

Ascension of Our Lord

May 21, 2023

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting VIII

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Zachary W. Johnson, Pastor

Donna Menzies, Assistant to the Pastor, Visitation & Spiritual Care

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soprano

Angela Jorgensen, Assistant Minister

Sue Rose, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"Thy Word"

arr. Bill Wolaver

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

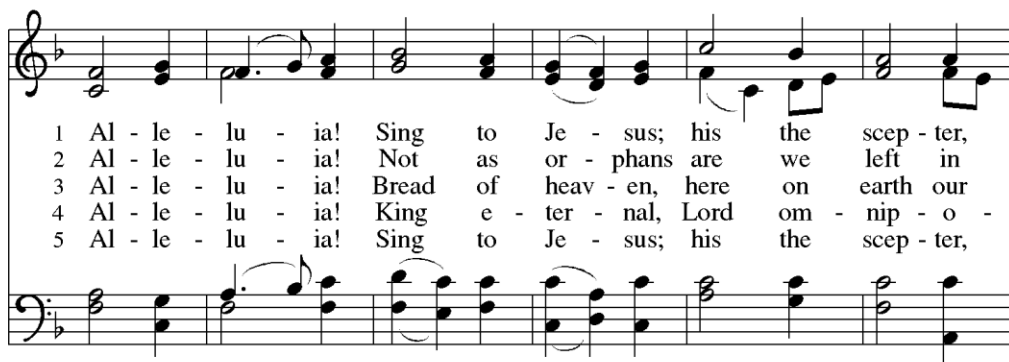


Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

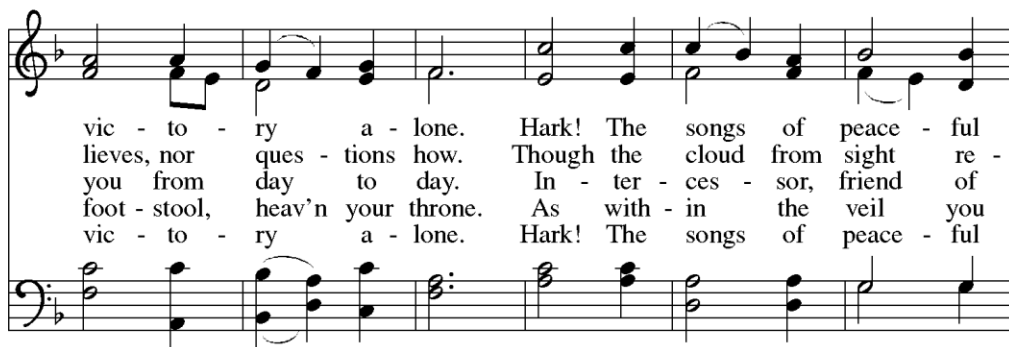
ELW 392



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
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



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 -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



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?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

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.**

KYRIE

(Lord Have Mercy)

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTICLE
OF PRAISE**

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



- 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
Refrain
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of
 vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -
 le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

[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: Psalm 47 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

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

²**For the LORD Most High is ¹ to be feared: a great king over ¹ all the earth,**

³who subdues the ¹ peoples under us, and the nations un- ¹ der our feet;

⁴**who chooses our inheri- ¹ tance for us, the pride of Jacob, ¹ whom God loves.**

⁵God has gone up ¹ with a shout, the LORD with the sound ¹ of the ram’s horn.

⁶**Sing praises to ¹ God, sing praises; sing praises to our ¹ king, sing praises.**

⁷For God is king of ¹ all the earth; sing praises ¹ with a song.

⁸**God reigns o- ¹ ver the nations; God is en- ¹ throned on high.**

⁹The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the ¹ God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high- ¹ ly exalted.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

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.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and 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 our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Zach Johnson

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 579

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: “Heal the sick and
2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: “In my name bap -
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: “This my bod - y,
4 Lord, you show us love’s true mea - sure: “Fa - ther, what they
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: “I am with you

