

Ascension of Our Lord

May 24, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Bethany Church

Pastor Christopher Deines, presiding

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

PRELUDE

Genevieve Bishop

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Bless Be the Tie That Binds

ELW 656

GREETING

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

GATHERING HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Blest Be the Tie That Binds'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final two lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords that support the vocal melody.

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

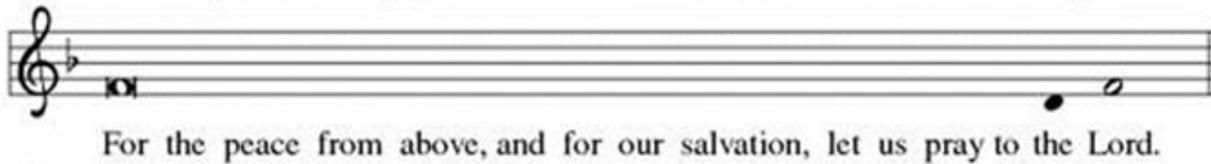
the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773-1836, adapt.

KYRIE



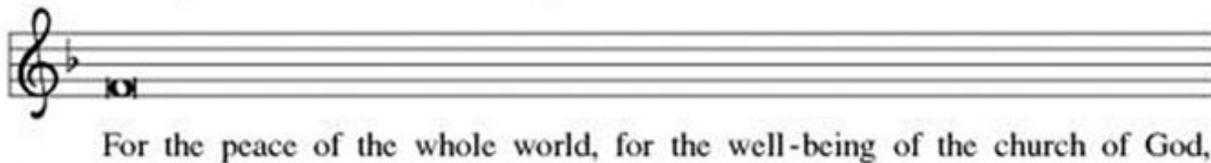
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



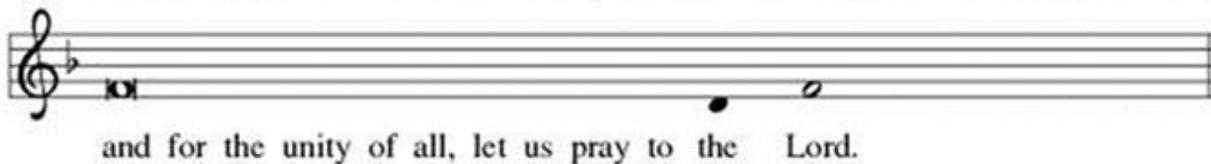
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



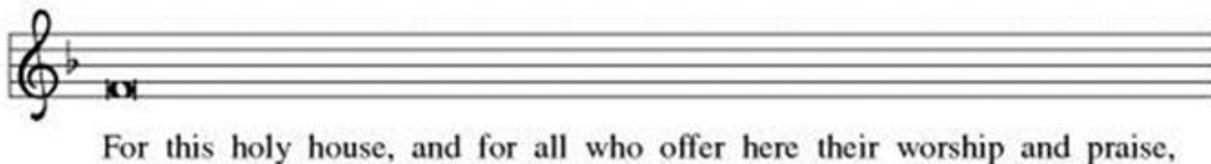
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



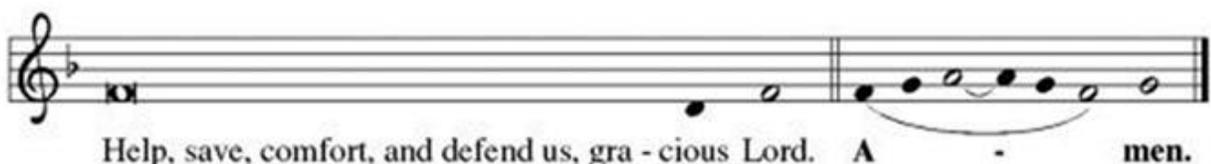
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 1: 1-11

A reading from 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.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 47

Pastor Steve Swanson

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far 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 age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24: 44-53

