

Worship Plan for Thursday, May 12, 2024

Ascension of Our Lord

ELW Setting Six

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG *God Is Here!* (ELW 526)



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore,
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

GREETING (ELW p. 165)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

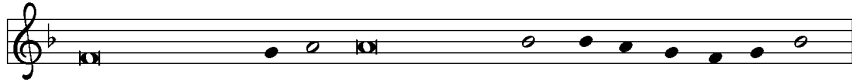
KYRIE (ELW p. 165)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



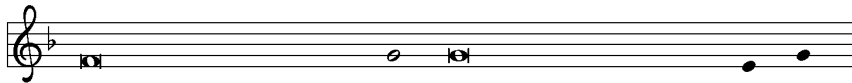
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



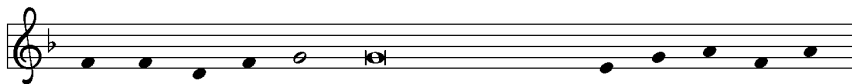
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



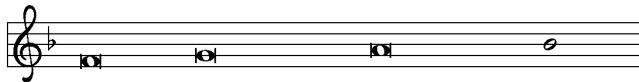
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 167)



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 170)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM (My Song to the Lord)

*O Lord, I am thankful each day that I live,
For all of the wonderful blessings You give.
In the love of my fam'ly,
In the kindness of friends,
In this life I am leading,
Your grace never ends.*

*O Lord, You sustain me with courage and hope,
By guiding my footsteps and helping me grow.
When I'm weary or troubled,
When I'm filled with despair,
When I'm lonely or grieving,
I know You are there.*

*So my grateful voice I will raise
To proclaim Your grace and Your glory,
And my praises will ring in each song that I sing,
As I share Your truth and Your love.*

*O Lord, I will follow and serve You each day,
By using my talents and living in faith.
May Your light shine within me,
May Your peace keep me strong,
May You help me in sharing Your Word and Your song.*

*Now my grateful voice I will raise,
To proclaim Your grace and Your Glory,
And my praises will ring in each song that I sing,
As I share Your truth and Your love.
I will share Your truth and love.*

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

A reading from Acts.

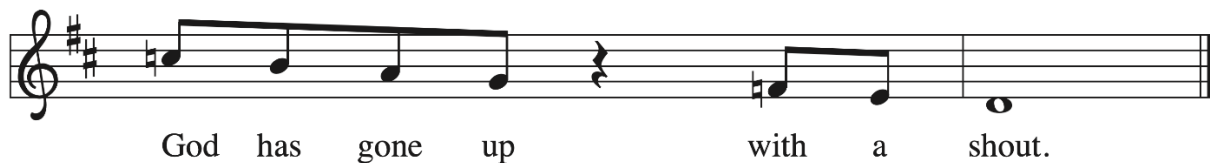
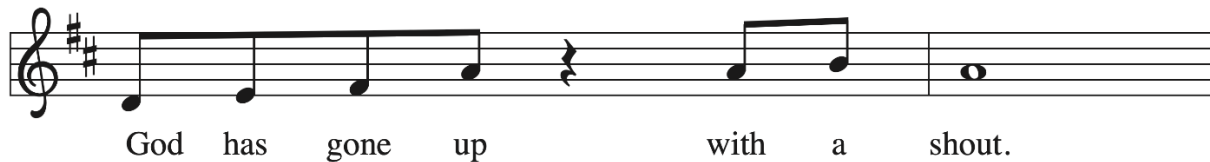
[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have 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, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set 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, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 47



¹Clap your hands, | all you peoples;
shout to God with a | joyful sound.
²**For the LORD Most High is | to be feared:**
a great king over | all the earth,
³who subdues the | peoples under us,
and the nations un- | der our feet;
⁴**who chooses our inheri- | tance for us,**
the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves. R

⁵God has gone up | with a shout,
the LORD with the sound | of the ram's horn.

