

<p>Welcome to Trinity</p>

#38C Growth and Increase

If a kingdom is to be preserved, children must continually be born and reared to adulthood; otherwise it will become depopulated and disappear. Therefore this kingdom must be governed in such a way that its population will continually grow and increase; otherwise Christendom will not maintain itself nor long remain a going concern. Indeed, this kingdom has very urgent and exalted reasons for this. We have heard previously that this kingdom must exist among enemies, a condition which compels Christians to endure privations. They may have to suffer the loss of home, property, and life, or whatever it is that the wrath of the devil and the wickedness of the world are able to accomplish in their plan to eradicate them totally. At times it appears as though Christendom could not last much longer, because its preservation is beyond any human wisdom and power. Certainly, if God's miraculous power and might did not preserve it, it would be horribly devastated very quickly and would vanish from sight. Therefore He makes the promise in this verse that Christendom shall be preserved because new Christians are to be born and to grow up every day, so that Christendom will remain upon the earth until eternity.

... Thus it will also happen in this kingdom, he means to say. Children will be born to Christ, the Lord, but not in the natural manner out of flesh and blood nor by human help or support or in any manner knowable or intelligible to a human being. For it is a spiritual and heavenly birth, which is accomplished by the invisible, divine power of the Holy Spirit, who works in men through the Word and creates new and believing hearts. The old nature must cease; a new nature must come into being, just as we said earlier in our discussion of who belongs to this kingdom and to Christ. Therefore flesh and blood, father and mother, and anything else within the power of man, contribute nothing at all. Flesh and blood gives birth to sinners, not to Christians. Human beings, born in sin and for death, cannot produce children of God, just as Christ also says (John 3:6): "That which is born of the flesh is flesh"; and again (John 3:3): "Unless one is born anew, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (LW, v. 13, p.296).

Divine Service I, p.136**THE PREPARATION**

- + **Hymn #149**..... "A Hymn of Glory"
- + Invocation..... p.136
- + Confession/Absolution p.136-137

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

- + Introit..... (insert)
- + Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis... p.137ff
- + Salutation..... p.139
- + Collect of the Day... (insert)
- Old Testament Reading
- Epistle
- + Alleluia Verse..... (insert)
- + Holy Gospel..... p.140-141
- Nicene Creed..... p.141
- Hymn of the Day #153**
- Sermon "Captivity Held Captive" Ps 68:18
- Offering
- + Offertory: "Create in Me..." p.143
- + Prayer of the Church..... p.144

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

- + Preface, etc. p.144-151
- Distribution**
- + "Lord, now you let ..." p.152
- + Post-Communion Collect p.153
- + Benedicamus..... p.154
- + Benediction..... p.155

<p style="text-align: center;">Trinity Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Learning Center</p>

1000 North Park Avenue, Herrin, IL 62948 Church 942-3401, Learning Center 942-4750 www.trinityh.org

Pastor Michael D. Henson • Deacon Gary K. Harroun

Pr. Henson and Dcn. Harroun are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (Eldona.org)

Propers for the Ascension of Our Lord

Introit

Men of / Galilee,

*why do you stand gazing up
into heaven? Alle- / luia.**

*This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into / heaven,
will come as you saw Him go into heaven. Alle- / luia.*

Oh, clap your hands, all you / peoples!*

Shout to God with the voice of / triumph!

For the Lord Most High is / awesome;*

He is 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 gazing up into heaven? Alle- / luia.**

*This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into / heaven,
will come as you saw Him go into heaven. Alle- / luia.*

(Antiphon, Acts 1:11; Psalm 47:1-2, 5, 8)



Alleluia Verse

Alle- / luia.* Alle- / luia.

God has gone up / with a shout,*

the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Alle- / luia.

You have ascend- / ed on high,*

You have led captivity captive. Alle- / luia. (*Psalm 47:5, 68:18*)



St. Mark 16:14-20

Preach in My Name

Followed by The Nicene Creed, p. 141

Pre-communion Prayer

We beseech you, O Lord, that we might worthily receive the gifts which are given out by the gloriously ascended Son and graciously grant that being delivered from present dangers, we may enjoy eternal life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

Communion

To him who rides in the

heavens, the ancient / heavens;

behold, he sends out his voice, his / mighty voice.

Ascribe pow- / er to God,

whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is / in the skies.

(Psalm 68:33-34)



Collect

Grant, we implore You, almighty God, that just as we believe Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to have ascended into the heavens, so may we also in heart and mind to heaven ascend, and continually dwell with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

2 Kings 2:5-15

Elijah taken up into Heaven

*(From Quasimodo Geniti through the week following Pentecost, the
Gradual is omitted and the Alleluia Verse is lengthened)*

Acts 1:1-11

Jesus' Ascension

General Prayer of the Church

The prayer for "Ascension" from The Lutheran Liturgy (p.354-5).

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, Thou eternal Son of God, the Savior of the world, who, having finished the great work of redemption, didst triumphantly ascend into heaven and was seated on the right hand of the Father, being exalted above all angels and principalities, and above all power and might, and above everything that is named in this world and in that which is to come, we worship and glorify Thee that Thy cross and Passion was concluded in rejoicing and through death Thou didst enter into Thine eternal glory and hast opened again the gates of Paradise for the children of men.

Blessed Lord, Thou hast achieved the victory; we are still in the moil and toil of conflict. We pray Thee, look with favor upon us, and think on us for good, who are yet pilgrims and strangers on earth.

O Thou eternal High Priest, our only Mediator, who, having blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, dwells in the high and holy place, appear in the presence of God for us, and be our Advocate with the Father, that by Thy perfect merit and gracious intercession we may escape the righteous judgment of God and that His peace may abide with us forever.

O Thou heavenly King, establish Thy dominion in our hearts. Send down Thy Holy Spirit to enlighten us with Thy grace, to guide us into all truth and to work all good in us, so that Thy spiritual body may be built up. As Thou hast opened heaven to us, so keep us, that we may not close it again by impenitence and sin. Draw us to Thee, and fill our hearts with holy desires, that on the wings of faith and ardent devotion we may continually ascend to Thee.

Lord Jesus, all power is given unto Thee in heaven and in earth, Thou art able to save to the uttermost all who come unto God by Thee. Thou hast promised to be with Thy faithful people always, even unto the end of the world. Comfort us with Thy presence, and let us all receive of Thy fullness, and grace for grace. Cause Thy blessing to rest upon our government, that peace may be maintained and justice impartially administered to the glory of Thy name.

O Thou faithful Prophet, extend Thy Church, which Thou hast purchased with Thine own blood, and graciously keep us steadfast in Thy saving Word and the right use of the blessed Sacraments. Send forth faithful messengers of the Gospel, and clothe them with the

armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, that all flesh may see Thy salvation. Govern the hearts of parents and teachers, that they may bring to Thee the children entrusted to their care, and do Thou lead those who are in the morning of their years upon the way of life. Awaken the unconverted, and raise the fallen, that they may no more cleave to the world, but lift up their eyes to the Land of Promise. Have mercy upon all who are in affliction and distress, in sickness and temptation; hear their cry, and refresh them with Thy heavenly comfort. Grant that with patience and hope we may fight the good fight and obtain the prize of eternal life. And finally, when the hour of our departure is at hand, Lord Jesus, receive our spirit, and let us abide in Thy presence, where there is fullness of peace and joy and pleasures at Thy right hand forevermore. Amen.