



JOINT ASCENSION TRINITY GRADUATION

May 13, 2021

WELCOME

INVOCATION

M In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen. (Spoken)

HYMN

"A Hymn of Glory" | 171 v. 1-4

1 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!

2 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!

3 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!

4 "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!

A DIALOGUE FOR THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

M Christ is arisen!

C He is risen indeed!

[M] Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

[C] Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

[M] How majestic is the Lord's name in all the earth!

[C] He has set his glory above the heavens.

[M] For the Lord is the Most High over all the earth.

[C] He is exalted far above all gods.

[M] God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

[C] God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

[M] The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble.

[C] He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

[M] The throne of our God will last forever and ever.

[C] A scepter of justice will be the scepter of his kingdom.

[M] Praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted.

[C] His splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[M] Since we have been raised with Christ, it is right that we set our hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Therefore, let us draw near and with a true heart confess our sins, asking God in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[C] Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our 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!**

M When Christ, who is your life, appears, you also will appear with him in glory.

C **Never again will we hunger; never again will we thirst. The sun will not beat upon us, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes. So shall it be. Amen!**

SONG OF PRAISE: (Hymn 171 v. 5-6)

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our future great reward.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Then, throned with you forever, we Shall praise your name eternally.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to you let earth accord.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit one.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE WORD

READING

The Ascension of Our Lord
*A harmony based of the Gospels and Matthew, Mark, and Luke
and the Acts of the Apostles*

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 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.

Soon after the resurrection, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

On one occasion, Jesus 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."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

On another 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. 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." For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

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

When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. And he sat at the right hand of God.

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

Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

HYMN

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" | **341**

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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.

MEDITATION: Ephesians 1:15-23 Prayers and Hope for the Future

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, 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 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 his holy people ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ 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 name that is invoked, 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. (EHV)

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SING

Train Me Up

OFFERING – *We present our gifts to the Lord.*

PRAYER

[M] Blessed Jesus, you ascended to the right hand of your Father's majesty, power, and glory and now reign as eternal King of kings and Lord of lords.

[C] **We praise you for your victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell.**

[M] O ascended Prophet, equip your church to proclaim the precious gospel message of God's love for all the world.

[C] **Give courage to our hearts, power to our words, and success to our efforts.**

[M] O ascended High Priest, represent us before the Father as his own dear children and heirs. Defend us against Satan's every accusation. Ask for the Father's rich blessings in our everyday lives.

[C] **Plead for his mercy and grace on our behalf.**

[M] O ascended King, direct the affairs of governments and nations that they may serve the best interest of your church.

[C] **You are our Lord, Master, and King.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

[M] Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

[M] As the disciples lifted their eyes to watch your ascension, so lift our eyes daily to look for your coming again in glory.

[C] **Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

[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.**

GRADUATION CEREMONY

Mr. Owen's Comments

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Jadon Chesnut, Ann Prigge, Ava Richert, Tenley Williamson, Lukas Worster

May God the Father of Our Lord

Text: Dorothy Scharlemann

Tune: Sarah R. Lambrecht

1. May God the Fa - ther of our Lord, Who called you
 2. In Je - sus Christ may you be blessed And brought to
 3. The Ho - ly Spir - it give you pow'r, The strength of

by his ho - ly Word, Per - fect, es - tab - lish, set - tle
 his e - ter - nal rest. The work he has in you be -
 prayer in ev - 'ry hour, The wis - dom, knowl - edge, fear of

you, Keep you through faith for - ev - er true.
 gun, He will per - form till all is done.
 God, That lifts a - bove his chas - t'ning rod.

May God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the
 Spir - it, Three in One, Pre - serve you blame - less till in
 grace You stand be - fore his ho - ly face.

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www.sarahlambrechtmusic.com

PRAYER

[M] As we close our school year, let us come before our Father in heaven to ask his blessing and to offer our thanks.

Father, you have brought us to the end of this school year by your grace. Lead us now to acknowledge gratefully the blessings you have given us in body, mind, and spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

[C] Hear our prayer.

[M] We thank you, Father, for Christian teachers, parents, and peers who have served for our good. May their efforts bear fruit in lives that continue to grow in faith, hope, and love for Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

[C] Hear our prayer.

[M] As we part for a time or go on to new stages of life, keep us safe in your protecting care. Refresh us through leisure and rest. Renew in us the desire to grow in all useful knowledge and in the wisdom that comes from you. Lord, in your mercy,

[C] Hear our prayer.

[M] Father, into your hands we commend all that we have and are, asking for your blessing in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[C] Amen.

BLESSING

[M] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠
and the Love of God,
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

[C] Amen.

COMMISSIONING – Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (NIV)

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Artwork by Corissa Nelson, www.corissanelsonart.com

Serving Tonight

Pastor Mark Haefner, Bethel Lutheran, York NE and Grace Lutheran, Seward NE

Organist: Mrs. Deborah Owen

Ms. Laurel Coates Farewell – June 6, 5:30 PM at East Hill Park.

Mrs. Marilee Nolte – Husband: Stanley. Three grown children. Has taught in Aurora Colorado, Yakima Washington and Melbourne Florida. Nolte’s will be passing through May 30th looking for housing.