

Elim Lutheran Church
Sunday, May 16, 2021
Ascension of Our Lord
Recorded Worship

*And when he had
said these things...*

HE WAS LIFTED UP.

*and a cloud took
him out of their sight.*

A C T S 1 : 9 , E S V

WELCOME

SIERRA PACIFIC REPORT FROM YOUR VOTING MEMBER (Susan Rodkin and Don Bent)

OPENING HYMN: ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?"

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

GREETING

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

All: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Almighty God,

All: **your only Son was taken into the heavens
and in your presence intercedes for us.**

**Receive us and our prayers for all the world,
and in the end bring everything into your glory,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

READING: ACTS 1:1-11

Leader: A reading from the book of Acts.

[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was

going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 47

Leader: ¹Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a joyful sound.

All: **²For the LORD Most High is to be feared:
a great king over all the earth,**

Leader: ³who subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet;

All: **⁴who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

Leader: ⁵God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of the ram’s horn.

All: **⁶Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

Leader: ⁷For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with a song.

All: **⁸God reigns over the nations;
God is enthroned on high.**

Leader: ⁹The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:44-53

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON:

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson - *“Left Behind”*

HYMN OF THE DAY: O PRAISE HIM

Verse 1

**Turn your ear to heaven
And hear the noise inside
The sound of angel's awe
The sound of angel's songs
And all this for a King
We could join and sing
All to Christ the King
How constant how divine
This song of ours will rise
O how constant how divine
This love of ours will rise will rise**

Chorus 1

**O praise Him O praise Him
He is holy
He is holy**

Verse 2

**Turn your gaze to heaven
And raise a joyous noise
The sound of salvation come
The sound of rescued ones
And all this for a King
Angels join to sing
All for Christ our King
How infinite and sweet
This love so rescuing
O how infinitely sweet
This great love that has redeemed
redeemed
As one we sing**

Chorus 2

**O praise Him O praise Him
He is holy
He is holy**

Alleluia alleluia

**He is holy
He is holy**

CCLI Song # 4158022

David Crowder

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NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Leader: We give you thanks for our Sierra Pacific Assembly this past week, and for our voting members Don and Susan. Bless our Bishop Mark Holmerud as he prepares to leave the Office of the Bishop after his thirteen years of faithful service for our congregations. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Empower our Bishop Elect, The Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer, with your wisdom, joy and passion for the ministry to which they have been elected. Be with their congregation, Grace Lutheran Church in San Francisco, as they prepare to bid them farewell. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: In the majesty of your love, you rule the world with justice and mercy. Give those in authority the spirit of your love, so that all who are hungry and poor receive food and resources, and all people flourish and live in peace. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: You heal those who are sick and bind up the brokenhearted. Attend to the cares and needs of the hurting and hopeless in our congregation, community, workplaces, schools, and families especially, those listed, those battling the coronavirus and those we name silently and aloud (brief silence). Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: You have gathered us in this congregation, enlightened our hearts, and given us a share of the immeasurable greatness of your power. Help us love one another, be reconciled where we are divided, and share the riches of your grace with our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: In raising Christ from the dead, you put your great power to work in the world. Raise us and all who have died in the faith with Christ. We remember saints in our lives and in our community. Thank you for their gifts among us. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: O God, bless all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations of all kinds, this week. Fill our hearts with love and acceptance, Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Gracious God, we pray for your Spirit to be with us in our Annual Meeting today. We give you thanks for the faithful ministry of the members of our Leadership Team: Kevin, Don, Rich, Andrea, Karen, Cindy and Kevin. May they be confident that they have served Elim well in a very challenging time. May you grant wisdom and courage for our Leadership Team which we will vote upon today. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

Leader: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SPECIAL MUSIC: *“The Parting Glass”*
Performed by Caroline Flett

“The Parting Glass” Traditional Irish—Public Domain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Wellspring of joy,
All: through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

Response after blessing: **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING!



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
sky." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



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

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

SENDING

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Leader: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Next Week:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 Day of Pentecost

Theme: Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

Read Ahead: Acts 2:1-21 / Psalm 104:24-34, 35b /Romans 8:22-27/ John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15



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for contributing to today's service:

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Sue Kinsman Sender
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