



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**The Feast of the Ascension**  
+ May 14, 2026 +

# THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

+ May 18, 2023 +

*“And They Worshipped Him with Great Joy”*



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,  
and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the  
worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.  
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.  
We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available  
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

## **WELCOME:**

“Finally, Christ ascended up to heaven in this manner in order that He might seat our nature in the highest glory and dignity. For Christ is our head, we are members of His body. What now has been fulfilled for the Head, for that the members may also hope.”

–Johann Gerhard, *Postilla*

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

**Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?**

**Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?**

**Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?**

**Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?**

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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<sup>1</sup>Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>2</sup>Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>3</sup>1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>4</sup>1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# DIVINE SERVICE II

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

*The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.*

## OPENING HYMN

**Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious**

**#495**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of your Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

**C** Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM: OMNES GENTES, PLAUDITE

*Psalm 47; Ant. Psalm 47:5*

Cantor: God has gone up with a shout,  
The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**All: Refrain**

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

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.**

He subdued peoples | under us,\*  
and nations un- | der our feet.

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

**Refrain**

Sing praises to God, sing | praises!\*

Sing praises to our King, sing | praises!

**For God is the King of | all the earth;\***  
**sing praises | with a psalm!**

God reigns over the | nations;\*

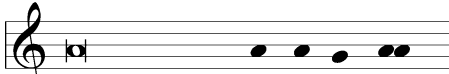
God sits on his | holy throne.

The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of | Abraham.\*  
 For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly ex- | alted!  
 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.

*Refrain*

**KYRIE**

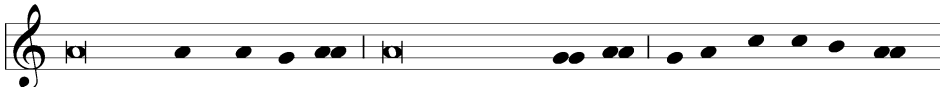
*Mark 10:47*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



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



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



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





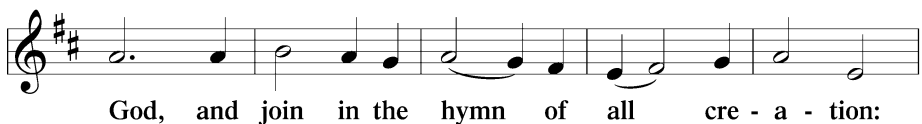
hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

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.



**C** A - men.

## FIRST READING

*Acts 1:1-11*

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 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.

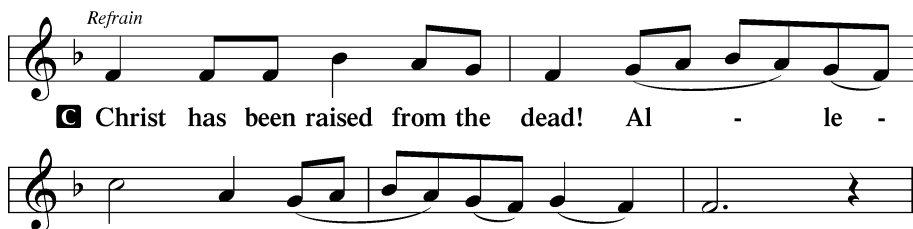
And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

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



## ALLELUIA & GOSPEL VERSE

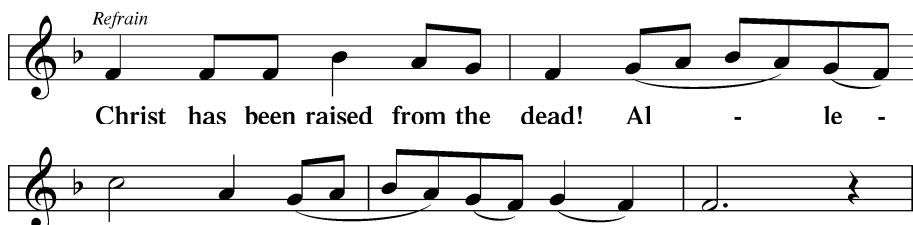
*Refrain*



**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -  
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.  
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.  
Death has no more dominion over Him.

