

# Ascension Service — Vespers

## 821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the  
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we  
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on  
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om -



scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the  
left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is  
earth our food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the  
nip - o - tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of



tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.  
near us; Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
sin - ful Flee to You from day to day.  
Mar - y, Earth Your foot - stool, heav'n Your throne.



Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der  
Though the cloud from sight re - ceived Him When the  
In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, Earth's Re -  
As with - in the veil You en - tered, Robed in



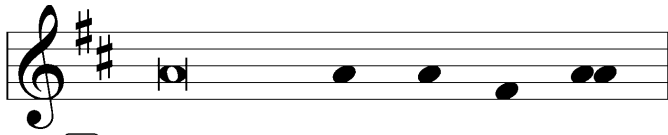
like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of  
for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -  
deem - er, hear our plea Where the songs of  
flesh, our great High Priest, Here on earth both



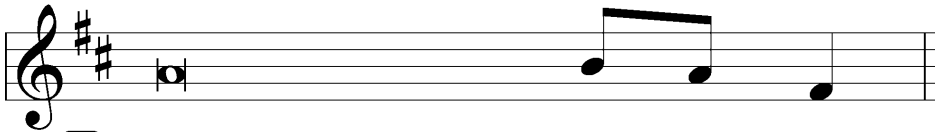
ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."  
get His prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph,  
His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
Has redeemed us by His blood."

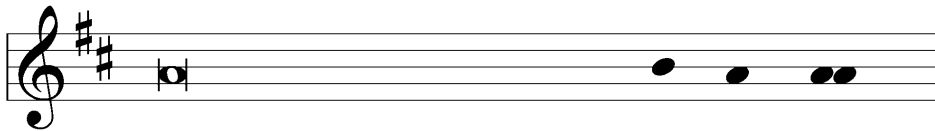
### Versicles



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



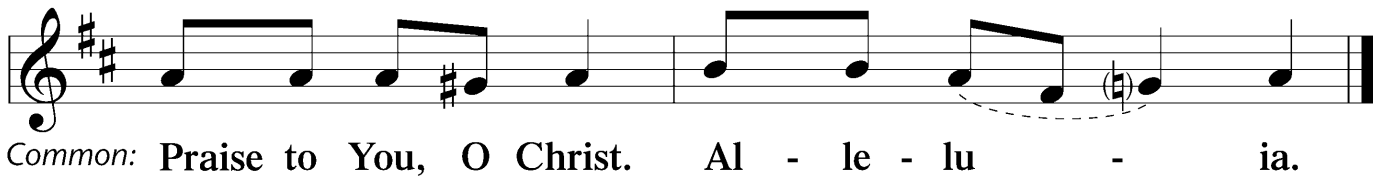
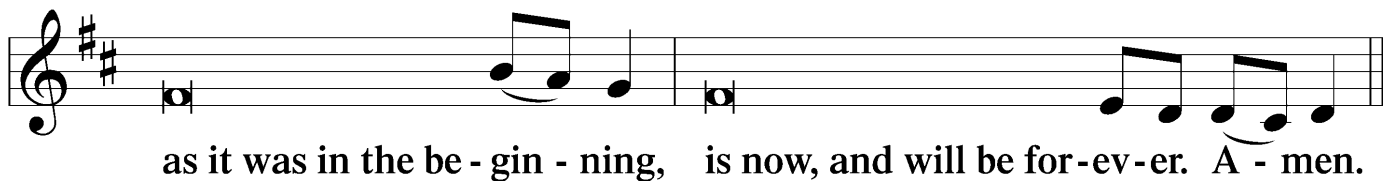
**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



## Introit

Men of | Galilee,\*

**why do you stand looking into heaven? Alle- | luia.**

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,\*

**will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alle- | luia.**

Clap your hands, all | peoples!\*

**Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!**

For the LORD, the Most High, is | to be feared,\*

**a great king over | all the earth.**

God has gone up | with a shout,\*

**the LORD with the sound of a | trumpet.**

God reigns over the | nations;\*

**God sits on his | holy throne.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Men of | Galilee,\*

**why do you stand looking into heaven? Alle- | luia.**

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,\*

**will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alle- | luia.**

# 493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New  
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -  
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why  
 4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,  
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,  
 to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
 al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers  
 al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they  
 al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of  
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -  
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph  
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,  
And be our future great reward.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Then, throned with You forever, we  
Shall praise Your name eternally.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
All praise to You let earth accord:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

*2 Kings 2:5–15*

<sup>5</sup>The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet."

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." <sup>10</sup>And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." <sup>11</sup>And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of

them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. <sup>13</sup>And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. <sup>14</sup>Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

<sup>15</sup>Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

*Acts 1:1–11*

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

<sup>4</sup>And 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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But 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." <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And

while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and 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."

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

*Mark 16:14–20*

<sup>14</sup>Afterward [Jesus] appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.

<sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. <sup>16</sup>Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup>And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; <sup>18</sup>they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

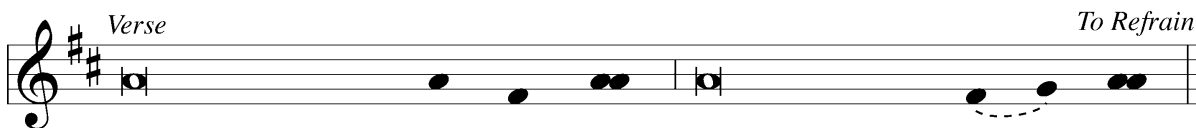
<sup>19</sup>So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

<sup>20</sup>And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Responsory



- L** 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.  
2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.  
3 Glory be to the  
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



*Refrain*

**C** Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

### Sermon

### Canticle 938 In Peace and Joy I Now Depart



1 In peace and joy I now de-part Since God so wills it.  
 2 Christ Je - sus brought this gift to me, My faith - ful Sav - ior,  
 3 You sent the peo - ple of the earth Their great sal - va - tion;  
 4 Christ is the hope and sav - ing light Of those in blind - ness;



Se - rene and con - fi - dent my heart; Still - ness fills it.  
 Whom You have made my eyes to see By Your fa - vor.  
 Your in - vi - ta - tion sum - mons forth Ev - 'ry na - tion  
 He guides and com - forts those in night By His kind - ness.



For the Lord has prom - ised me That death is but a slum - ber.  
 Now I know He is my life, My friend when I am dy - ing.  
 By Your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, In ev - 'ry place re - sound - ing.  
 For Your peo - ple Is - ra - el In Him find joy and glo - ry.

### Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



## Lord's Prayer

- 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.

## 840 Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated



- 1 Christ high-as-cend-ed, now in glo-ry seat-ed, Throned and ex-  
2 Christ from the Fa-ther ev-'ry pow'r pos-sess-ing, Who on His  
3 Christ, who in dy-ing won for us sal-va-tion, Lives now the  
4 Christ in His splen-dor, all do-min-ion gain-ing, Christ with His  
5 As at His part-ing, joy shall ban-ish griev-ing, Faith in His



- alt-ed, vic-to-ry com-plet-ed, Death's dread do-min-ion  
cho-sen lift-ed hands in bless-ing, Sends forth His ser-vants,  
first-born of the new cre-a-tion; To win dis-ci-ples  
peo-ple ev-er-more re-main-ing, Christ to all a-ges  
pres-ence strength-en our be-liev-ing; Filled with His Spir-it,



- fi-nal-ly de-feat-ed, We are His wit-ness-es.  
still in faith con-fess-ing, We are His wit-ness-es.  
out of ev-'ry na-tion, We are His wit-ness-es.  
glo-ri-ous-ly reign-ing, We are His wit-ness-es.  
love and pow'r re-ceiv-ing, We are His wit-ness-es.

## Collect

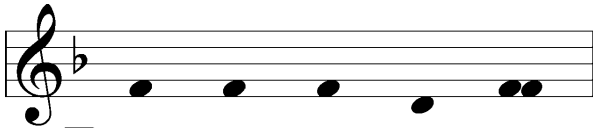
Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Collect for peace

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **C** Amen

### Benedicamus

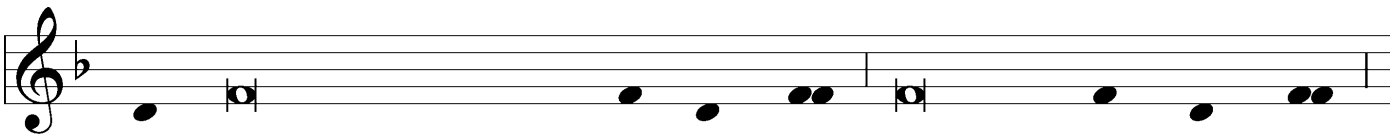


**L** Let us bless the Lord.

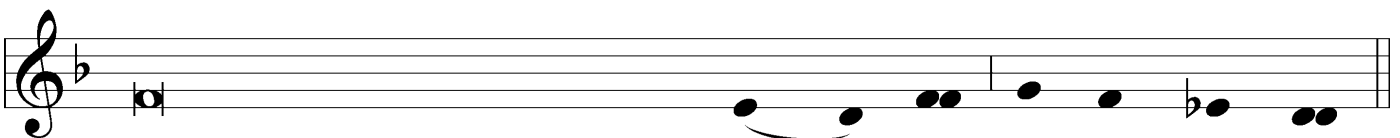


**C** Thanks be to God.

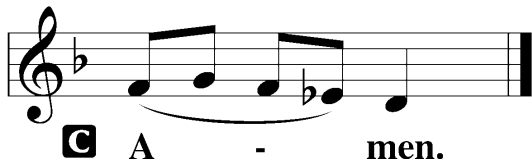
### Benediction



**P** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

## 492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build



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



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and  
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er  
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I  
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There  
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.  
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.  
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

### Acknowledgments

Vespers Service, from Lutheran Service Book

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