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

⁴⁴Jesus 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Margo Lysell

SERMON

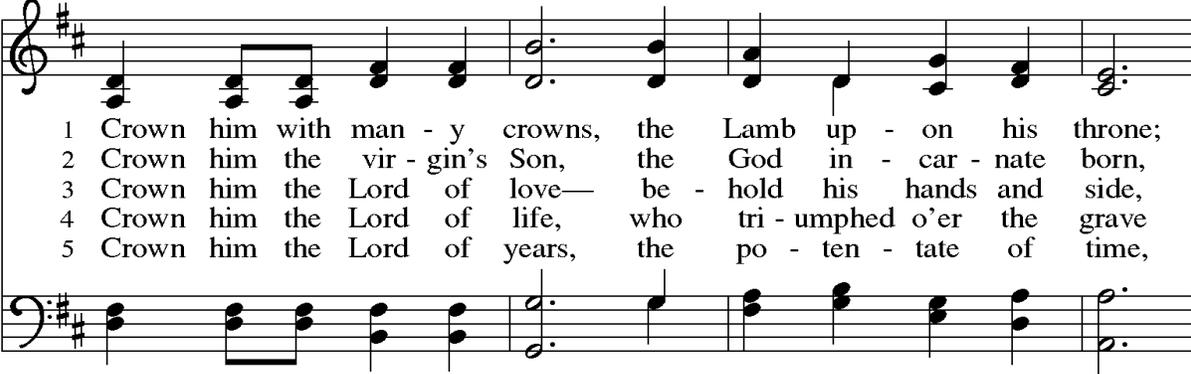
Pastor Christopher Deines

HYMN OF THE DAY

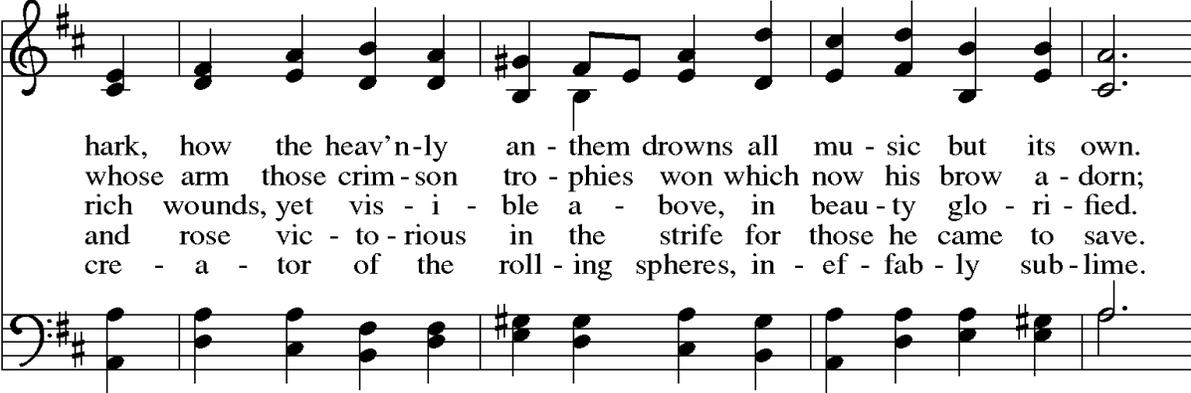
Crown, Him with Many Crowns

ELW 855

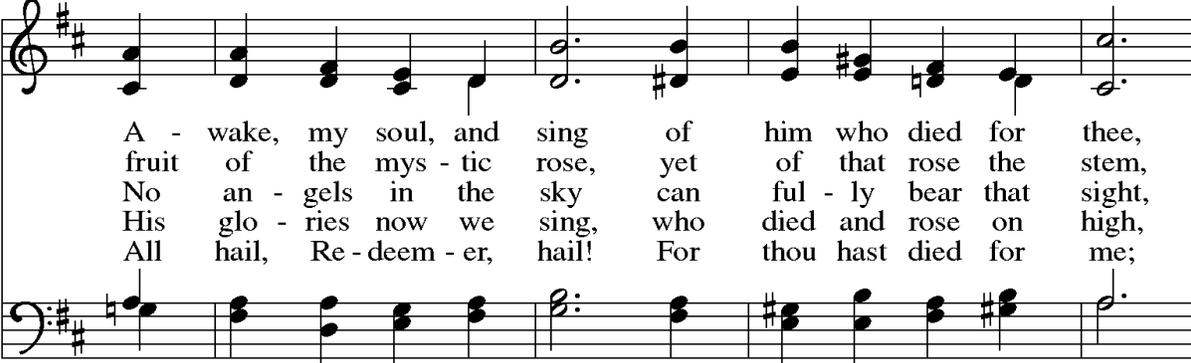
Crown Him with Many Crowns



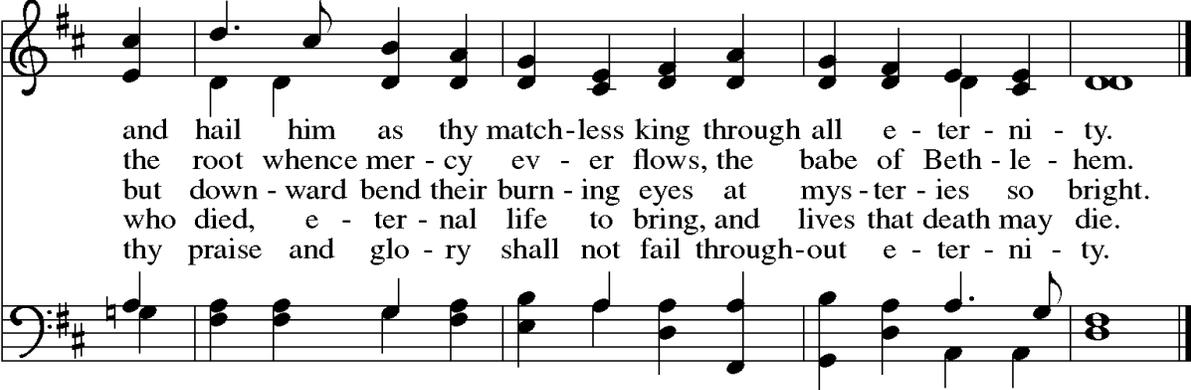
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Reed Family

