

Lamb of God Evangelical Lutheran Church
Devotions for the Ascension of Our Lord
May 21, 2020

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Let us pray: Almighty God, You gave Your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Himself. Grant that we, by grace, may daily be renewed by Your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

The Ascension Acts 1: 6-11

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 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.”

This is the Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love^[a] 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.

This is the Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God

LSB Hymn 492

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

**1 On Christ's ascension I now build
The hope of mine 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 shall come and call them.**

**2 Since Christ returned to claim his throne
Great gifts for me obtaining
My heart shall 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 Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling your ascension,
That I may serve you faithfully,
Adorning your redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.**

Luke 24:44-53

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^[a] 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: Praise to You, o Christ

Apostles' Creed

Lord's Prayer

Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have now power over me. Amen

Let us bless the Lord: Thanks be to God

LSB Hymn 491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

**1 Up through endless ranks of angels,
cries of triumph in his ears,
to his heavenly throne ascending,
having vanquished all their fears,
Christ looks down upon his faithful,
leaving them in happy tears.**

**3 To our lives of wanton wandering
send your promised Spirit-Guide,
through our lives of fear and failure
with your powers and love abide
welcome us, as you were welcomed
To an endless Eastertide.**

**2 Death-destroying, life-restoring,
proven equal to our need,
now for us before the Father
as our brother intercede:
flesh that for our world was wounded,
living, for the wounded plead.**

**4 Alleluia, alleluia
oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace
Alleluia, alleluia
oh, to see the Father's face!
Alleluia, alleluia
Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!**

*Text: Jaroslav J. Jajda, 1973. (c) 1974, Augusburg Publishing House. Used by permission
The hymn may sung or read as poetry..*

May the peace of God be with you always