

**I am praying
For them.
John 17:9**



Sunday, May 24, 2020

St. John's Lutheran Church, Sherburn, MN
Pastor: Rev. Steven Wilson
Assistant to Pastor: Mr. Jeff Hagen

*Memorial Day Worship Service
The Ascension Of Our Lord*

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SHERBURN, MN**

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

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*Welcome: We are happy that you have joined us for worship.
May your worship of the living Lord enrich your faith and fill
your life with the lively hope and lasting joy.*

Memorial Day Worship Service
The Ascension Of Our Lord
May 24, 2020

Memorial Day is a time to reflect.
It is a time to think about friends and family
who are no longer with us.
It is a time to pay tribute to the
courageous service men and women
who sacrificed their lives
to secure our freedom and
make it possible for us to live in peace.
This Memorial Day, take a few moments
to remember those who have gone before us.

SONG "Star Spangled Banner"

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**All: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America,
and to the republic for which it stands one nation under God,
indivisible with liberty and justice for all.**

SONG "Battle Hymn Of The Republic"

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS

Using Psalm 130

P: Beloved in the Lord let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, Our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
C: **Amen.**
P: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
C: **O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.**

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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: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.
C: **My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.**

P: O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.
C: **He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.**

All: 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE "God Of Our Fathers"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

1In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3After his suffering, he showed himself to these men 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. 4On 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. 5For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8But 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." 9After he

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said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

10They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. **11**"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."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:15-23*

15For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, **16**I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. **17**I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. **18**I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, **19**and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, **20**which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, **21**far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. **22**And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, **23**which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE CROSS

All: I pledge allegiance to the cross of my Lord Jesus Christ and to the faith for which it stands, one Savior, King eternal, with mercy and grace for all.

GOSPEL *Luke 24:44-53*

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

44 He said to them, "This is what I told 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."

45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. **46** He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, **47** and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **48** You are witnesses of these things. **49** I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

50 When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. **51** While was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. **52** Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. **53** And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH *Psalms 23*

P: The LORD is my shepherd,

C: I shall not be in want.

P: He makes lie down in green pastures,

C: he leads me beside the still waters,

P: He restores my soul.

C: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

P: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

C: For Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

P: Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

C: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup overflows.

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
C: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN *"Lift High The Cross"*

SERMON *"A Time To Remember"*

HYMN *"America Medley"*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: We pray for the servants of the Lord who proclaim God's victory for us. Gracious Father, in the midst of such great blessings, we celebrate the gifts You give to Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the sick and recovering, especially for...O Lord, we implore You for Your mercy and healing for those who are sick. We are helpless in the face of sin and all its consequences in this world. Sickness and death are frightening to us for they remind us how feeble we are. They also affirm for us our dependence upon You. Bless those who are sick and those receiving treatment for cancer or other illnesses. Support them with Your grace and guide the doctors and caretakers who minister to them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those who grieve the following family members: Ward Weyrauch, Marlene Stock, Donna (Brolsma) Welsh, and Pastor Jim Flemming. Heavenly Father, You have provided blessing and life to our servants here in this world, but we praise You for the eternal life You grant through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy.

C: hear our prayer.

P: We also continue to offer up prayers on behalf of our service people who are protecting our Country and the countries of this world from harm and danger. We pray that our Heavenly Father will watch over and protect our sons and daughters. May they also know the presence of their Lord and Savior who is always with them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for families of our congregation. Jesus, You have knit Your Church together to be one people, bound together by faith. We bring glory to You as we serve one another with the gifts You bestow. Be with all the families of our church and bless them with Your grace. Guide us as we live each day so that we may be a blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN *"My Country Tis Of Thee"*



Prayers: Angie Leiding, Craig Cain, Les Anderson

Coping With Cancer: Lori Koerselman, Julie Krogman, Donna Nawrocki, Paul Overgaard, Elsie Swanson, Shelly Callahan,

Gary Maday, Ginny Anderson, Georgia Holtz, Larry Norem, Lacy McNicol, Roger Spiegeler, Cyndi Johnson, Gloria Maschoff, Robert Ziemer, Kay Groth, Perry Caven, Harv Baird

Care List: Bev Roben, Verna Bliesmer, Taylor Antony, Dan Hanson, Marian Youngwirth, Glenna Shanley, Terri Schultz, Butch Pierson, Butch Mulso, Reinold Hagen, Ginny Ringnell, Joyce Hansen Picken, Lorraine Gagnon, Dick Lepird, Nathan Behne, Verna Bliesmer, Sammie Moeller, Whitney Kassner, Linda Chase, Lois Anderson, Adam Janssen, Helen Roebbeke, Bob Sherman, Bob Hoffmeyer, Marcella Brolsma, Bob Brolsma, and those we name in our hearts. *(Please help us keep this care list updated. We would like to know if families would like us to continue to have them on our care list, contact Pastor or the church office.)*

We Remember the family and friends of Ward Weyhrauch, Marlene Stock, Donna Welsh, and Pastor Jim Fleming.

Ward was called to his eternal rest on May 16 and is the father of Darla Ross.

Marlene was called to her eternal rest on May 19 and is the sister of Janet Lepird.

Donna (Brolsma) Welsch was called to her eternal rest on May 19.

Pastor Jim Fleming was called to his eternal rest on May 15.

Members Celebrating Birthdays This Week: Kevin Diekmann, Lucy Larson, Brian Grill, Miah Fitzgerald, Lisa Crosby, Courtney Danielson, Allen Kahler, Kaedin Lange, Cora Amborn, Deb Schwager, Adam Williamson, Kenesey Brantner, Chuck Kuntz

Members Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries This Week: Jim & Brittany Lutz, Tyler & Kali Traetow, Adam & Sonja Williamson, Ben & Chelsea Brolsma

Thinking of You

Trials can be completely engulfing, piling on top of us until we wonder if anyone can even see us anymore. Does anyone notice? If they did, would they grasp the depth of our despair? In the midst of all this, we ponder “God’s plan” and the way He will deliver us in due time.

We can find comfort in the fact that He is also simply thinking” about us. Two thousand years ago, Christ was thinking, not only about His disciples, but also about you and me. We mattered enough to Him that He spent His last hours with us on His mind. Knowing the how profound our pain would be in this life, He fervently spoke to the Father on our behalf. And He has never stopped pleading for us as He sits even now at God’s right hand (Romans 8:4). How many other things Christ could have prayed about! We are certainly not worthy of such mercy and thoughtfulness. But our worth in Jesus’ eyes was based on His unconditional love for us, the love that took His life on the cross. We can be sure He is here with us now in our own trials and there in heaven thinking about us.

Amazing God, thank You for thinking about me. Amen.

About the cover: Everything that is in Jesus’ hands is secure. Because He cares so deeply, Jesus never stops praying for those entrusted to Him. He continues to intercede for us to this day by the blood that was shed on His cross. For by His blood we have been redeemed. He has been raised for our justification. No one can snatch us out of His hands.