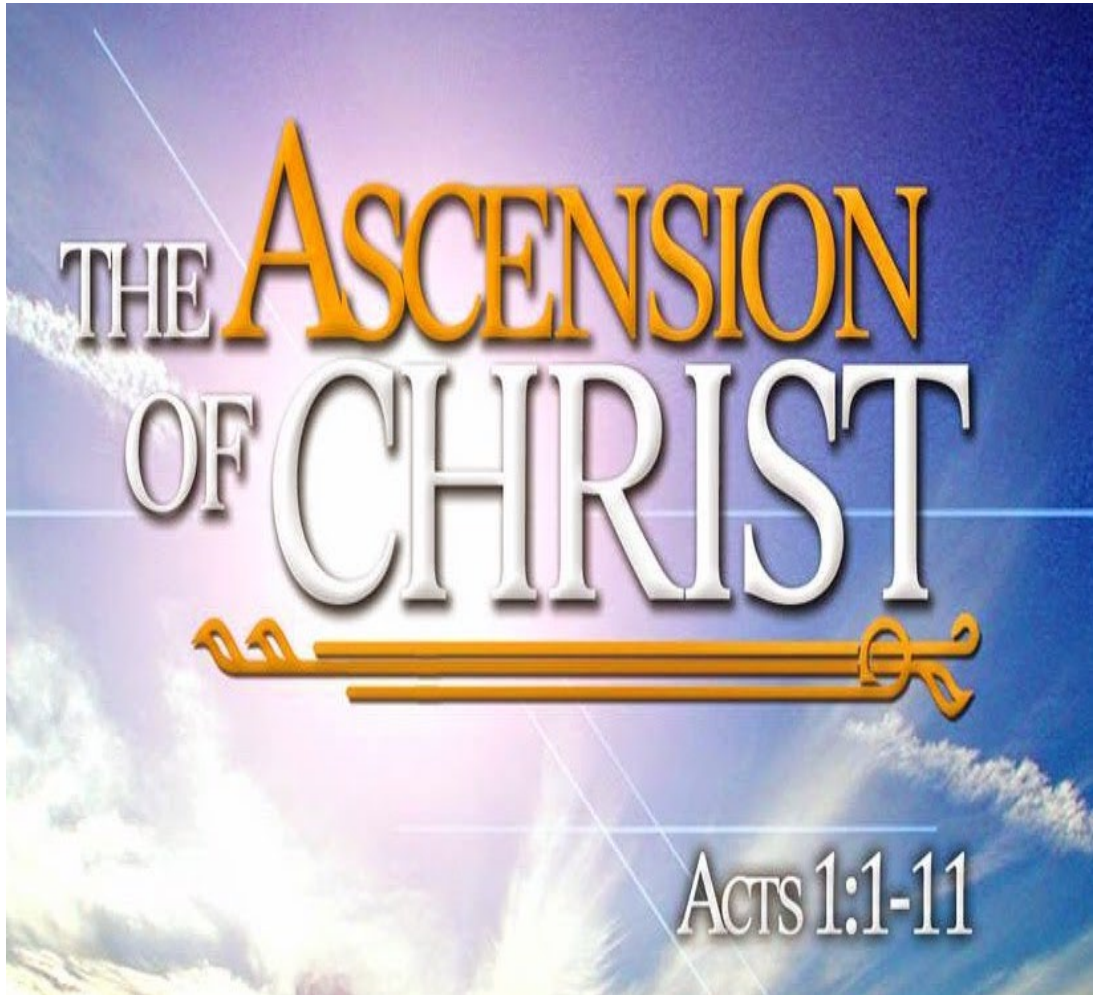


**THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD**  
**MAY 25, 2025**



**Sharing the Good News of Christ With All People**

# The Divine Service

The Ascension of Our Lord

May 25, 2025

## AS WE GATHER

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!

## Prelude

## Invocation

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession and Absolution

**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** With Joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**



# Processional Hymn

# "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"

LSB 493 sts. 1-3



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New  
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -  
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why

hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,  
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
 al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers  
 al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they

trod, As - cends un - to the throne of  
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -  
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph

God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## Greeting

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

**C** And also with you.

## Kyrie

**A** *In peace, in peace...*

### Refrain

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have  
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

**A** *For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the... Refrain*

**A** *For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the... Refrain*

*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*

God. A - men.

## Hymn of Praise:

## "Now the Feast"

### Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

### Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God. *to Refrain*

## Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

## Verse 3

*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *to Refrain*

## Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

**“This is a Joyous Happy Day”**

This is a Joyous Happy Day.  
We celebrate Your gift of life.  
Christ is with us. Joy surrounds us.  
Christ takes our sin and sets us free;  
He fills our lives with endless life.  
Christ is with us. Christ unites us.  
Praise our Maker, praise the Spirit, Praise Christ Jesus.

**The First Reading***Acts 1:1–11*

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach<sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.<sup>3</sup> After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.<sup>4</sup> On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.<sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”<sup>6</sup> Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”<sup>7</sup> He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”<sup>9</sup> After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.<sup>11</sup> “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.



<sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>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, <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup>that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>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.

