



1600 South Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160
Services: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30
Guest Pastor Jeff Berg

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 12, 2024

Pastor Luke Boehringer 920-579-8150 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 304
St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Courtney Meyer, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302
Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

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**WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE** Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth!

*Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or the pastor.*

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 or FM 100.7 Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** To our lives of wanton wandering send your promised Spirit-guide; through our lives of fear and failure with your power and love abide; welcome us, as you were welcomed, to an endless Eastertide. Amen.

## SERVICE THEME

*Resurrection Reality:  
Christ's Ascension Means He is Closer than Ever*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Setting One | 154-164, 171*

## OPENING HYMN

*On Christ's Ascension I Now Build | 476*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON (Sermon Text)

Acts 1:1-11

*Before Jesus ascends, he promises to send his disciples the Holy Spirit so that he could continue to carry out his saving work through the Church.*

I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching <sup>2</sup>until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. <sup>5</sup>For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." <sup>6</sup>So when they were together with him, they asked, "Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

<sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But 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."

<sup>9</sup>After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*God Has Gone Up with A Shout | 47*

**SECOND LESSON**

Ephesians 4:7-16

*St. Paul explains the power and purpose of Christ’s ascension. Jesus left this world for our good. He ascended so that he could give gifts to his people and build up his church.*

But to each one of us grace was given, according to the measure of the gift from Christ. <sup>8</sup>That is why it says, “When he ascended on high, he took captivity captive and gave gifts to his people.” <sup>9</sup>Now what does it mean when it says “he ascended,” other than that he also had descended to the lower parts, namely, the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. <sup>11</sup>He himself gave the apostles, as well as the prophets, as well as the evangelists, as well as the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>for the purpose of training the saints for the work of serving, in order to build up the body of Christ. <sup>13</sup>This is to continue until we all reach unity in the faith and knowledge of the Son of God, resulting in a mature man with a stature reaching to the measure of the fullness of Christ. <sup>14</sup>The goal is that we would no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, when people use tricks and invent clever ways to lead us astray. <sup>15</sup>Instead, speaking the truth in love, we would in all things grow up into Christ, who is the head. <sup>16</sup>From him the whole body, being joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows in accordance with Christ’s activity when he measured out each individual part. He causes the growth of the body so that it builds itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Tone*



I will not leave you as or - phans; I will come to you.

**GOSPEL**

Luke 24:44-53

*The risen Savior ascended, and his disciples responded with joyful worship.*

He said to them, “These are my words, which I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup>And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup>They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing | 472*

**“Jesus Christ Gives Us His Ministry”**

*Pastor Jeff Berg*

1. Built on the work of Jesus
2. The Holy Spirit empowers us to witness the gospel of God
3. We anticipate an eternal and glorious Kingdom when Jesus returns

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

*page 163*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS & BLESSING**

*page 171*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise | 474*

**ORGANIST:** Brent Nolte

**GREETERS:** 8:00~ Mike Dowland

10:30~ Heidi & Bruce Zabel