



FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503

www.faithlutheranlacey.org
www.flschool.org

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

W O R S H I P

8:15am – Traditional
9:30am – Gather & Grow
10:30am - Contemporary

C O N T A C T

Church: 360-491-3552
School: 360-491-1733
Childcare: 360-491-1118
Community
Center: 360-491-3868
Pastor: Greg Strand
pastorgreg@flschool.org

*“Raising Up
Families and Followers
of Jesus Christ”*

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

10:30 AM



While he blessed them, he parted from them
and was carried up into heaven. *Luke 24:51*

THE KING TAKES HIS THRONE

AS WE GATHER

Ascension Day is an opportunity for God's people to celebrate Christ the King taking His throne in glory, honor, and authority at God the Father's right hand. Like the ancient believers, who clapped their hands and shouted praises to God at the coronation of their king, we rejoice in the victory King Jesus earned for us, His people, by means of His death and resurrection. Our praises keep rolling from our Easter celebration some forty days ago, all the way to today and even beyond, as we witness Jesus now seated in glory and majesty. Shout your praises to God! The same King who is exalted over all things in heaven and on earth is the King who stoops to serve us as we gather to worship Him!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lord I Lift Your Name On High

Verse

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

Chorus

You came from heaven to earth - To show the way
From the earth to the cross - My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

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INVOCATION

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Based on Colossians 1:15–19*

Pastor Let us come before our Lord and King in a time of confession so that we may receive assurance of His mercy and forgiveness.

We take a moment of silence for personal prayers and reflection.

Pastor Lord Jesus, You are the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Congregation All things have been created by You: things in heaven and things on earth, visible and invisible.

Pastor All things are Yours, including us. We have been created by You and for Your glory.

Congregation Yet our sinfulness separates us from You and Your will for our lives. By what we do and what we fail to do, we fall apart without You holding us together.

Pastor Lord Jesus, in all things You reign supreme. You are the King of all, the Sovereign of our souls. God the Father dwells fully in You.

Congregation By Your blood, You have reconciled us to the Father. By Your cross, grant us Your forgiveness and peace. Amen.

Pastor Our merciful God is pleased to have all His fullness dwell in His crucified, risen, and ascended Son, Jesus Christ. He alone is the image of God, and in Him all things hold together. Through faith in Christ, you and I have been reconciled to God and stand renewed in His presence. As a called and ordained servant of Christ the King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, gloriously took His throne, ascending to Your right hand,

Congregation grant that we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him,

Pastor who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

FIRST READING *Acts 1:1–11*

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you 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, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed 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 and in all Judea and Samaria,

and to the end of the earth.”⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 47

Pastor Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Congregation For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Pastor He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

Congregation He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom He loves.

Pastor God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

Congregation Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Pastor For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

Congregation God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

Pastor The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

Congregation For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15–23

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked 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 one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24:44–53*

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then [Jesus] said to 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are 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 blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

Congregation I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

I'm forgiven - Because You were forsaken
I'm accepted - You were condemned
I'm alive and well - Your Spirit is within me
Because You died - And rose again

Chorus

Amazing love - How can it be
That You my King - Would die for me
Amazing love - I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You - In all I do I honor You

Ending

You are my King - You are my King
Jesus You are my King - Jesus You are my King

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SERMON

WELCOME CARDS/PRAYER REQUESTS *We ask all who are present today to please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate.*

OFFERING <https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>
or text to give, 360-732-8020.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor The King invites His people to boldly pray and seek His will for our lives.
Loving Father, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to bear our sins and to be our Savior. By His death, He has destroyed death. By His rising to new life, He has given to us the guarantee of life forever with You. By His ascension to heaven's glorious throne, He has proven that He is King of kings and Lord of lords. Lord, in Your mercy,
Congregation **reign in our hearts.**

Pastor Sovereign of all, we thank You that nothing is hidden from Your sight. In mercy, You have redeemed Your fallen creation by reconciling sinners to their Creator through the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross. Look with favor upon us and our families, our congregation and our community, guiding our steps in the way of peace. Grant boldness to all who bear Your name, raising up faithful men and women who serve in positions of leadership among us, that we each may live out our callings under Your authority and care. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation **reign in our hearts.**

Pastor Restoring Redeemer, the brokenness of our lives bears witness to the fact that, without You holding us together, we are lost and hopeless. Rescue those who despair, and grant patience to those suffering in times of trial, anguish, and loss. Comfort those who are saddened by the death of those they love. Fill with perfect peace those who belong to You, [*including . . .*]. Let all who hunger and thirst for what You alone can give find their solace and rest in You. Lord, in Your mercy,
Congregation reign in our hearts.

Pastor Crucified, risen, and exalted King, our Lord Jesus, with the ancient worshipers who clapped their hands and shouted their praises at the coronation of their sovereign, we rejoice in Your exaltation to the Father's glory and in Your promise to come again. Preserve us in faith until that coming, glorious, and awesome Day! Instill in us an ever-deepening reliance upon Your Word and Spirit. Create in us hearts that are ready to receive Your presence as You draw near to us again this day in Your body and blood. Make us one, Lord, even as You are one. Lord, in Your mercy,
Congregation reign in our hearts.

Pastor With confidence in the King who reigns supreme and governs all things in heaven and on earth for the benefit of His people, we entrust our prayers into Your care, O gracious Father, for You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Congregation Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor Heavenly Father, we thank You for the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who rescued us from sin and death, providing for us the way to life forever with You. We praise You for His resurrection victory and draw strength from His ascension to His glorious throne, where He now sits in authority at Your right hand. Gather Your people from every corner of the earth that we may sing Your praises and receive the mercy of our King. For to You alone, O God, we give our heartfelt thanks and endless praise. Hear us now as we pray in the name of Jesus, our King, and in the words He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation 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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

COMMUNION SONGS

All Who Are Thirsty

All who are thirsty - All who are weak
Come to the fountain - Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow - Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy - As deep cries out to deep

Chorus

(We Sing) Come Lord Jesus come - Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come - Come Lord Jesus come

All who are thirsty - All who are weak
Come to the fountain - Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow - Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy - As deep cries out to deep

Chorus 2

Holy Spirit come - Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come - Holy Spirit come
Come Lord Jesus – Come Lord Jesus
Come Lord Jesus come

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In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found - He is my light my strength my song

This Cornerstone this solid Ground - Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All - Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh - Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness - Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died - The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid - Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay - Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day - Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory - Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine - Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death - This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath - Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man - Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home - Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Congregation Amen.

Blessed Be Your Name

Verse 1

Blessed be Your name - In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow - Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name - When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness - Blessed be Your name

Chorus 1

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll - Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord - Still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord - Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord - Blessed be Your glorious name

Verse 2

Blessed be Your name - When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be - Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name - On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering - Blessed be Your name

Bridge

You give and take away - You give and take away
My heart will choose to say - Lord blessed be Your name
You give and take away - You give and take away
My heart will choose to say - Lord blessed be Your name

Chorus 2

Blessed be the name of the Lord - Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord - Blessed be Your glorious name

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