

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, Greeley, CO

7th Sunday of Easter – May 17, 2026 – 8:30 A.M.

MUSIC SUNDAY | ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

We rejoice in your presence with us today at this service of Holy Communion.

Please silence cell phones during worship.

*The congregation's response is printed in **BOLD type**.*

** = Please stand at your discretion.*

Introduction: In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church worldwide. 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.

GATHERING

PRELUDE
WELCOME

"Come Christians, Join to Sing!"

arr. by Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Come All You People"

ELW #819

*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Let us pray. O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Through the songs we sing and the music we offer, unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN

"When in Our Music God is Glorified"

ELW #851

WORD

READING

Acts 1:6-14

Bill Kindel

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."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"God of Grace"
Ringers of Praise

Paul Manz
arr. By Martha Thompson

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

²**Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.**

³Know that the LORD is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴**Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.**

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

⁵For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

ANTHEM

“Over My Head”
Sanctuary Choir

Traditional Spiritual
arr. by Matt and Adam Podd

*GOSPEL

John 17:1-11 (The Message)

Response after the announcement: “Glory to you, O Lord!”

¹⁻⁵ Jesus said these things. Then, raising his eyes in prayer, he said: Father, it’s time. Display the bright splendor of your Son so the Son in turn may show your bright splendor. You put him in charge of everything human so he might give real and eternal life to all in his care. And this is the real and eternal life: that they know you, the one and only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent. I glorified you on earth by completing down to the last detail what you assigned me to do. And now, Father, glorify me with your very own splendor, the very splendor I had in your presence before there was a world.

⁶⁻¹¹ I spelled out your character in detail to the men and women you gave me. They were yours in the first place; then you gave them to me, and they have now done what you said. They know now, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that everything you gave me is firsthand from you, for the message you gave me, I gave them; and they took it, and were convinced that I came from you. They believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I’m not praying for the God-rejecting world but for those you gave me, for they are yours by right. Everything mine is yours, and yours mine, and my life is on display in them. For I’m no longer going to be visible in the world; they’ll continue in the world while I return to you. Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life that you conferred as a gift through me, so they can be one heart and mind as we are one heart and mind.

Response after the reading: “Praise to you, O Christ!”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

“In the Footsteps of Jesus”

Pastor Cindy Wolf

Silence for reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

ELW #392 (Verses 1-3)

PRAYERS (*each petition concludes:*)

... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Prayers for healing and strength for: Debbie Murphy, Virginia Kinney

Prayers of sympathy for the families of: Rose Schmeeckle, Ralph Giardino, Cadence Nield (friend of Laurel LaBonde),
Norma Munson (Midge Parkos’ sister)

ANTHEM

“The Lord’s Prayer”
Ringers of Praise

Arr. by Cynthia Dobrinski

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

***OFFERING PRAYER (Sung Doxology)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

You may text your offerings to 833-931-1874 or through this link. Thanks for your generosity.



***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. / **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. / **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. / **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Communion is open to all who receive it as the presence of Christ. Come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles. For those who wish, white grape juice is available in the center cups. Gluten-free wafers are available by mentioning your preference to the pastor or server. Adults and children who are not communing may come forward for a blessing.

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC: ANTHEM: "Come to the Water" (Sanctuary Choir)
"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

Arr. by Jack Schrader
ELW # 656

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

SENDING

***BLESSING (response: "Amen!")**

***SENDING HYMN**

"To Be Your Presence"

ELW #546 (Verses 1 and 4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

"God Be with You till We Meet Again"

ELW #536

(The choir will sing the first verse and chorus alone. Please join us in singing when we repeat the chorus.)

DISMISSAL (response: "Thanks be to God!")

***POSTLUDE**

**"Prelude and Fugue in F Major"
Donita Hughes, organ**

J.S. Bach

Thank you to Mary Adams for sponsoring today's complimentary coffee and cookies in memory of Mike Adams for his May 20th birthday.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall between services.

Assisting in worship

Pastor: Rev. Deb Abbott
Rev. Cindy Wolf
Soprano Saxophone: Kirk Vogel
Alto Saxophone: Holden Packard
Bari Saxophone: Austin Fuchs
Trumpet: Brooke Fuchs
Trombone: Brad Abbott
Viola: Jeanece Kieselstein
Cello: Debbie Smith
Organ: Donita Hughes
Piano Accompanist: Nate Wamboldt

Music Director: Cody Thomas
Sound technician: Grey Conderman
Projection: Junior Vanderploeg
Video production: Josh Matthews
Communion assistants: Bernie Ruesgen, Vernell Brown, Gene Plampin
Ushers: Ken and Bev Westerkamp
Altar Guild: Alan & Kathy Berryman

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Thanks to all who give of their time so generously throughout the season to the worship life of the congregation (with apologies to any whose names were inadvertently omitted).

RINGERS OF PRAISE

Mary Adams
Diana Bleignier
Erica Corona
Donita Hughes
Carolyn Kelly
Carrie London
Danaé Rosso
Anna Troyer
Christine Vickers
Susan Vilfroy

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Ryan Akers
Roger Boettcher
Amie & R.J. Cieminski
Dorothy Eidem
Sue Elton
Marie & Duane Franzen
Cyndi Gryboski
Dee Holm
Donita Hughes
Bill Kindel
Barb Herget
Josh Matthews
Kim & Mark Meadows
Don Mueller
Dion Spencer
Herb Weishaupt
Jim Wickland

Join us in making music this Fall!

Our music ensembles meet from September through May, and we'd love to have you join us. The Sanctuary Choir is open to anyone from middle school through adult. Ringers of Praise welcomes experienced handbell ringers. We are also restarting a beginner handbell group (open to all, middle school through adult, no prior experience needed) and a children's choir. Church membership is not required to join any ensemble. All are welcome!

Rehearsals are relaxed and low commitment. They are a good way to share in the worship life of our congregation, make new friends, and make music together. If you'd like to learn more or know someone who might be interested, please speak with Cody after worship, reach out to the church office, or email music@greeleylutheran.org.

Scripture readings next Sunday: Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, John 20:19-23

"People connecting people with Jesus and each other."