

As We Gather

As we celebrate our Lord's ascension, we might wonder why Jesus left His followers alone. That's at least what it might look like on the surface as we read today's selection from Acts. But nothing could be further from the truth! Jesus doesn't abandon us at His ascension. Rather, He is with us even today by His Means of Grace. Jesus is truly present with us every time we open His Word and read it. Jesus is with us as we gather in His name for worship, become connected to Him through Baptism, and receive Him in the Lord's Supper. As He has promised, Jesus is with us always, even to the end of the age!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN: *"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"* **Hymn #493, st. 1-4**

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

(please kneel)

O ascended Lord,

You are with us always, but often we doubt Your presence, Your love, and Your provision. Because we are by nature sinful, we often overlook Your promise to be with us always. We do not live our lives ready for Your coming, and we neglect to share Your Good News so that others may be ready for Your return in glory. Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

**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.**

**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.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE FIRST READING: Acts 1:1–11 *(The ascension of our Lord.)*

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 them he 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."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 1:15–23 (*Christ has dominion over all things.*)

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

G 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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twenty fourth chapter.

G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

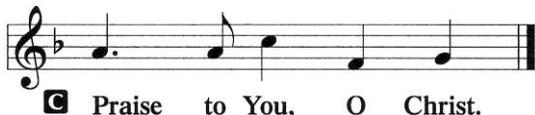
THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:44–53 (*Jesus promises the Holy Spirit.*)

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 and 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 Then 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.



THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Vicar Aaron Sterling

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"

Hymn #492

THE MESSAGE:

"We Are Witnesses!"

Pastor David Brighton

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

I 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. Amen.

THE GATHERING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

Jesus' resurrection means forgiveness, new life, and salvation for you and me and all believers! Rejoice that He is risen!

The angel to the women at the tomb'

"He is not here, for He has risen, as He said."

(Matthew 28:6)

THE OFFERTORY:

"Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

**Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.**

THE PRAYERS: After each petition, the Worship Leader will say, *"Lord in Your mercy,"* and the congregation will respond, *"Hear our prayer."*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN:

"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"

Hymn #493, st. 5, 6

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Carl & Barb Mabee in honor of the birthdays of Collin, Derick & Isabel.

Mount Calvary has received a memorial donation in memory of Laura Haas from Gary & Lexie Hadley.

Mount Calvary has received a memorial donation in memory of Ruth Fitzgerald from Ed & Elsie Dahlberg.

Mount Calvary has received memorial donations in memory of Susan Kesler from Harrison & Myrna Shutt, Emily & Matthew Hodge, Ren Deese, Michael & Ruby Lucas, Ronald & Dorothy Morris, Ronald & Mariella Simmons, Randy & Terri Lady, Champ & Pat Aldredge, the Webb-Jennings-Cook families, Bob & Nancy Gerstenberger, J. T. & Debi Cole, Gary & Lexie Hadley, Toby & Lorraine Jenson, Carl & Barbara Mabee, Laird & Judy Van Gorder, James & Shirley Stiers, Rhoda Reilly, Nancy Kesler and Lucinda Ralston.

Summer Sunday School – Please volunteer to be a summer Sunday School teacher for our Pre-K to 5th grade students. Our regular teachers are on vacation for 2 months, and we need YOU! We have crafts, scrapbooking, Stories with Jesus, movies, and Pre-K. The dates are June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25, July 2, July 9, July 16, July 23, and July 30. If you could help for at least 2 Sundays, that would be great! Please contact Cynthia Nelson or leave a note in her DCM mailbox. Thank you for teaching our Kids for Christ!!

Voters Meeting! Our next Voters meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 11th at 12:30 pm. A light lunch will be served prior to the meeting, beginning at noon. Important topics will include a report from our Reformation 500 Committee and a report from Council as we look at staffing options with Tim Jacobsmeyer's approaching retirement next year and the possible calling of an Associate Pastor. Be informed and attend the meeting to let your voice be heard as we move forward with these important items before us.

Audio-Visual Committee – President Bill Bohm is forming an audio-visual committee to study the complete system now used in the sanctuary and surrounding areas (including the nursery, Narthex, etc.) to make recommendations for any changes and upgrades. If you have some knowledge in these areas, please consider serving on this committee. Talk to Bill if you are interested.