OFFERTORY

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Performed by Annika and Grant Stucky

Thank you for your continued giving! The ministry of Bethany Lutheran is continuing and God is up to something! We appreciate your financial support of the congregation! You can give by:

- Sending it via the mail with a Stamp
- Set up Auto Draft or bill pay with your bank
- Send via PayPal by using donate@blclindsborg.org

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*
 Come and rest in me. *To refrain*
 all will know my name. *To refrain*
 up, now walk and live! *To refrain*



Refrain
 Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine." *To stanzas 3 and 4*

4 "I

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Serving at 10:30 a.m.

Presiding
Assisting Minister
Lector
Organist
Children's Message
Prayers of Intercession
Psalm 47
Musical Offering
Recording Crew
Video Editor

Pastor Christopher Deines
Avery Van Der Wege
Rebecca Van Der Wege
Genevieve Bishop
Margo Lysell
Terry, Alexa, Tytus & Taytum Reed
Pastor Steve Swanson
Annika & Grant Stucky
Jean Kozubowski
Miriam Wallen

Hymns and Copyright/Podcast Permissions:

Bless Be the Tie That binds

ELW 656

Type: Words and Music; First Line: Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love
Text: John Fawcett, 1872. Music: Johann G. Nägeli, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1845.
Contributors: DENNIS

Crown, Him with Many Crowns

ELW 855

Type: Words and Music; First Line: Crown him with many crowns
Text: SMD; Revelation 19:12; verses 1, 3-5, Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894; verse 2, Godfrey
Thring, 1823-1903, alt. Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893. Contributors: DIADEMATA,
George Elvey

You Are Mine

ELW 581

Type: Words and Music; First Line: I will come to you in the silence.
Contributors: David Haas. Tune: © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc. Text: © 1991, GIA
Publications, Inc.
Annual License A-708049 for Jul 01, 2019 - Jun 30, 2020

Annual reprint with podcasting | C, 101 to 200 average weekend attendance.

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Remember in Your Prayers

Those who are hospitalized, suffering, or recovering from illness:

Bethany members:

Anita Nelson	Maridene Lundstrom	Ervalene Johnson
Lou Swenson	Jolene Reese	Elly Ostlind
Gladys Anderson	Jim Attleson	Allyn & Sue Gillberg
Jane Brunsell	Rev. Elwin Bergstraesser	Heath Harris
Joan Hopp	Dolores & Walter Pelz	Betty Finney
Keo O'Rourke	Mija Stockman	Marilyn Cooper
Lois Howe	Mary Parker	Isaiah Ruble
Clarice Eckstrom	Toni & Lloyd Haukom	Dave & Beth Crouse
Jerry Webster	Mary Swenson	Marvin Anderson

Loved ones:

Mauri Courter	William Paul Lundblad (Nancy Lundblad's step son)
Arriana Benjamin	Mary McConniel (Cindy Couchman's aunt)
Anita Daniel	Ruth Ann Martin (Mary Swenson's friend)
Garry Sutton	Maxine & Don Peter (Lori Nelson's mother & brother)
Keith Smith	Doug Hardin (friend of Kristine Isaacson)
Kristin Hammond	Earl Ahlstedt (Elly Ostlind's brother)
Rick Bogart	Lois Long (Lori McKinney & Richard Johnson's sister)
Brent Kuehl	James Bateman (Walter & Dolores Pelz' son-in-law)
Whitney Harvey	Josie Osio & Bob Allbright (friends of Karen Carlson)
Rachel Fainter	Ed & Marge Scheufler (parents of Donna Ruble)
Edd Jackson	Heubert Oestmann (Grandfather to Ethan, James & Lilah)
Mike & Heath Engberg	Ken Audino & Clara Kozubowski (mother & brother-in-law, to
Melanie Ryding	Mark Kozubowski)

Loved ones in the Military:

Ben Youngquist	Aubreigh Hedrich	Tim Lindshield
Joshua Seery	Jason Seery	Reilly Mader
Brooke Wiley	Justin Hammond	Spencer Preston
Troy Forrester		