

SITTING OR SERVING?

What is the Ascended Christ doing at the Right Hand of the Father?

SERVICE OF GATHERING

stand

M: Christ is arisen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy!

C: **Let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.**

C: (sung) **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by his blood."**

M: Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

C: **We believe and are sure that he is the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

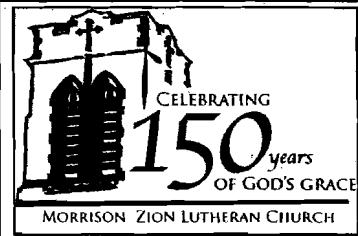
M: God raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

C: **At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

C: (sung) **Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.**

M: Jesus is the "Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay" yet we have often despised this heavenly food and chosen to follow our own path. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father; I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and action. I**



**Morrison Zion
Evangelical Lutheran
Church**

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran
Synod

*Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we help people*

***Grow**
in the*

Gospel

and

Go

with the

Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today. Restrooms are located in the basement.

Today we gather together in the very presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of all of our worship.



have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (sung) **Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?**

M: Let us pray:
Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Be seated

Grades 1-2

Tell Me the Story of Jesus

SERVICE OF LESSONS

The Ascended Savior is at the Right Hand of God and serves us in his office of Prophet by speaking to us through the Word.

M: The visible presence of Jesus left his disciples 40 days after his resurrection. This past Thursday we celebrated the Festival of the Ascension. We know that Jesus is now seated at the right hand of the Father. What does this mean for our daily lives?

Jesus has rested from his work of paying for the sins of the world, but he is not completely at rest. He now uses his full divine power and glory on behalf of his people. He serves us at the right hand of God, a position of authority, not a place of rest.

The right hand of God is the almighty power of God.

The right hand of God in the Old Testament is used as a picture of the almighty power of God that works to provide our salvation

Psalm 118:15-21

Shouts of joy and victory
resound in the tents of the righteous:
“The LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!

The LORD's right hand is lifted high;
the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"

I will not die but live,
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.
The LORD has chastened me severely,
but he has not given me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.
This is the gate of the LORD
through which the righteous may enter.
I will give you thanks, for you answered me;
you have become my salvation.

Peter boldly describes Jesus as exalted at the right hand of God as our Savior

Acts 5:29-32

Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men! The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

M: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, we are separated from you by our sin. We are powerless to change this fact. We thank you that in your love and mercy you acted on our behalf. We thank you that you sent Jesus to live and die as our substitute. Truly your right hand has done mighty things!. Amen.

The Ascended Christ serves us as The Prophet

Our ascended Savior is not resting. He continues to serve us in his role as The Prophet by speaking to us through the Scriptures. In the Bible he provides us with a great cloud of witnesses to sustain us during our time on earth.

Hebrews 11:32-12:3

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

M: Let us pray.

C: O Lord, we live in a world of ever-changing “truth”. Help us to focus on your Word which is eternal truth. Let it be a light that shows us the beautiful depth of your love for us. May it keep us strong in the faith, now and always. Amen.

The Ascended Christ serves us as Priest as he intercedes for us.

As our great high priest Jesus offered himself as the sacrifice for all sin. He continues to serve us in his role as Priest by interceding for us as we pray. No longer do we approach God by means of an earthly mediator. God himself speaks on our behalf.

Romans 8:31-34 11:32-12:3

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Hebrews 7:23-28

Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office;²⁴ but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood.²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely^[s] those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.²⁶ Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.²⁷ Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

M: Let us pray.

C: O Lord, you are always more willing to bless than we are to ask. Open our eyes to see the great gift you have given us in telling us to approach you directly. Move our hearts to use the gift of prayer as a way we carry out your command to love one another. Amen.

The Ascended Christ serves us as King as he rules all things for our eternal good.

As our great high priest Jesus offered himself as the sacrifice for all sin. He continues to serve us in his role as Priest by interceding for us as we pray. No longer do we approach God by means of an earthly mediator. God himself speaks on our behalf.

Ephesians 1:20-23

[That power] which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

M: Let us pray.

C: **Lord Jesus, you have promised that you are ruling all things for the good of your people, the church. Forgive me for the times I have doubted your good purposes in my life. Strengthen my trust in you that I may always walk by faith and not by sight. Amen.**

Hymn

Jesus, My Great High Priest CW 359

SERVICE OF PRAYER

The Ascended Savior is at the right hand of God and serves us in his office of Priest by interceding for us as we pray.

M: I invite you to make use of the following plan to approach our great High Priest in prayer in the coming weeks. Use it in a way that will be a blessing to you. But also focus your prayer life on showing love for others, both inside and outside of the fellowship of faith.

Include prayers for yourself and others that involve Jesus' service to us as our priest, prophet, and king. Pray fervently and regularly that God would bless your efforts to serve him as well as the efforts of our congregation.

Christ as Priest	Christ as Prophet	Christ as King
Thank God for salvation	Ask God for understanding of Word	Greater trust in his gracious rule
Intercede on behalf of grieving	Bless our Shepherding Program	Use me to bless others
Help me see all as souls you love	Help me grow in grace	Lead me to see good in suffering
Intercede for lonely	Bless our pastor and teachers	Help me walk by faith not sight
Intercede for those living in fear	Strengthen and protect world missionaries	Bless those who govern at all levels
Pray for those experiencing joy	Give us faithful VBS workers	Use me to bring others to know Christ
Pray for new mothers	Bless home missionaries	Give me patience through difficulties

stand

M: Let us pray:

M: O God, through Jesus' sacrifice you have restored us as your forgiven children. In his name we pray:

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

M: Help us to know you through your inspired Word and to live by it as children in your family.

C: **Hallowed be thy name.**

M: Give us your Holy Spirit to rule in our hearts, and use us to extend your kingdom of grace to others.

C: **Thy kingdom come.**

M: Make us zealous to carry out your will as gladly as the angels do, and to conform our will to yours.

C: **Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

M: Merciful Lord, since you are the provider of all things necessary for our bodies; fill us with trust.

C: **Give us this day our daily bread.**

M: Continue to erase our sins, and help us gladly to forgive and to do good to those who wrong us.

C: **And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

M: We know the devil seeks to destroy our souls and the world lures us to ruin by appealing to the desires of our flesh. Guard us from the poison of misbelief and the trap of unrepented sin.

C: **And lead us not into temptation.**

M: Keep safe our bodies and souls, our property and honor, and above all send the Holy Spirit to preserve our faith in Christ which leads to life everlasting.

C: **But deliver us from evil.**

M: For all these petitions we look to you as King of Kings and Lord of your church.

C: **For thine is the kingdom,**

M: You alone hold the power to grant our requests.

C: **and the power,**

M: We worship you from whom all blessings flow.

C: **and the glory forever and ever.**

M: Relying on Jesus, who cancelled our sins and made us acceptable in your sight, we pray with confidence:

C: **Amen. It shall be so.**

be seated

SERVICE OF SENDING

The Ascended Savior is at the right hand of God and serves us in his office of King by ruling our lives as we live to serve our Lord. Strengthened by his Word we leave worship with a renewed zeal to serve our King!

Hymn

O Jesus, King Most Wonderful CW 373

Offering

Jesus is our King. We belong to him. We give an offering to show our love and thanks for the salvation he has provided. We respond to his love and give an offering to help carry out our king's command to spread the gospel.

stand

M: How awesome is the Lord most High,

C: **The great King over all the earth!**

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

C: **Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises to our King sing praises.**

M: Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.

C: **He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

be seated

Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns CW 341:1,3
