

Our Saviour Lutheran Church



Exaudi
Sunday after the Ascension
12 May 2013



**You also will bear witness, because you
have been with me from the beginning**

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A note to visitors

We are delighted to have you with us this morning to receive the Lord's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Please also record your visit in the visitors' book at the back. If you would like a phone call or a pastoral visit, speak to the pastor or leave a note in the visitors' book.

The Offering

At this time, members of this church are privileged to give to the Lord for the work of His church in this

community and throughout the world. For God loves a cheerful giver. Visitors should not feel obliged in any way to contribute to the offering plate.

Children in the Service

It is a delight and a privilege to have children in the service. Children as much as adults are members of God's family and Jesus welcomes little children to Him.

There is a Sunday School for children during the sermon. The children leave at the beginning of the sermon and return to church before the Service of the Sacrament.

Please do not worry if your child will not sit still or quietly throughout the service. Most young children won't manage that! There is plenty of space at the back of the room. If you do need to take a child outside, the smaller room is available for that purpose.

Holy Communion

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, we eat and drink the true body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and the wine, according to Jesus' own words. We also believe that those who participate in Holy Communion in a particular congregation should be in agreement in the confession of the faith.

Therefore, we ask that only those who are instructed in the Lutheran Confessions and are under our pastor's spiritual care come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

If you are visiting us and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor *before the service*. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Our teaching on this matter is explained in more detail in the little leaflet, 'Why Closed Communion?', which is available at the back of the church.

Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

A note on the service:

Both the hymns and the order of service are found in the Lutheran Service Book. The outline of the service is given in this bulletin. The congregation stands for the parts of the service printed in italics and sits for the rest.

The numbers in the bulletin refer to page numbers in the hymnal, where Psalm 1 is also page one, and the first hymn is 331, following page 330.

It helps to follow the service if you mark your place in the liturgy with this bulletin.

Explanation of Symbols:

- C** Congregation
- P** Pastor (ordained)
- A** Assistant minister (ordained or lay)
- L** Liturgist (ordained or lay)
- ✠ You may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.
- ❖ You may bow at this point as a sign of reverence.

913 *Hymn: O Holy Spirit, Enter In*184 *Confession and Absolution**Catechism*

P The Lord's Prayer, the Fourth Petition

C Give us this day our daily bread.

P What does this mean?

C God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realise this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

P What is meant by daily bread?

C Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbours, and the like.

Introit (Ps. 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: Ps. 27:7a, 8b, 9a)



L Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice!
Alle- | luia.*

Your face, LORD, I will seek. Do not hide
Your face from me. Alle- | luia.

C The LORD is my light and my sal- | vation; *
whom | shall I fear?

L The LORD is the strength | of my life; *
of whom shall I | be afraid?

C Teach me Your | way, O LORD, *
do not deliver me to the will of my
adver- | saries;

L for false witnesses have risen a- | gainst me, *
and such as breathe out | violence.

C ♦ *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

L Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice!
Alle- | luia.*

Your face, LORD, I will seek. Do not hide
Your face from me. Alle- | luia.

186 *Kyrie*187 *Gloria in excelsis*189 *Salutation and Collect of the Day*

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of

truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Readings

The Spirit of Truth Bears Witness to Jesus

The Spirit of Truth bears witness to Jesus, who is the truth. But the world does not receive the truth. It loves its own and hates those who are of the truth. Just as Jesus was scorned, so is His Church. *“The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God”* (John 16:2). Yet it is by Jesus’ suffering and death that we are saved. Therefore we rejoice to share in His sufferings, that we may also share in His resurrection glory (1 Pet. 4:7–14). Through the ministry of the Spirit of Truth, we are cleansed from the deceit of our idols and given a new heart and a new spirit, the heart and Spirit of Christ (Ezek. 36:22–28). He now works in us fervent, self-giving love for one another, love which covers a multitude of sins, *“that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen”* (1 Pet. 4:11).

Old Testament Reading—Ezekiel 36:22–28

²²“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. ²⁸You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Epistle Reading—1 Peter 4:7–11

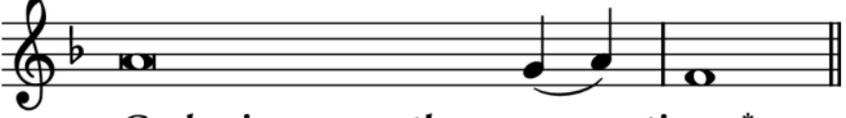
⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one

who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia Verse (Ps. 47:8; John 14:18a, 28, 16:22)



C Alle-lu - ia. Alle-lu - ia. Alle-lu - ia.



