

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

ASCENSIÓN DE NUESTRO SEÑOR

APRIL 13, 2018

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

IGLESIA LUTERANA CRISTO REY

6541 Eastern Ave
Bell Gardens CA 90201

cristoreylutheran.com
(323) 395-8062

Pastor Matt Behmer
pastor@cristoreylutheran.com

WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING!

We are a Christian church centered on Jesus Christ. Our mission is to share the good news of eternal life through Christ with you.

We are both an established, yet new church. We have been serving Bell Gardens since the 1970s. At the same time, we recently began a partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod to revitalize our mission and ministry.

WORSHIP INFORMATION

This service folder is your guide for today's worship. Much of our service is designed to be responsive between the pastor and the congregation. The pastor will lead the sections marked **(M)**. The congregation is invited to join on the sections marked **(C)**.

We welcome all children to our worship services and children are encouraged to participate as they are able. If children need a break from the worship service, a nursery is available in the back of our sanctuary.

Restrooms are in the back of our church. They are assessible through the hallway along the north side of our building, or through the door to the right of our altar area.



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up - on the
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high Up to the
 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, As - cends un -
 And with his fol - low - ers they see Their Lord as -
 "This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see Re - turn - ing
 Then, throned with you for - ev - er, we Shall praise your



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 name e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

OPENING RITE FOR ASCENSION

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



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.** *Psalm 148:1-2*

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

C: **He has set his glory above the heavens.** *Psalm 8:1*

M: For the Lord is the Most High over all the earth.

C: **He is exalted far above all gods.** *Psalm 97:9*

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.** *Psalm 47:5,8*

M: The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble.

C: **He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.** *Psalm 99:1*

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

C: **A scepter of justice will be the scepter of his kingdom.** *Psalm 45:6*

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

C: **His splendor is above the earth and the heavens.** *Psalm 148:13*

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **O Almighty God, Merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment both now and forever. But I am truly sorry for my sins and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

M: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,
God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
 sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on - ly are holy;
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

M: Lord Jesus, King of Glory, on this day we remember your ascension far above the heavens and recognize you at God's right hand, ruling the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 3:12-20

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.³ 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. ⁴ On one 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. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ 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."

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "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."

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:16-23

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.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age. Alleluia.



GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

M: The Gospel According to Saint Luke.

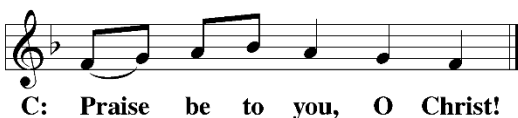


⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord!





1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of
2 Since Christ re - turned to claim his throne, Great gifts for
3 Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing



my as - cen - sion. This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled
me ob - tain - ing, My heart shall rest in him a - lone,
your as - cen - sion, That I may serve you faith - ful - ly,



All doubt and ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the
No oth - er rest re - main - ing, For where my
A - dorn - ing your re - demp - tion; And then, when



head is, there as well I know his mem - bers
treasure went be - fore, There all my thoughts shall
all my days will cease, Let me de - part in



are to dwell When Christ shall come and call them.
ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

SERMON

Where Are You Looking?

Acts 3:12-20

APOSTLE'S CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

OFFERING

The members of Christ the King have joined together to do the Lord's work in their community and around the world. Visitors should not feel obligated to participate.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The minister leads the congregation in the prayer of the church.

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.

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Christian Worship | 169



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the scep - ter,
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on earth our
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,
food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;



His the vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace -
Flee to you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, Friend
Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight



ful Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
of sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea Where the
re - 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."
songs of all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?"

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture quotations are from: THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Liturgy and hymns taken from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal. Reprinted with permission under One License A-726822.