L: O merciful Father in heaven, because You established all governments and intend for them to punish the evildoers and commend the ones who do well, we pray for Your gift of guidance and courage for all public servants, especially our President; the Congress of the United States; our Governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your servants may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

R: Let us pray to our Lord God Almighty that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, give health to the sick, and grant a safe journey to all who travel:

L: Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your kind and generous help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

R: Let us pray for all who do not yet trust in Jesus, that our Lord God would deliver them from their error, call them to faith in His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:

L: Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

R: Let us pray for help, that we may grow in our knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians:

L: Almighty and everlasting God, fill us with Your Spirit that we may rightly understand Your Word and diligently apply it in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

R: Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are needful for them and profitable for their salvation:

L: O almighty, everlasting God, You have commanded us to love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, and pray for those who persecute us. We pray, therefore, that all our enemies may be led to true repentance and be united with us and all believers; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

R: Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will:

L: O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and continue to uphold all things. We pray for Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth, the farmers, and everyone involved in bringing us what we need, that we have what we need, receive with thanksgiving, and share Your blessings with others; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY
OFFERING PRAYER...

BEFORE COMMUNING: See page 2 of this folder;
New Visitors: See the "New Visitor" brochure!

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

DISTRIBUTION NOTES DURING THE VIRUS:

1. **Pulpit side;** line up in the center aisle – *couples and families can be together, individuals should be six feet apart.*
2. Receive the Supper; then return to your pew via the side aisle.
3. **Lectern side;** same as above.
4. Those receiving in their pews.

↑ PRAYER FOR RIGHT RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

L: Dear Father, in the beginning You created all things by the Word, who is Your Son; then, *in the fullness of time*, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Now, *with repentant hearts*, as we receive the body He gave – along with the bread, and the blood He shed – along with the wine, help us to rejoice in Your love and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD: *Spoken on the evening before He finished His saving work!*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST: *Jesus Lived, Suffered, and Died to Remove Our Sins!*

L: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

L: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess ♦Your holy cross and passion, ♦Your blessed death, ♦Your rest in the tomb, ♦Your resurrection from the dead, ♦Your ascension into heaven, and ♦Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER: *See back of either hymnal*

A: **Our Father who art in heaven...**

PAX DOMINI: *The Peace of the Lord*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI:

Not All the Blood of Beasts

See the words below / TLH 156 / LSB 431

- 1 Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.
- 2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they. ↓

HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION:

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

See the words below / TLH 216 / LSB 492

- 1 On Christ's ascension I now build
The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled
All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well
I know His members are to dwell
When Christ will come and call them.
- 2 Since Christ returned to claim His throne,
Great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart will rest in Him alone,
No other rest remaining;
For where my treasure went before,
There all my thoughts will ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.
- 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling Your ascension,
That I may serve You faithfully
In thanks for my redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,

Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.

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LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL

↑ POST-COMMUNION COLLECT: *Let Us Pray*

L: Gracious God, *heavenly Father*, we give You thanks for assuring us that we are forgiven through *our Risen, Ascended, and Reigning Savior*, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

See the words below / TLH 341 / LSB 525

- 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.
- 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.

BENEDICTION: *Receive and Be Blessed*

L: The Lord – *the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit* – ♦be within you to refresh you, ♦be before you to guide you, ♦be around you to protect you, ♦be beneath you to uphold you, and ♦be above you to bless you.

C: Amen. ↓

POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

Let us apply God's Word to our daily lives!

SATURDAYS – Regular Schedule:

- ♦ **Bible Class:** 3:00
- ♦ **Divine Service:** 4:00

SUNDAYS – Regular Schedule:

- ♦ **Divine Service:** 9:00
- ♦ **Bible Class and Sunday School:** 10:30

THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY

Thanks for Attending!
Be at Peace ➔ Jesus, Our Risen Savior, is Reigning!

Connect With Us

Website:	BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com	Podcast:	"Benefit from the Bible" (listen to the sermons)
Facebook:	"Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"	Address:	7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134
Church Office:	Monday – Thursday, 9:30 to 3:30	Kathy Green:	Secretary@blc7500.com ; 440-845-2230
Childcare Center:	Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00	Tricia Wise:	ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com ; 440-884-0430
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