Projectionists needed - If you are interested in serving occasionally as the projectionist at one of the services, please contact Brian Harper - brian@brianandlaura.com.

Plans for a father-son campout are in the works! We are currently planning on camping out at our sister church (Christ Lutheran in Perry) on Friday, June 16. All fathers with sons between ages 5 and 16 are welcome! If you're interested, please add your name to the sheet in the Narthex!

I would like to thank everyone for all the help and support and especially for all of the prayers for the Puerto Rico Blanket Project. The blankets were received in Mayaguez, PR on May 10th and were given to the children on Friday the 12th. "My Thrivent" money was used for fabric and Jacque's Thrivent money was used for the postage. Rev. Matthew sent a thank you email for the blankets.

- Thank you again and God bless, Diane Doyle

My favorite time of the year! Time to make Linus Blankets with homemade and Christian love. Blankets are needed for preemies up to adults. Sizes are 18" X 18" up to 3 yds. Blankets will go to The Children's Hospital in Macon, the Pediatric Unit at Houston Healthcare in Warner Robins, Hospice, and Rainbow House. Blankets can be quilted, knitted, crocheted, sewn, fringed fleece fabric and also binding sewn around the edges of fabric. Remember all 4 sides of the blanket need to be finished/completed. We will make blankets until about October 1st and, then around the 2nd Sunday, Pastor will bless them and they will go to the area coordinator for distribution. A display is set up with blankets for examples and information. Call Linda Phillips 478-953-9061 or Diane Doyle 217-898-3836 with any questions or if you need help with anything. Thank you and God bless.

- Diane Doyle

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Ephraim Reule, Arnie's brother, who recently died.

Marilu Cowan, who will be having a back procedure don on Tuesday, May 30th.

Jacque Bohm, who is recovering from surgery on her leg.

Jean Dimeler, who is recovering following hip surgery.

Helen Giese, who is recovering following hip surgery.

Keep In Your Prayers

Peggy Rodriguez, Miriam Crawford (Rob's mom), Marilu Cowan, Ann Nicely (Margaret McLaughlin's daughter), D. J. Nelson, Steve Hetes, Dot Bogardus, Helen Giese, Ralph Wenrick, Frances Trichinotis (John's mother), Kathy Clark (Barb Jernigan's sister), Deloris Denzine and Karen Johnson.

(NOTE: Those listed under "Keep in your prayers" are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.)

Those Battling Cancer

Jeanne Day (Bob's mom), Chet Branscom, Jace Cumbie (Amanda McVay's boyfriend's son), Diana Iverson (Bonnie Hudlin's sister-in-law), Barry Rice (Becky McVay's brother), Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt), Kathy Grube, Mary Schwope (Michele Durbin's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom) and Bruce Oswald (Krystal Ferguson's father).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGIST:** Vicar Aaron Sterling. **ELDERS:** Glen Thompson (8 am) and Don Netzinger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abby Soisson (8 am) and Koda Cook (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Don Parrot, Darron Counselman, Dale Hawkins & Roger Foss. Late – Sam Culpepper, Dale Channell, Champ Aldredge & Mark Burnette. **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Bob Yeager (8 am) and Roger Moeller (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Tanner Gossman. Late – Open.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Kenn Keyes (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Bill Gragg (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Sara Van Lannen (Sun 8 am) and Lynn Cook (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Cindy Branham, Anita McIntyre, JoAnn Smith & Arlene Zeuner. **LAY READERS:** Rhoda Reilly (Sat 6 pm), Doug Fingles (Sun 8 am), and Bruce Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Barbara Locke (8 am) and Champ & Pat Aldredge (10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Numbers 11:24-30 and Acts 2:1-21

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday 6 pm – 43 Sunday 8 am – 95 Sunday 10:45 am – 132 Total – 270
Karenni Worship - 59

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)
	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Wednesday	TAG to Sky Zone (Time TBA)	
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	3:00 pm	Karenni Bible Study (Annex)
	4:00 pm	Mission Trip Luggage Drop Off
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)

VANCO
Online
Giving