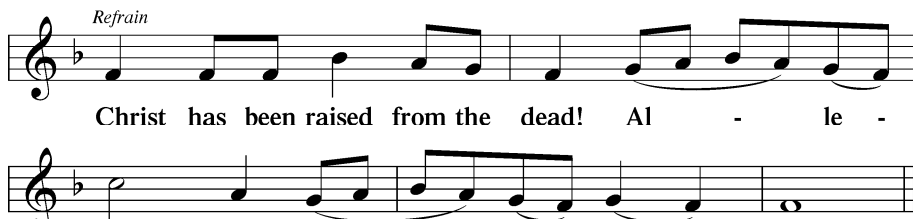
*Refrain*



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -  
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.  
Living, He lives to God.  
Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God  
In Christ Jesus, our Lord.

*Refrain*



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -  
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

**P** The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

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.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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.”

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. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

**OFFICE HYMN**

**See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph**

**#494**

**SERMON**

*He Has Seated Our Nature*

*Please stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C** **I believe in one God,** (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)

**the Father Almighty,** (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)

**maker of heaven and earth** (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)

**and of all things visible and invisible.** (Col 1:16)

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,** (Rom 10:9)

**the only-begotten Son of God,** (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)

**begotten of His Father before all worlds,** (Jn 1:2)

**God of God, Light of Light,** (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)

**very God of very God,** (Col 2:9) **begotten, not made,** (Jn 1:2)

**being of one substance with the Father,** (Jn 10:30)

**by whom all things were made;** (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)

**who for us men and for our salvation** (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)

**came down from heaven** (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary** (Lk 1:34-35)

**and was made man;** (Jn 1:14)

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.** (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)

**He suffered and was buried.** (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures** (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)

**and ascended into heaven** (Acts 1:9)

**and sits at the right hand of the Father.** (Acts 7:55)

**And He will come again with glory** (Mt 26:64)

**to judge both the living and the dead,** (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)

**whose kingdom will have no end.** (2 Pt 1:11)

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,** (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)

**the Lord and giver of life,** (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** (Jn 15:26)

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,** (Mt 3:16-17)

**who spoke by the prophets.** (Eze 11:5)

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,** (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,** (Eph 4:5)

**and I look for the resurrection of the dead** (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)

**and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come.** (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)

**Amen.** (Ps 106:48)

*Us men* means all people.

*Christian:* the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Please be seated*

## OFFERING

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al-so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** 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 appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine nature. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
✠ Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

*On this high feast day, the ceremony of Elevation is observed, wherein the elements of the Eucharist are lifted up after their consecration during the Words of Institution and a bell is chimed. This is to symbolize that, even in Christ's Passion and sacrifice for our sin, yet He is exalted, and given for us. It is acceptable and proper to reverence the elevated elements by bowing one's head, in recognition of the true presence of Christ's body and blood.*

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who of Your tender love for mankind gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon Him and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. Assembled in His name and in the communion of all saints, we pray You send down Your Holy Spirit on us, and through Him to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ,

Who, 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."

Remembering therefore His whole work of redemption, His conception and birth, His suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension, and looking for His glorious coming again, we here present before You the remembrance which Your Son has commanded us to make, beseeching You graciously to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

We pray You that so many of us as shall here receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ may be filled with all heavenly benediction and grace. Grant to us, who trust in the multitude of Your mercies, our part and fellowship with all saints, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to You, O Father Almighty, forever and ever.



**C** A - men.

### PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

#957

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,  
 Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as  
 it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly  
 bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give  
 those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -  
 to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er † us from e - vil.  
 For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -  
 ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE INVITATION

*Matthew 8:8*

- P** The holy things of God for the holy people of God.  
**C** Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof.  
But only speak a word, and I will be healed.

## PAX DOMINI

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## AGNUS DEI

*John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Please be seated*

### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.*

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**Up through Endless Ranks of Angels**

**#491**

**O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts' Desire**

**#553**

*Please stand following distribution of communion*

### **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*Luke 2:29-32*



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

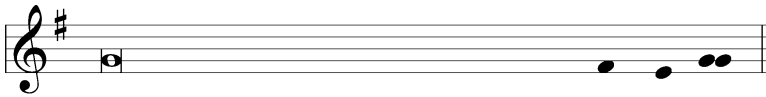
**P** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with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



