

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Berlin, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



"Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven."

(Luke 24:50–51)

The Ascension of Our Lord

May 21/24, 2020

Serving Us Today:

Pastor Paul Munding

Organist: Cindy Schuett

920-361-9935

www.stjohnberlin.org

AS WE GATHER... Ascension shouldn't be overlooked. Ascension is a time of happy endings as Jesus concludes His earthly ministry and promises the Holy Spirit's imminent arrival. Jesus sends His disciples to the ends of the earth as witnesses of His resurrection. He promises that He will always be with us even to the end of the age. We remember today Jesus' earthly ministry and His mission for us, and we bask in the promise of His presence.

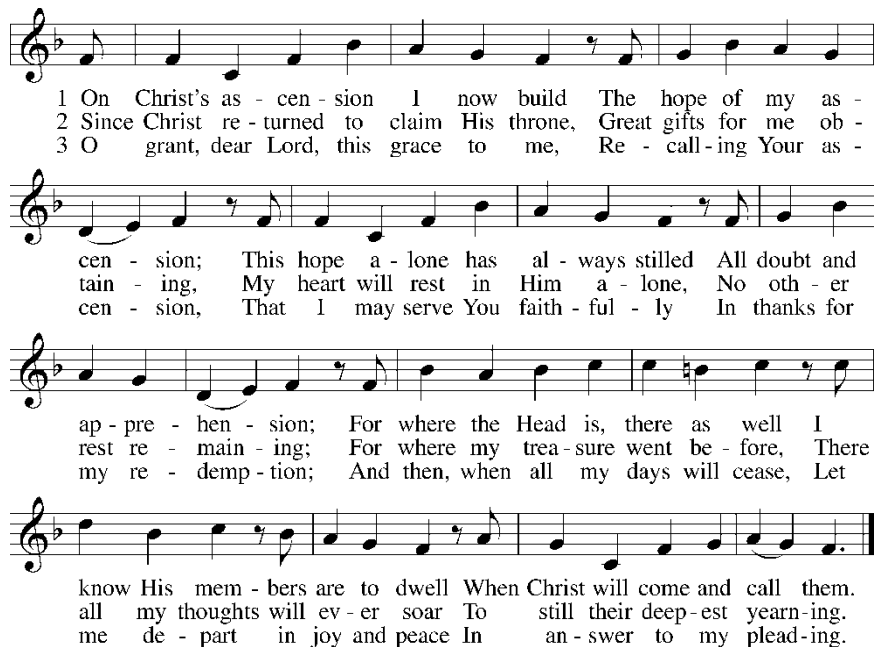
Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

✘ PREPARATION ✘

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.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen and ascended!
 People: **Christ is risen and ascended indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Today is a day of celebration, grief, and anticipation.
 People: **We celebrate our Lord's triumph and reign.**

Pastor: We grieve that He is not physically present with us.
 People: **We anticipate the coming of the promised Holy Spirit on Pentecost.**

Pastor: And we celebrate that His promise to always be with us remains and will never fade away.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Though Christ is ascended on high and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling and reigning over all creation, there have been times when we have lived as though we rule and reign over our own lives. We have lived as though Christ were too far away to matter. But our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him, confess our sins, and receive His forgiveness.

Silence for meditation.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we confess to You that we are sinful and unclean. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we walk in Your perfect way and delight in Your perfect will. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. Christ is ascended, and all things are under His feet, including sin, death, and the devil. On account of Christ's saving work and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are forgiven and restored.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen and ascended!

People: Christ is risen and ascended indeed! Alleluia!

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 110:1, 4–5; antiphon: Psalm 47:5*

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

The LORD says to my Lord:

**“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”**

The LORD has sworn
and will not change his mind,

**“You are a priest forever
after the order of Melchizedek.”**

The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

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

KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
 2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



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

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: Heavenly Father, Your Son sent us to the ends of the earth with the Gospel and promised always to be with us. Embolden us to spread the good news of Jesus' death, resurrection, ascension, and return; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 (Jesus ascends into heaven and promises the Holy Spirit.)

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

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

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ 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."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

PSALM *Psalm 47*

Clap your hands, all peoples!

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

² **For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,
a great king over all the earth.**

³ He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.

⁴ **He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

⁵ God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶ **Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

⁷ For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!

⁸ **God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.**

⁹ The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth bel

EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:15–23* (Christ is risen and ascended. All things are under His feet.)

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having 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, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far 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. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24:44-53* (Jesus is carried up into the heavens.)

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁴ Then he 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." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And 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." ⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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!

Δ6 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!

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SERMON "Happy Endings" (Luke 24:44-53)

CATECHISM *The Second Article*

People: **And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Dear heavenly Father, You sent Your Son into our world with a mission to seek and to save the lost. Thank You for His life, ministry, suffering, death, and resurrection. Most especially today we thank You for seating Him at Your right hand in His ascension. We thank You for we know that Christ is ascended.

People: He rules and reigns in glory.

Pastor: Lord, at the end of His earthly ministry, Jesus sent His disciples out to the ends of the earth with a mission to be witnesses of His resurrection. Strengthen us as we continue their faithful witness. Embolden all missionaries and evangelists by constantly opening a door for Your Word to be spoken. We ask this in faith for we know that Christ is ascended.

People: He rules and reigns in glory.

Pastor: Lord, thank You for sending the promised Holy Spirit to guide us in all of our ways. Conform our lives to the Word of God and transform us by the renewing of our minds. We ask this with boldness for we know that Christ is ascended.

People: He rules and reigns in glory.