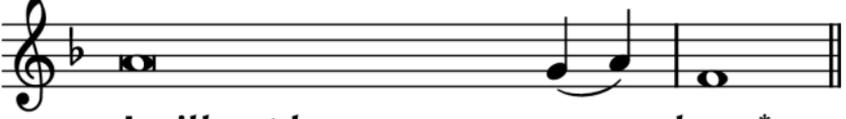
God reigns over the na - tions;*



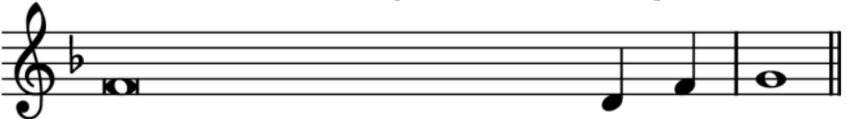
God sits on his ho - ly throne.



Alle-lu - ia. Alle-lu - ia. Alle-lu - ia.



I will not leave you as or - phans*



I am going away, and I will
come to you, and your hearts will re-joice.



Alle-lu - ia. Alle-lu - ia. Alle-lu - ia.

Gospel Reading—John 15:26—16:4a

L The ✠ holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth and sixteenth chapters.



C Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

²⁶ [Jesus said,] “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

16 “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

191 *The Nicene Creed*

539 **Hymn: Christ is the World's Redeemer**
Sermon

192 *The Offertory*

Offering

193 *Prayer of the Church*

525 **Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns**

194 *The Service of the Sacrament*

199 *Nunc Dimittis and Post-Communion Prayers*

202 *Blessing*

818 *Hymn: In Thee Is Gladness*

Sunday School Presentation



IN OUR PRAYERS

Members

Ron, Forbes, Frank; Hanna (preparing for Confirmation)

Family of members

Lucy, Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family; Jerry Harbin (recovering from operation)

Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Paul (homeless); Mike (health); Claire and Phil (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke, breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Margaret & Patrick Tustin (Alzheimer's); Rob (depression); Debra (depression); Dave (mental illness); Claire (leukaemia); Don & Julie Gardner (cancer); Lisa & family (cancer); Baby Thomas (health); Sally (health); Julia (distress); Bonnie & unborn child

ELCE

Ascension Lutheran Church; Pr. Samiec; Norma Rakow (illness & old age)

The Church of God

Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; India Evangelical Lutheran Church; Fareham Methodist Church

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD
THE FORMULA OF CONCORD, SOLID DECLARATION
ARTICLE VIII: THE PERSON OF CHRIST

The human nature, after the resurrection from the dead, is exalted above all creatures in heaven and on earth. He did not lay aside His human nature, but retains it to eternity. He has the full possession and use of the divine majesty according to His received human nature. ...

Now He has ascended to heaven, not merely as any other saint, but as the apostle testifies, above all heavens. He also truly fills all things, being present everywhere, not only as God, but also as man. He rules from sea to sea and to the ends of the earth, as the prophets predict and the apostles testify. He did this everywhere with them and confirmed their word with signs. This did not happen in an earthly way. As Dr. Luther explains, this happened according to the way things are done at God's right hand. "God's right hand" is no set place in heaven ... It is nothing other than God's almighty power, which fills heaven and earth. ... By this communicated power ... He can be and is truly present with His body and blood in the Holy Supper. He has pointed this out for us by His Word. ... For in Him the divine and the human nature are personally united with each other. So in Christ "the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily" (Colossians 2:9).

Paragraph 26-30

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

The Week Ahead

Today	4.30pm	Divine Service at Brighton Mission
Wed	10.30am	Bible Study (Parsonage)
	12.30pm	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	7.30pm	Voters' Assembly (Parsonage)
Thu	6.30pm	Michael Robert Concert at Café iMBiZO, 171 West St.
Sun	10.30am	Divine Service with Confirmation— <i>Pentecost</i> (Scout Hall)

Further ahead

22 May	10.30am	Bible Study (Parsonage)
	12.30pm	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
26 May	10.30am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	5pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
1 June	4.30pm	Evening Prayer at SS Peter & Paul Church

Next Sunday's Readings:

Genesis 11:1–9; Acts 2:1–13; John 14:23–31

Daily Readings:

Sun: Numbers 14:1–25 Luke 18:18–34 *Formula of Concord Solid Declaration XI: 8–13*

Mon: Num 14:26–45 Luke 18:35–19:10 *FC SD XI: 14–26*

Tue: Num 16:1–22 Luke 19:11–28 *FC SD XI: 27–32*

Wed: Num 16:23–40 Luke 19:29–48 *FC SD XI: 33–37*

Thu: Num 16:41–17:13 Luke 20:1–18 *FC SD XI: 38–44*

Fri: Num 20:1–21 Luke 20:19–44 *FC SD XI: 45–52*

Sat: Num 20:22–21:9 Luke 20:45–21:19 *FC SD XI: 53–64*