

A Celebration of the Ascension 11:00 AM
May 21, 2023



GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The reader today is Daniel Houck

Our bulletins today are sponsored by Susan Walters presented to the Glory of God

Our Altar Flowers are sponsored by Gayle Wagner presented to the Glory of God

Bell Ringing

*Denotes Congregation Stands, if you are able

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

JOYS AND CONCERNS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 47

P: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy!

C: For God has ascended with shouts of triumph, and trumpet fanfare!

P: Our God is exalted on high,

C: Sovereign over all the nations, and Lord of our lives.

P: Let's worship together;

*GATHERING HYMN #392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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, on God, now and forever.

C: 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.”

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

*THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24: 44-53

P: The holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 24th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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.” 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Vicar Mycah McNett

HYMN OF THE DAY # 576 We All Are One in Mission

THANKSGIVING

*OFFERING

Offering is collected to support the mission of the church including the care of those in need. The children collect a special offering in pots called joyful noise which goes to community organizations.

OFFERTORY

*APOSTLES' CREED

P: Together let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

**C: 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 THE PEOPLE**

P: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray
for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

After each petition of the prayer . . .

P: Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

The minister concludes . . .

P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and
praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our
risen Lord.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Remember us in your kingdom as you teach us to pray

**C: 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

SENDING

*BLESSING

P: 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.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN # 855 Crown Him with Many Crowns

*THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Today's Podcast/Streaming was broadcast under Good Shepherd's Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SB121391 and the account with ONE LICENSE, License #739070-A

Muhlenberg Summer Day Camp is currently looking for camp counselors for the summer of 2023. To qualify to be a counselor you must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma and clearances. If you are, or you know anyone, is interested or if you have any other questions please contact Rebecca Watson 610-926-4201 ext. 207 or email beckywatson1997@gmail.com



Prayer Chain Information Please remember the following in your prayers:
(names removed due to placement on public website)

Start gathering your used plastic bags. The West Berks Mission District and the NE PA Synod are asking for your used plastic bags. They have a project to make sleeping mats out of the material. Plastic bags may have holes and tears because they are woven into a flat mat for the homeless. There will be a box in the entry area for your bags. Thanks for participating.



Exciting News!!!!

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will be hosting a Summer Concert Series on Sunday afternoons. We have invited the following groups to perform here:



Mount Laurel Brass - Sunday June 25

Exeter Community Band - Sunday July 16

Blue Mt. Heritage Chorus - Sunday August 13

Ringgold Band Sunday - September 17

A free will offering will be taken at the concerts to help defray the cost of the performances.

WE ARE PLANNING A SUMMER PICNIC WITH GOOD SHEPHERD UCC AND CALVARY LUTHERAN. SUNDAY JULY 16TH. IN OUR PARKING LOT OR FELLOWSHIP HALL DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER. WE WILL START WITH OUR WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11 AM, FOLLOWED BY OUR PICNIC LUNCH AT NOON. STAY TO PLAY GAMES -



AND AT 4 PM A BAND CONCERT FROM THE EXETER COMMUNITY BAND.

PUT THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR TO BE WITH US.