



**Ascension Day † May 14, 2026 † 7:00 PM**

# The Opening

## Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn TLH 213 *Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise*

## The Invocation

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

- P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen!

## The Confession and Absolution of Sins

*We come before our Holy God admitting that we are sinful and need His forgiveness.*

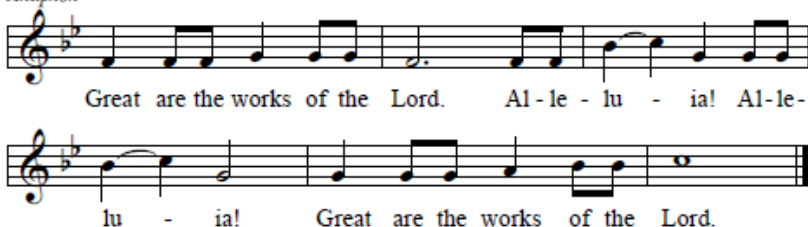
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that 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.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore as a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Ascension Psalmody WS p.30 *Why Do the Nations Rage*

ASCENSION • PSALM 2:1-4; 7-8

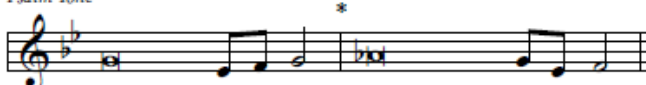
### WHY DO THE NATIONS RAGE

*Antiphon*



Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
lu-ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

*Psalm Tone*



Why do the nations rage\*  
And the people plot a vain thing?  
The kings of the earth set themselves,  
And the rulers take counsel together,\*  
Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,  
"Let us break Their bonds in pieces\*  
And cast away Their cords from us."  
He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;\*  
The LORD shall hold them in derision.

*Antiphon*

"I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to Me,\*  
"You are My Son, today I have begotten You.  
Ask of Me, and I will give You  
The nations for Your inheritance,\*  
And the ends of the earth for Your possession."  
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.

*Antiphon*

# The Scripture

## **First Reading: Isaiah 57:15**

For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity,  
whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him  
who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the  
humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

## **Anthem by the Choir: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing**

*A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring; Alleluia!  
Christ by a road before untrod, Ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia!*

*The holy apostolic band Upon the Mount of Olives stand. Alleluia!  
And with His faithful foll'wers see Their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia!*

*To them the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" Alleluia!  
"This is the Savior," thus they say; "This is His glorious triumph day!" Alleluia!*

*"You see Him now, ascending high Up to the portals of the sky." Alleluia!*

*"Hereafter Jesus you shall see Returning in great majesty." Alleluia!*

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

## **Second Reading: Acts 1:6-11**

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him,  
saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>  
And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons  
which the Father has put in His own authority. <sup>8</sup> "But you shall  
receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you  
shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> Now when He had spoken these  
things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received  
Him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they looked steadfastly toward  
heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white  
apparel, <sup>11</sup> who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing  
up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into  
heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

**Hymn TLH 216** *On Christ's Ascension I Now Build*

# The Sermon

## Sermon Reading: *Mark 16:14-20*

Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. <sup>15</sup> And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup> "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; <sup>18</sup> "they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." <sup>19</sup> So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. <sup>20</sup> And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

## THEME: NOT GONE, JUST GONE AHEAD

*Ascended to the right hand of God...*

Part I: The Lord Jesus has commissioned great work for us to do.

Part II: The Lord Jesus will work with us until we join Him eternally.

### Sermon Worksheet:

*What 3 big, separate events are covered in these 7 short verses?*

*When are we guilty of "hardness of heart" toward God's truth?*

*To whom is Jesus speaking in verses 15-16? Only the 11 disciples?*

*How does Jesus "work with" (Gk: soon-ergo) us here on earth?*

*What's going on with the miracles promised in verses 17-18? What is Jesus telling us about the work of His Kingdom?*

*Should we be sad about Jesus' ascension? Why or why not?*

# The Response

## Ascension Confession of Faith

*We confess our faith using words from the Formula of Concord: Epitome; Article VIII. The Person of Christ.*

**C** We believe, teach, and confess that the Son of Man is exalted according to His human nature to the right hand of the almighty majesty and power of God, so that now not only as God, but also as man He knows all things, can do all things, is present with all creatures, and has under His feet and in His hands everything that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth, as He Himself testifies: “All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.” And St. Paul says: “He ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things”. And this His power, He, being present, can exercise everywhere, and to Him everything is possible and everything is known. Amen.