⁶**Sing praises to | God, sing praises;
sing praises to our | king, sing praises. R**

⁷For God is king of | all the earth;
sing praises | with a song.

⁸**God reigns o- | ver the nations;
God is en- | throned on high.**

⁹The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the | God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high- | ly exalted. **R**



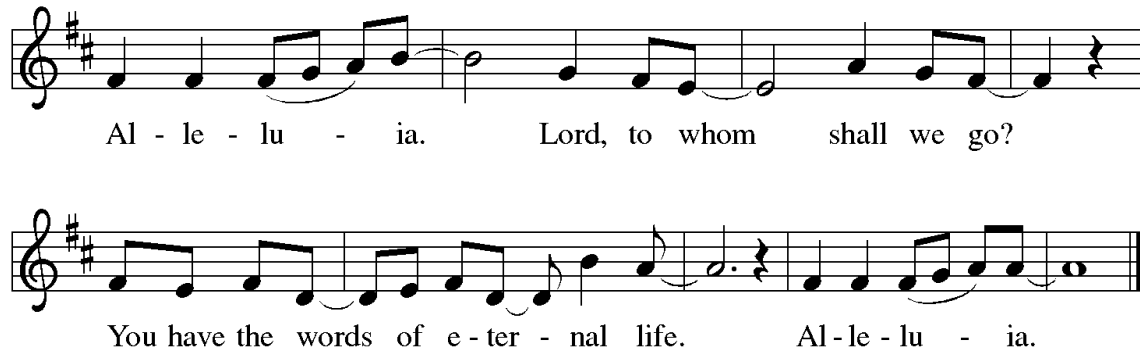
SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work 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 age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 171)



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

GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been 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 was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!* (ELW 393)

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
 3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals of the
 5 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! and with his faith - ful fol - l'wers
 sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
 sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
 cord: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
 see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
 say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."
 run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**SERMON (prepared by Rev. Dr. Kayko Driedger Hesslein, Hordern
 Professor of Theology, Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon)**

HYMN Rise, O Sun of Righteousness (ELW 657)

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness



1 Rise, O Sun of righ - teous - ness; with your
 2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your
 3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us
 4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the
 5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the



might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,
 word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim
 wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share
 heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:



show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

CREED (ELW p. 172)

**I believe in God, the Father
 almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of
 the Father,
 and he will come to judge the
 living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

We pray for the church and all ministers of the gospel, that the Spirit will empower them to be your witnesses throughout the earth. Keep all teachers and missionaries under your care and guide them as they proclaim your word to the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of creation and for all your creatures: for zoos, nature preserves, and conservation organizations, for endangered species, and for those who work to protect all that you have made. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and those who govern: for all countries, regions, and people in crisis or at war. Bring your peace on earth, in our homes, and in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all in any need: for exiles, refugees, and those fleeing war and poverty, for those who suffer from individual and institutionalized racism. For those who grieve, and for those near death (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation and for its concerns: for visitors, for those who are absent, for those in prison, for the homebound, and for those who travel. Enliven our faith and invigorate our mission. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for all the faithful departed who now rest in you (*especially*). Following the example of (*Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter, and*) all those who have died in the faith, strengthen us to share your good news in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 172)

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

HYMN *Shine, Jesus, Shine* (ELW 671)

Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth Your Word,
Lord, and let there be light!

1. Lord, the light of Your love is
shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon
us,
set us free by the truth You now bring
us.
Shine on me, shine on me:

Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth Your Word,
Lord, and let there be light!

2. As we gaze on Your kingly
brightness,
so our faces display Your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here,
may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me:

Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth Your Word, Lord,
and let there be light!

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 173)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677)



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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God is Here!

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My Song to the Lord

Words by D. Besig and N. Price, Music by D. Besig
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A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

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Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

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Music: Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566. Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.
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Shine, Jesus, Shine

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This Little Light of Mine

Text & Music: African American spiritual; arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935.
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