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RESURRECTION REALITY
THE ASCENDED LORD CREATES A LIVING CHURCH
May 2, 4, and 5, 2024

This weekend, our congregation celebrates both our Savior's ascension and the confirmation of 34 young men and women. The Christian Church, alive and thriving, is evidence that Jesus not only rose from the dead but also that he ascended to the right hand of the Father and now rules all things for the good of his Church.



WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S – CONNECTION CARD

Thank you for joining us in worship. Please complete a Connection Card, sharing any questions or prayer requests you might have. You can fill out the card online and find other resources by scanning the QR Code.

CHILDCARE EVERY SUNDAY 7:45 – 10:45 am in east wing of the church.

SUNDAY KIDS CLUB FOR 3K – GRADE 5 9:30 – 10:30 am at the school. Register online at stpaulmuskego.org/kidsclub.

ACCESSIBILITY A hearing loop system and large-print worship folders are available.

QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE? Visit the Welcome Center in the lobby where a greeter will be happy to assist you.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN SING

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION MUSIC (Sunday)

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

*By Kevin McChesney
St. Paul's Adult Handbell Choir*

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN RED 171, vv. 1-3

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

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

The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
And with his followers they see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

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

M In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

M On the day of Christ's ascension the angels said to the disciples, "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" (Acts 1:11).
C **Lord, we long for your returning when you will take us to be with you forever.**

M Let us prepare our hearts for the day of Christ's return with true repentance and confession of our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of Jesus, our risen and ascended Lord, to grant us forgiveness.

All **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
C Amen.

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**"You see him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky."
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, our risen and ascended Savior, you were taken up in glory and now you graciously rule in the hearts of your people through the power of your Word and sacraments.

C **At your Father's right hand you intercede for us, guaranteeing us a place in the heavenly family.**

M Through your almighty power and through your Word of truth, you protect us from every enemy, physical and spiritual, that seeks to rob us of our faith and remove us once again from your family.

C **Today we celebrate the glorious and comforting truth of your ascension.**

M Truly you live and reign with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:1-11, Bible page 1090

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

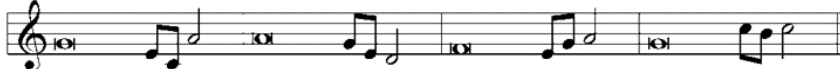
PSALM OF THE DAY (Thursday and Saturday)

Psalm 110

Refrain



Psalm Tone



The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."
The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion; you will rule in the midst of your enemies.

The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."
The LORD is at your right hand; he will crush kings on the day of his wrath.

Refrain

He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead and crushing the rulers of the whole earth.
He will drink from a brook beside the way; therefore he will lift up his head.

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.

Refrain

ANTHEM (*Sunday*)

Meditation on "Beautiful Savior"

Arr. Cathy Moglebust

St. Paul's Adult Handbell Choir

GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53 Bible page 1061

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Martin Luther's Explanation of Second Article

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY RED 341, vv. 1-3

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love -- Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

SERMON

Ephesians 4:1-16, Bible page 1175

Pastor Pete Panitzke

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

Crown him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns For he is King of all.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN RED 169, vv. 1-2

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

CLOSING PRAYER

M O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



ST. PAUL'S CONNECTION