### Gospel Processional

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

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

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

<sup>44</sup>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." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>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." <sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

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



4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up  
5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And  
△ 6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, All

to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,  
be our fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia,  
praise to You let earth ac - cord: Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall  
al - le - lu - ia! Then, throned with You for - ev - er,  
al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less a - ges

see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -  
we Shall praise Your name e - ter - nal -  
run, With Fa - ther and with Spir - it

ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
ly. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

# Sermon

## “What Are You Doing?”

**Pastor Scott Henze**

## Apostles' Creed

(8:30 a.m. only)

**☩ 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.**

## Prayer of the Church

*Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "**Hear our prayer**"*

## Offering

**"Refuge"**

*Choir, 11:00 a.m.*

## Offertory Prayer

**☐** God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

**A word about Holy Communion** *We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.*

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### Proper Preface

### The Lord's Prayer

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

### Words of Institution

### The Peace of the Lord

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord)*

## Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
you are the way of mer - cy and

world:  
love. have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,

grant us peace, grant us peace.





1 Come down, O Love di - vine; Seek Thou this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, Till world - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty Mine out - ward ves - ture be  
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, With which the soul will long,



And vis - it it with Thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 And low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—  
 Shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; With - in my heart ap - pear,  
 And let Thy glo - rious light Shine ev - er on my sight,  
 True low - li - ness of heart, Which takes the hum - bler part,  
 No soul can guess His grace Till it be - come the place



And kin - dle it, Thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 And o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.  
 Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes His dwell - ing.



## "Baptized into Your Name Most Holy"

LSB 590

1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and  
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your  
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly  
4 All that I am and love most dear-ly— Re - ceive it all, O

Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,  
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me  
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er  
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;

A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and  
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,  
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I  
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I

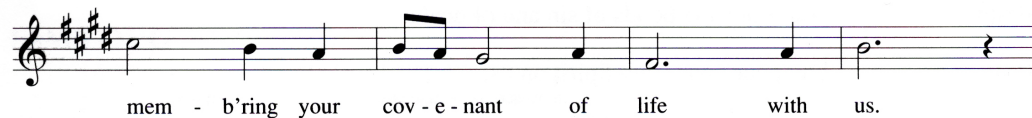
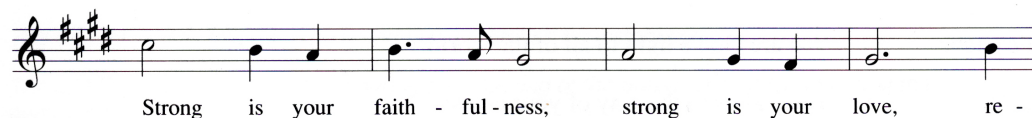
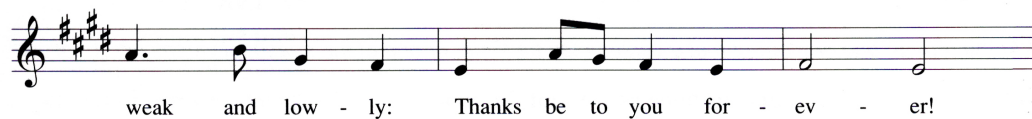
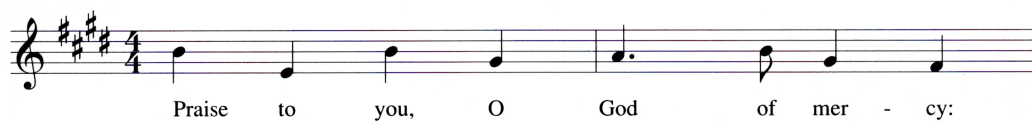
dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.  
com - fort me When threat - ning clouds a - round I see.  
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.  
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

## Closing of the Table





## Post-communion canticle



## Post-Communion Prayer

- P** Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Announcements

## Benediction

## Recessional Hymn

## “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

LSB 821 sts. 1, 3

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the  
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on  
scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the  
earth our food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the  
tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry day a - lone.  
sin - ful Flee to You from day to day.  
Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der  
In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, Earth's Re -  
like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of  
deem - er, hear our plea Where the songs of  
ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."  
all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.

## Dismissal

- P** Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

**C** **Disciples making disciples.**

- P** Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God!**



**May 25, 2025**

**Knit and Kneel Pop Up Summer Sale.** It's a Patriotic Pop-up! Knit and Kneel will hold our summer sale on May 25 and June 1 with red, white and blue items to celebrate Americana. Quilt raffle ticket sales will continue through this time. All of the proceeds will go to The Pantry of Broward to help feed low-income seniors and seniors raising their grandchildren.

**VBS DONATIONS**

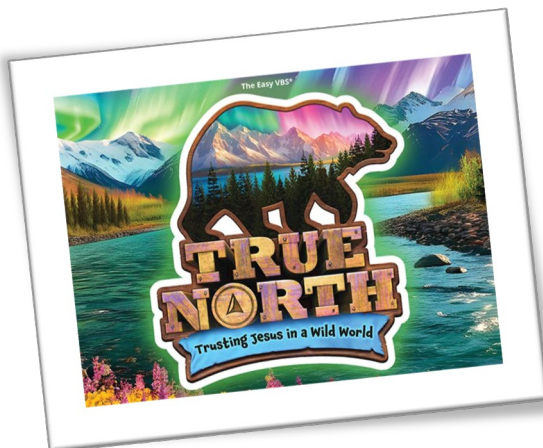
We accept donations in cash, gift cards or check. Please check the tree for volunteer and donations opportunities.

**June 9-13, 2025**

**Vacation Bible School-** Let's get ready to host over 300 participants for a TRUE NORTH experience.

**June 15, 2025,**

**VBS Sunday Service.** Kids will celebrate the culmination of VBS week.





## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

### **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

**Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor**

**Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry**

**Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director**

**580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326**

**Church Office (954) 384-9096 + [office@stpaulweston.org](mailto:office@stpaulweston.org)**

**[www.stpaulweston.org](http://www.stpaulweston.org)**

**Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM**

**Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM**

**Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM**



Website and online giving

 **St. Paul**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& PRE-SCHOOL