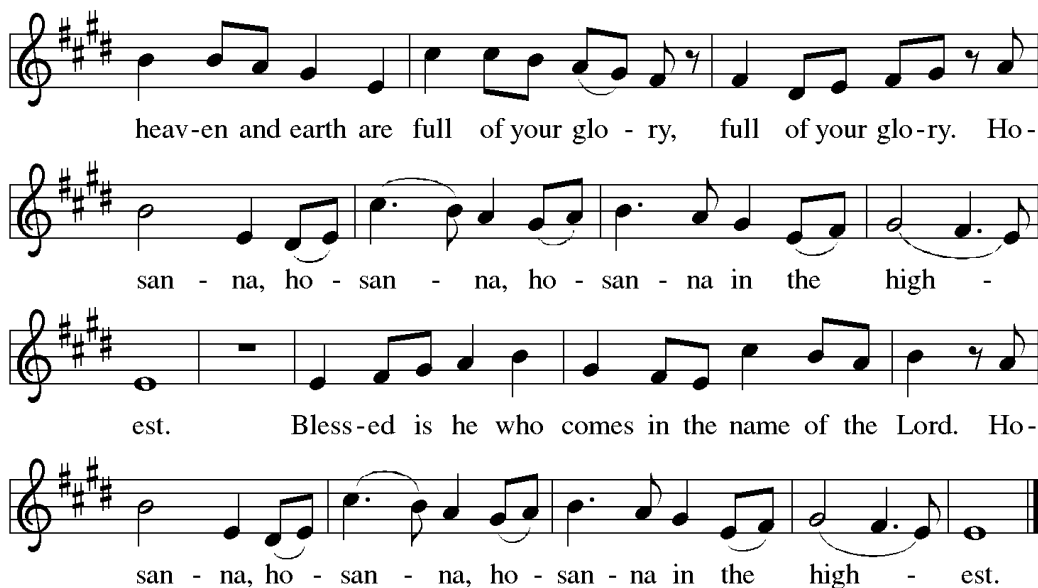
preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
 this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,
 and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
 dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
 all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the
 to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
 world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:
 mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:
Refrain
 With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991
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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;**



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love. **Come Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

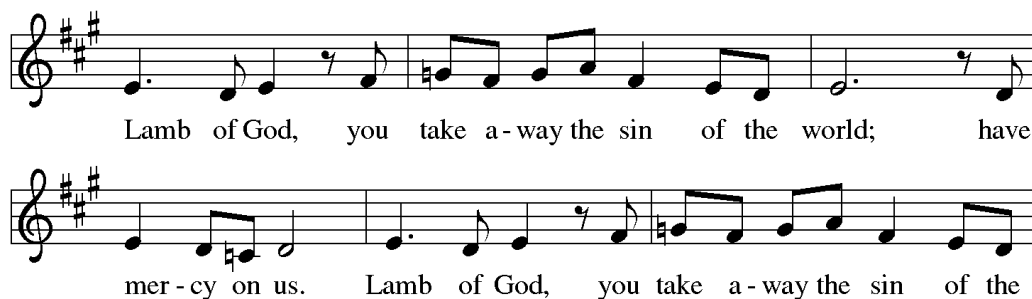
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: **“The body of Christ given for you.”** Wine/grape juice: **“The blood of Christ shed for you.”***

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - *All speak the prayer together.*

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

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,



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him”

F. J. Haydn - Phillip Keveren

Altar flowers are given by Karen DeGilio in honor of my grandson Jakob McDonald’s graduation from Cal State LA on Tuesday, May 23rd, majoring in Kinesiology.

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Wed 5/24/23	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel
Wed 5/24/23	7:00 PM	Bible Study via Zoom

Thurs 5/25/23	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 5/27/23	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday the 28th is Pentecost Sunday, be sure to wear RED!!

Bible Study classes offered with 2 opportunities to participate: Wednesdays at 10 AM in the chapel and at 7 PM via Zoom. Contact Pastor for the zoom link at Pastor@hillavenuegrace.org

Join Pastor Zach in a ministry team to help us transition our ministry to this post pandemic time and reach out to our community in this time and place. If you are interested in helping the church discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us, contact Pastor Zach and he will let you know when the team starts meeting.

The Hill Avenue Grace Food Shelf needs volunteers! We're looking for new, friendly faces to help distribute food on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. You can help out as often or as little as you want. If you're open to hearing more, please contact Angela Jorgensen at foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org

Did you know you can **use the "Donate" button** on our church website, hillavenuegrace.org, for an easy way to make your donations? Here you can specify a fund, how often you want the donation made, specify a debit or credit card or bank transfer, and even choose to cover the processing fee so HAGL receives your full donation amount! Contact the office with questions.

Want an easy way to ensure your donations are made? Sign up for **"Simply Giving"** which is Thrivent Financial's safe and confidential electronic funds transfer program. Your offerings can be made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your checking or savings account. Enrollment is easy, just contact the office for the form!

Property Cleanup – We will be cleaning out the 2nd floor of the Education building in preparation for possible rental space. We need help removing old items, gathering items for give-away, changing light bulbs, cleaning, plastering, painting, etc. Can't help with the physical cleanup but want to help? Sponsor an activity! Contact Dave Cuatt to help out!

Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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We are back to joining at the altar for communion. We will be going up the center aisle and returning down the side aisles. If you are not comfortable with that, pick up a communion set at the table in the narthex and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!