

# GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

415 10<sup>th</sup> Street ~ DeWitt, Iowa 52742 - Church: 563-659-9153 ~ [www.gracedewitt.org](http://www.gracedewitt.org)

+ The Order of Service +

## Ascension Sunday

May 10, 2026 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**WELCOME GUESTS!** We are delighted to have you join us for worship this morning. Please come and worship with us again!

We are following the Divine Service, Setting 4, beginning on page 203 in the Lutheran Service Book.

The Preservice Music

A Time for Meditation

The Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

The Ringing of the Bell

Words of Welcome by Pastor Merle Warnsholz

**Opening Hymn**

**#525 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

- 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.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son,  
The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won  
Which now His brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic rose,  
Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows,  
The babe of Bethlehem.

- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.  
Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above,  
In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes  
At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing,  
Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die.
- 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.

Text (sts. 1-3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800-94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903- Text: Public domain

*Stand*

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** Who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

Introit

*Psalm 110:1, 4–5; antiphon: Psalm 47:5*

**P** God has gone up with a shout,

**C** **The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.**

**P** The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand,

**C** **Until I make your enemies your footstool."**

**P** The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind,

**C** **"You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."**

**P** The Lord is at your right hand;

**C** **He will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.**

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** God has gone up with a shout,

## **C** The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

### Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

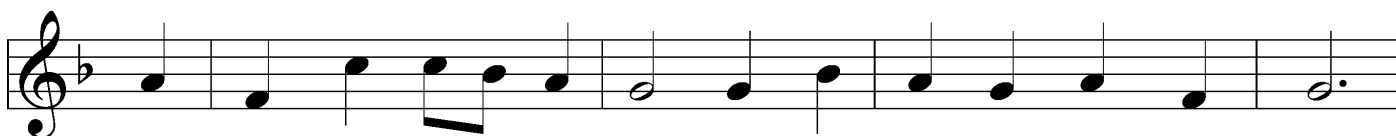
### Gloria in Excelsis



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## **First Reading**

*Acts 1:1-11*

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

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. 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.” 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. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 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.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

**P** Christ has risen from the dead,

**C** God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor,

**P** He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

**C** He has put all things under his feet.

### Epistle

*Ephesians 1:15-23*

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord

Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give

thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 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. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse** - 

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 24:44-53*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then [Jesus] 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.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them

and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Apostles' Creed

**C** 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.

*Sit*

### Children's Message

#### Hymn of the Day

#### #493 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"

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 foll'wers see  
Their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 To them the shining angels cry,  
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
"This is the Savior," thus they say;  
"This is His glorious triumph day!"  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 "You see Him now, ascending high  
Up to the portals of the sky."  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see  
Returning in great majesty."  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,  
And be our future great reward.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Then, throned with You forever, we  
Shall praise Your name eternally.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
All praise to You let earth accord:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Bede, 673-735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. - Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001845

## Sermon

### Recognition of Sunday School Teachers

#### Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

*Sit*

#### Offering

*Stand*

#### Lord's Prayer

**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.

#### Benedicamus and Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

**© Amen.**

## **The Closing Hymn #477 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”**

1 Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
He who on the cross a victim  
For the world’s salvation bled—  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  
Now is risen from the dead.

2 Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Death at last has met defeat:  
See the ancient pow’rs of evil  
In confusion and retreat;  
Once He died, and once was buried:  
Now He lives forevermore,  
Jesus Christ, the world’s Redeemer,  
Whom we worship and adore.

3 Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to God on high:  
Alleluia to the Savior  
Who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit,  
Fount of love and sanctity!  
Alleluia, alleluia  
To the triune Majesty!

Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85; (st. 2): rev. The Jubilate Group -Text (sts. 1, 3): Public domain -  
Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001845

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.