**Hymn TLH 218:1-5** *See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph*

## The Offering of Thankful Hearts

*In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. If you wish to give your offering electronically, please scan the QR code on the announcement insert.*

## Prayer of the Church † The Lord’s Prayer

*We boldly approach God’s throne of grace, that we may find grace to help in time of need.*

## The Benediction

*The Apostolic blessing given by God to His people (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** Amen!

**Closing Hymn TLH 218:6** *See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph*

# The Announcements

**Confirmation** is this Sunday, May 17. Riley Oman will confirm her Christian faith and be welcomed into communicant membership. Examination will take place at 9 am followed by the worship service at 10 am.

**Graduates:** Please list any member of Grace that is graduating this year (Jan-Dec 2026) on the sheet by the guest book. Include the school's name and the degree. Our Graduation Sunday is May 24. Riley Oman and Elsie Snyder will also graduate from Grace School that day.

**“The Branches”:** If you would like to start receiving “The Branches” (A CLC women’s magazine) please contact Sandy Hulke: [thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com). Previous subscriptions will automatically be renewed. Any changes? Contact Sandy.

**Daily Rest:** Daily Rest is a daily devotion book printed quarterly by the CLC. It is time to renew subscriptions or get a new subscription if you would like to receive this edifying material. The deadline to subscribe is June 1. Jan Davis has offered to collect the \$15 payments again this year. You may give this payment to her directly or mail your payment in her name to her address: Jan Davis, 7986 Van Buren Street NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432. Please contact her ([davis7986@gmail.com](mailto:davis7986@gmail.com)/612-590-5354) for instructions if you wish to submit your payment electronically through Zelle® or Venmo®.

**Suggestions Requested:** You are invited to provide your suggestions for how to use God’s gift of \$282K from the Marie Miller bequest. Please send your suggestions to Dale Enns who will log them for discussion at future Council and Voters Meetings. These can be in any form including email, text, or verbal. Examples of previous suggestions include: LSB hymnals, replace failing electronic piano, furniture, multiple building improvement as well as sanctuary improvement projects, donations to ILC Building Fund or other CLC funds, an endowment.

## Serving Us † Today

*A day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. Psalm 84:10*

<b>Organist:</b> Jan Davis	<b>Usher Team 5:</b> Larry Nelson, Roger Ochsner, Dave Rust, Benno Sydow	<b>Counting Team 2:</b> Dan Degnan, Rick Nelson, Bill Rust, Bob Vandever
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## Serving Us † This Coming Sunday

<b>Organist:</b> Stephen Kuehne	<b>Church Cleaners:</b> R&H Nelson	<b>School Cleaners:</b> Wales
<b>Usher Team 3:</b> Eli Wales; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Kelly; Ryan Oman; Bob Vandever; Uriah Wales	<b>Counting Team 3:</b> Gary Gunther; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Benno Sydow	<b>Hospitality Team B (if needed):</b> Theresa Aymond; Heidi Nelson; Rachelle Kanneh; Suki and Bob Vandever

# Welcome!

We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus Christ.

- † **Restrooms** are located to the right after you exit down the main aisle.
- † **Parent's Room** is located in the northeast corner of the sanctuary.
- † **Amplifying headsets** are available. Please ask an usher.
- † **If you are visiting with us today**, please sign the guest book in the entryway and we invite you to join us again.
- † **If you are looking for a church home**, ask Pastor about a free one-on-one Bible study for new people. Where & when? Your convenience.
- † **Questions?** Please alert one of the ushers on duty. They would be happy to assist you!

## Grace Lutheran Church & School

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Principal Janelle Hein † 763-784-6340 † [janellehein@gmail.com](mailto:janellehein@gmail.com)






*We are dedicated to the proclamation of the gospel of Christ crucified for sinners.*



*We are a member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession.*

**Livestream** @GraceLutheranChurchFridleyMN  **YouTube**

**Sermon Podcast** @GodsWordFromGraceFridley  **Spotify**  **Apple Podcasts** 

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