



*Ascension of Our Lord (observed)  
Christ present in all times and places*

## HOLY COMMUNION

*Saturday evenings in Easter  
7 Easter † June 1, 2019 † 5:00 pm*

***On Christ's heavenly throne, we sit as kings and queens***

*In today's gospel the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.*

*The risen Lord enters the invisible presence of God in order to be present in all times and in all places to the church and to the world. Where shall we find the risen and ascended Lord today? In his word and his bread, in his people and his washing with water and the Spirit, and in all who cry out for mercy.*

## GATHERING

*The disciples urged Jesus strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them.*

### GATHERING MUSIC

*"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"*

*arr. Anne Krentz Organ*

*The bell calls the assembly to worship.*

*Please stand, as you are able, and face the leaders with the evening prayer candle in the center of the assembly.*

### EASTER GREETING

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!**

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**We are illumined by the brightness of his rising.**

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

**Death has no more dominion over him**

**Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.**

**Dying he destroyed our death.  
Rising he restored our life.**

### HYMN TO THE RISEN CHRIST

**"We Have Been Told"**

*verses are sung by the soloist, all join on the refrain:*

We have been told, we've seen his face, and heard his voice a-live in our hearts; "Live in my love with all your heart, as the Fa-ther has loved me, so I have loved you."

### GATHERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

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.

It's in Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

*The presider continues with words of welcome.*

## WORD

*Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.*

### READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

*Jesus sends the apostles*

*Acts:1: 1-11*

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL

*The assembly welcomes the gospel, singing:*

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!

*Christ present in all times and places*

*Luke 24:44-53*

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

*before the reading:*

The holy gospel according to ....

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

*after the reading:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

### HYMN

*"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"*

*(hymn) 392*

*stanzas 1, 3 & 4*

### BLESSING OF GRADUATES

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...hear us O God,

**your mercy is great.**

## MEAL

*When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.*

### PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### OFFERING

*When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*During this time, the table is set.*

*"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"*

*arr. Curt Oliver*

### Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together.

**Risen Christ, receive these gifts,**

**with our hopes, dreams, and prayers.**

**Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread,**

**that our eyes may be opened to see your presence among us,**

**and our lives filled with the new life of your resurrection.**

**Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:*

Lord's Prayer (1975)

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.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

*All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God.  
Communion at this service is served standing at stations near the altar. Pick up a cup  
for wine or filled with grape juice as you approach. Grape juice and gluten-free bread  
are available upon request. The benefits of the sacrament are fully present in either the  
bread or the wine, should health reasons prevent you from receiving one of them.  
Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Prayer at the chancel  
kneelers during communion is always welcomed.*

Variations on "Hyfrydol"

arr. Nancy Raabe

*silence for reflection concludes the communion*

## EASTER BLESSING

*That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem.*

*They told what had happened on the road  
and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

### SENDING DIALOG

We have heard the holy and saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**We have celebrated with joy the Easter mysteries.**

We have been nurtured at the holy table  
and baptized into the priesthood of Christ.

**We offer ourselves now to the Lord of all creation  
in thanksgiving for all that God has done for us.**

Go out from this Easter assembly  
to proclaim the mighty works of the Lord.

**Let us bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

### BLESSING

May the risen Christ bring you all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

"Father, We Thank You"

(hymn) 478

### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
Thanks be to God.

### MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

"Father, We Thank You"

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

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*Please join us for fellowship following worship.*

*This service is being streamed live via the internet: [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org)*

*Your assistance in helping prepare the sanctuary for our Sunday liturgies is  
welcomed. Please meet a staff member near the front of the sanctuary following the  
postlude to assist in arranging the pew chairs.*



## SERVING TODAY

Pastor Stephanie Friesen, *presiding*

Kathryn Holum, *assisting minister*

Pat Hansen, *reader, soloist*

Jane Lien, *organist/pianist*

Mark Kieffer, *sound operator*

Richard Stegall, *sacristan*

Alan Filzen, Rosalinda Morales, Brittany Bardell-Palacio,

Varney Kiazolu, *ushers, greeters & hosts*

**Chancel flowers** this weekend are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to  
donate flowers contact Judy Korogi 10 days in advance at 612-788-1288.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## WELCOME



**You are welcome. No exceptions.**

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image. • We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all. • Central Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the "Welcome to Central" card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email [info@centralmpls.org](mailto:info@centralmpls.org).

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. The nursery may be found near the welcome desk. Nursery staff are provided on Sunday mornings.

**Welcome to the Lord's Table.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**Welcome to the Holy Baptism.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

**Friends of Central...Stay connected**

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join our network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.

**Electronic Giving Opportunities:** Online at [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org) click on **Give Today**; or text 73256, enter code word *centralmpls* (lower case), and a numerical amount. Press send and fill in the details. All contributions from members and guests will appear in a contribution statement. WIFI is available as *Central Lutheran* (password *guestclc*). If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. The ministries and mission of Central Lutheran are supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.



**Central Lutheran  
MINNEAPOLIS**

Exploring the promise of God for all  
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