Pastor: Lord, we live in a world with imperfect leaders, imperfect laws, and imperfect communities, but we know that all things are under Christ's feet, and He has all power and authority. So we ask for You to send Your perfect wisdom to our elected and appointed officials, instill Your perfect justice in our lawyers and judges, and bring Your perfect hope to our communities. We ask this in hope for we know that Christ is ascended.

People: He rules and reigns in glory.

Pastor: Lord, we pray for those who are sick and recovering, those who are hospitalized and homebound, [*especially...*]. Strengthen them, and give them patience in their afflictions. We ask this in love for we know that Christ is ascended.

People: He rules and reigns in glory.

Pastor: Finally, Lord, we ask for Your comfort for all those who grieve the death of loved ones, [*especially . . .*]. Grant them peace as they hope in the resurrection to eternal life. We ask this knowing that Christ is ascended.

People: He rules and reigns in glory. Amen.

OFFERING (*Offerings can be placed in the basket when you come up for communion or handed to the usher.*)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection sent His disciples to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth and promised to always be with them. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS HYMN "Crown Him the Lord of Light" 1 st. sung to LSB #525

Crown Him the Lord of light,
Whom heav'n and earth adore.
Crown Him the Lord of pow'r and might,
Who leads His hosts in war!
Shout your hosannas loud
To the blest, coming King,
For He'll return upon the clouds
And life eternal bring.

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LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

People: **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

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI HYMN "Crown Him the Lamb of God"

1 stanza sung to LSB #525

Crown Him the Lamb of God,
 Who takes our sins away.
 Crown Him with glory, praise, and laud:
 The Life, the Truth, the Way!
 We pray ascended Lord
 For mercy, peace, and grace
 As we are sent with one accord
 To share Your hope's embrace.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (Stanzas 1-4)



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 there a - dore That Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Crown Him the Lord of Might"

1 stanza sung to **LSB #525**

Crown Him the Lord of might,
Who bids us go in peace,
For our own eyes have seen His light
Which never shall decrease!
Salvation is prepared
For each community,
For Christ has evermore declared
His perfect victory!

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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.

Numbers 6:24-26

People: **Amen.**

537 Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

25 Monday	MEMORIAL DAY	
28 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
31 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	7:00 am
31 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
31 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	11:00 am

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS... Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

HOLY COMMUNION: Pastor Munding will still be offering private communion at church on Tuesday from 9-11 AM and 6-8 PM. There is no need to call for an appointment. If these times do not work for you, please contact him via cell phone/text (1-608-797-9130) or email pastor@stjohnberlin.org to set up an alternate time.

*****CHURCH SERVICE AVAILABLE ANYTIME ON OUR WEBSITE WITH YOUR COMPUTER *****

New weekly service will be available
starting Friday afternoon.

GO TO: www.stjohnberlin.org

[Click on "CHURCH"](#)

[Click on the CHURCH SERVICE/BULLETIN tab on the home page](#)

[Then click on the link to the service video](#)

[The link to the bulletin is there also](#)

For Bible Study and Sunday School Material

[Please see the website for resources](#)

[Click on the Sunday School/Bible Study Tab](#)

WEEKDAY CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Please feel to stop in the church anytime during the week if you'd like (**from 9 AM-noon Mon. – Thurs.**) to pick up a bulletin, check your mail, and drop off an offering. Please Note: We record the Sunday service on the previous Thursday night. The new Sunday service will be on-line every Friday afternoon. It may be prudent to call ahead to make sure Cathy or myself are in the office (361-9935). Please use the office doors on the north side of the church if you do stop in.

HUMAN CARE will take a door collection NEXT WEEK to help provide funds for the work they do for people in need.

EMAIL OR ADDRESS CHANGE? PHONE # CHANGE? Please let the church office know so we can keep our records current. You may drop a note in the church office mailbox or write "CHANGED" on your next communion card and then fill in what has changed in your information. Thanks!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS: The Sunday School year ended in very uncertain times. I would like to thank all the students and teachers who came faithfully every Sunday to learn about God and all his great works! I would especially like to thank the teachers who give of themselves every week to teach our kids: Cindy Schuette and Nancy Wallner for their very talented music abilities, Lori Piechowski, April Lueck and Karissa Weise who came in and taught our little ones. Please prayerfully consider helping out with the Sunday School. We are in need of teachers for the 2020-2021 Sunday School year as well as a Sunday School Superintendent as I will be stepping down from my position as teacher and superintendent. It has been a very rewarding 3 years working with the staff and kids so it was a hard decision, one I didn't take lightly. If you are interested please reach out to Nancy Wallner, Debbie Thiel or the church office. I would also like to encourage those who are able to

please come to Sunday School. We miss those who aren't there and would love to have you be a part of Sunday School.
3John 1:4 "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth" Thank you, Debbie Thiel

SERMON OUTLINE

May 21/24, 2020

Theme: "Happy Endings" (Luke 24:44-53)

I. The End of Christ's Mission on Earth

- A. It took more than _____ years to win our liberty.
- B. Jesus was _____ by being seated at God's right hand. His hard work was accepted!
- C. But Jesus wasn't going into _____!
- D. But there is no more _____ to be done for sins.

II. The Ends to Which We Go with the Gospel

- A. People must _____ the message of forgiveness.
- B. You and I are in the _____ business.
- C. Being a witness to what Jesus has done can be a _____ changing experience.

III. The Promise that He Will Be with Us Always

- A. Christ loves us to the end so that our _____ can be accomplished.
- B. We are _____ by God with the Holy Spirit.
- C. We have the opportunity to share our faith _____.
- D. God _____ us to help write the end of stories.
- E. Ascension reminds us that Christ is _____ us!