

# Immanuel Lutheran Church


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## The Ascension of Our Lord June 1, 2025



**AS WE GATHER**

### Looking Up

Some days we don't want to get up at all, and some days it seems that we have to do it all by ourselves. Although the disciples felt that way at first on the day of Jesus' ascension, today's Readings tell us to look up in hope and confidence, for our Lord is still with us through everything. Jesus' promise about power from the Holy Spirit is ours, for we have been given faith in our great God. Whether we see much evidence, Paul writes that the Father gave His Son complete authority. And we are the Body of Christ! Jesus' instruction to await power is now past tense; we have received authority to proclaim forgiveness of sins to all nations. Bodies and minds may be mended, but complete forgiveness to spirits provides comfort and strength for today and forever!

## WELCOME & BIRTHDAY BLESSING 6/5 Keith Slaughter

♪ Thanks for our friends who celebrate  
And God's rich blessings contemplate.  
Praise for another year on earth.  
Praise to the Lord who gives us birth.      Amen.

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**HYMN**      "On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"      #492

*Please stand as you are able.*

### INVOCATION

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

**People:**      Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES      *Acts 1:6, 11; Luke 24:46–47; Ephesians 1:22–23*

**Pastor:**      Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven?

**People:**      **Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?**

**Pastor:**      It is written, that the Christ should suffer

**People:**      **and on the third day rise from the dead,**

**Pastor:**      and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations.

**People:**      **God gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:**      Let us confess our sins to our gracious God.

**People:**      **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**Pastor:**      God did not leave us devoid of power and love. Christ ascended to His throne above but is with us still. The Holy Spirit did not give us faith for a short time but is with us throughout our time on earth. Your sins were forgiven by the death of Christ on the cross and by His glorious resurrection. 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.

**People:**   **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

**KYRIE**

**Pastor:**   Lord, have mercy on us.

**People:**   **Lord, have mercy on us.**

**Pastor:**   Christ, have mercy on us.

**People:**   **Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Pastor:**   Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.

**People:**   **Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.**  
**Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**     *pew hymnal 204*

♪ **To God on high be glory; And peace to all the earth;  
Good-will from God in heaven; Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing;  
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-be-gotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior; You take our sins a-way.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heart-felt cry,  
Where You in Pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever; Be worshipped and adored.  
You with the Holy Spirit; A-lone are Lord Most High;  
In God the Father's glory; "A-men"! our glad re-ply.**

**SALUTATION**

**Pastor:**   The Lord be with you.

**People:**   **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:**   Let us pray.

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens,

**People:**   **so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him,**

Pastor: who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING** Acts 1:1-11

*(Angels promise that Jesus will return and that Jesus' followers are witnesses.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** Ephesians 1:15-23

*(Paul thanks God that we know the power of Christ over all things.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**VERSE** Romans 6:9; Matthew 28:20b

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will  
never die again;

**People: death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.**

Pastor: Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**People: Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 24:44-53 *(Jesus commands forgiveness to be proclaimed,  
and then ascends in front of the disciples.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*The Gospel is read.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**NICENE CREED** *(found on the last page of your pew hymnal)*

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN** "Up through Endless Ranks of Angels" #491

**SERMON** Rev. Mehl

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Christ has ascended to the Father but is with us in power to continue the mission of the church, the Body of Christ. Let us pray for people everywhere.

**People:** For the whole church, witness to the risen and ascended Christ,  
**that we all proclaim His victory over sin and death;**

**Pastor:** for all who proclaim the Gospel,

**People:** **that they announce the promise of a new heaven and a new earth;**

**Pastor:** and for all who have just come to faith,

**People:** **that the Spirit enable them to understand the fullness of Christ's love. Lord have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For the nations of the world and all relief agencies,

**People:** **that God guide them in seeking peace and cooperation;**

**Pastor:** for all who work in business and all who help the downtrodden and distressed,

**People:** **that they provide all that is needed in food, clothing, and shelter;**

**Pastor:** and for continued scientific research,

**People:** **that we may utilize the bounty of God's good creation. Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For favorable weather,

**People:** **that we may praise God for recreation, leisure, and the growth of crops;**

**Pastor:** for all who suffer, including Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, and Debbie, that God provide relief where it fits His plans for them,

**People:** **and that we may be part of His answer to prayer;**

**Pastor:** for this congregation and all who work with us,

**People:** **that we rededicate ourselves to the mission of our ascended Lord. Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** Into Your hands we entrust ourselves and all for whom we pray; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### SANCTUS

*pew hymnal #208*

♪ Ho-ly; ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name  
Sing hosanna in the highest sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We believe that our Savior, whom the disciples saw ascend, is with us today. Grant us to eat and drink faithfully of the fruits of Jesus' cross and to receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

**People: Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD** *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;  
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST** *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

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

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

Pastor: 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**      *Matthew 6:9–13*

**PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen**

**AGNUS DEI**

*pew hymnal #210*

♪ O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Please be seated.*

**DISTRIBUTION**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

*pew hymnal #211*

♪ O Lord, now let Your servant, depart in heav'nly peace.  
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace;  
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill;  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, is now shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.

**POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift,

**People:** and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;  
**Pastor:** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**People:** Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** 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.  
**People:** Amen.

**HYMN** "Jesus, Lead Thou On" #718

## **POSTLUDE**

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## **THE MESSENGER**

June 1, 2025

**WELCOME!** Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer and "Like" us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

**SERVING US TODAY:** Rev. Paul Mehl  
Linda Rayburn, Organist

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, and Deborah Carter

**ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 32 total:** 21 members, 11 guests

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** theme for next Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> is "**Ticket Stubs Turned to Joy**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The Holy Spirit calls us to turn from the darkness of a self-centered life and come into the light of Jesus' self-giving love. (John 16:20) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.