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Seventh Sunday of Easter (Exaudi)

Divine Service

June 1, 2025

Holy Communion is celebrated this Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church in the glad confidence that our Lord, as His Words say, gives not only bread and wine, but also His true Body and Blood for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. Our Lord invites to His table those who believe He is truly present, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive as He forgives us. Because Saint Paul reminds us that we can receive the Lord's Supper to our judgment, we are very careful to administer the Sacrament only to those who are properly prepared. When we receive Holy Communion, we publicly declare our agreement with the teachings of the church from which we receive it. Therefore, if you are not yet a member of this congregation, a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and if you have not previously spoken to the Pastor about Holy Communion, please refrain from coming forward to receive Communion until you have first spoken with the Pastor. If you cannot receive the Lord's Supper but desire a blessing, please join us at the Communion rail and cross your arms over your chest to tell the pastor of your intent.

## Opening Hymn Liturgy Introit

Come Down, O Love Divine

LSB 501 p. 184

- P: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.\*
  Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not your face from me.
  Alle- | luia.
- C: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?\*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Teach me your way, | O LORD,\*
Give me not up to the will of my adver- | saries;
for false witnesses have risen a- | gainst me,\*
and they breathe out | violence.

All: 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.

P: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.\*
Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not your face from me.
Alle- | luia.

Kyrie p. 186
Gloria in Excelsis p. 187
Collect

P: 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.

C: Amen

**Old Testament** Ezekiel 36:22-28 (ESV)

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. And 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. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And 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. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

## Verse

C: Alleluia. God reigns over the | nations;\*
God sits on His holy throne. Alle- | luia.
I will not leave you as | orphans;\*
I am going away, and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alle- | luia.

Epistle 1 Peter 4:7-14 (ESV)

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

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

Alleluia p. 190
Gospel John 15:26-16:4 (ESV)

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. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. 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. And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

Nicene Creed p. 191

Sermon Offertory	Bearing Witness	John 15:26-16:4 p. 192
Offering Prayers		
Lord's Supper		p. 194
Distribution	Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won	LSB 490
	Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread	LSB 625
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Hymn	Son of God, Eternal Savior	LSB 842

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## The Ascension of Our Lord

Ascension Day is the coronation celebration of our Lord as He is proclaimed to be King of the universe. Jesus' ascension to the Father is His entrance to the greater existence beyond the confines of time and space, being no longer bound by the limitations of His state of humiliation. Jesus now sits at the right hand of God, which Luther correctly taught is everywhere, having again taken up the power and authority that were His since before time. Yet our Lord is present with us who remain bound by time and space. He is with us as true God and true man, exercising His rulership in the Church through the means of grace which He established: His Word and His Sacraments. We mortals in those means of grace can grasp the King of the universe and receive a foretaste of the feast to come.

(From *Treasury of Daily Prayer*)