**C** A - men.

### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24–26*



**P** 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



**C** A - men.

### CLOSING HYMN

### A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

#493

#### Acknowledgments

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**Today's Worship Servants:**

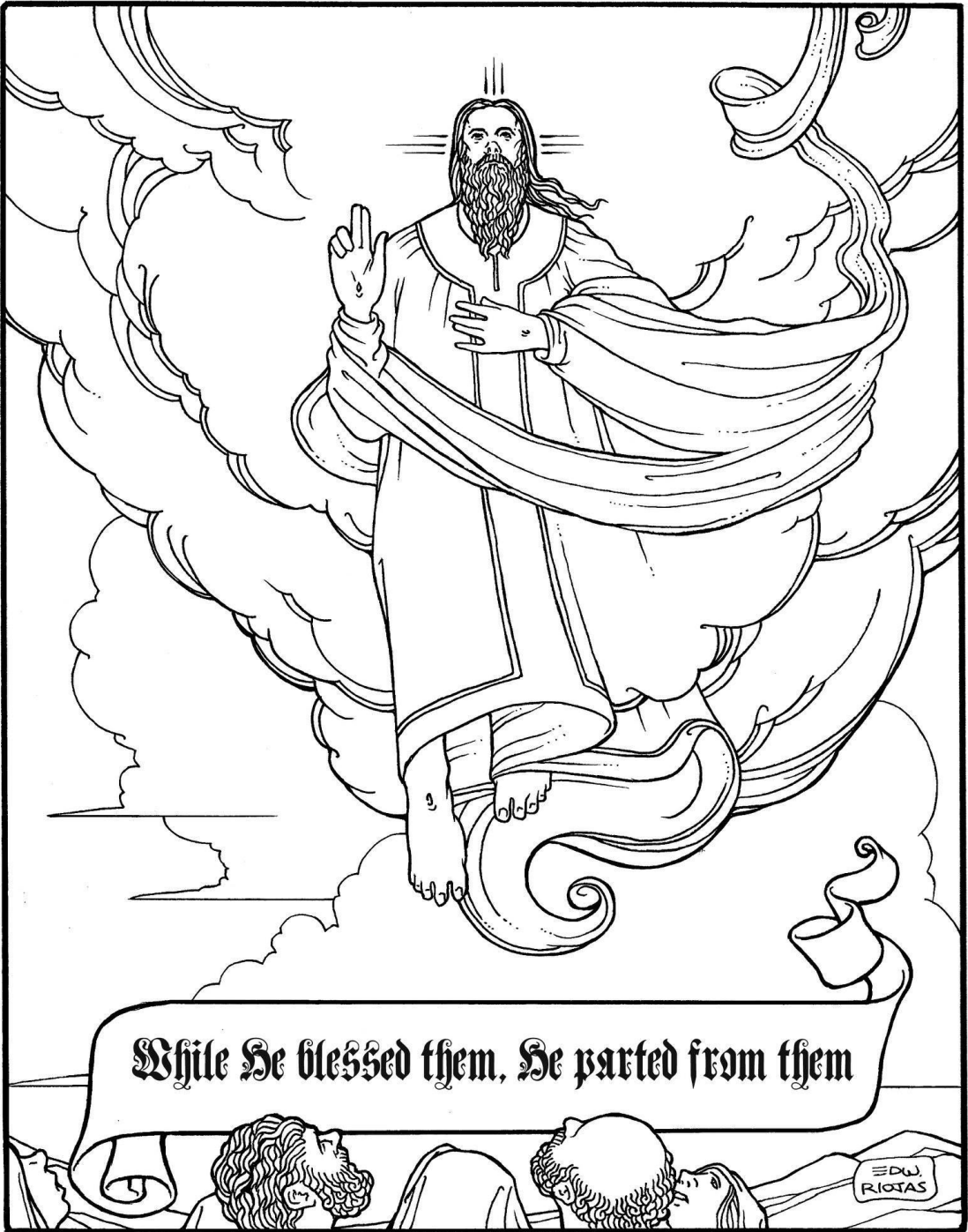
**Celebrant:** Rev. George Fields

**Acolyte:** Westin Ramsey

**Cantor:** Jenny Merry

**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields

**Altar Guild:** Michelle Miller



While He blessed them, He parted from them

EDU.  
RIOTAS



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