

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

15 S. 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

www.zionharrisburg.org

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Ascension Service

Christi Himmelfahrt

May 13, 2021

7:00pm Online Worship /Gottesdienst

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Karin Pejack

Pianist: Norma Swain

Minister of Technology: Catherine Germann

For More Opportunities to Explore German Language and Culture in the PA Capital Area:

Harrisburg Area German Culture Group

Our group seeks to provide members in the greater Harrisburg Pennsylvania area with fun opportunities to meet with other German speakers and/or improve their German fluency. Members range from beginners to native speakers. All are welcome.

Facebook

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/harrisburg.german/>

or send an email to hbggermangroup@gmail.com to contact us or to be added to an email listing

The stained-glass image is from Zion's Ascension window.



Offering: In the past, the offering for this service was designated for a specific local outreach organization. The congregation of Zion encourages attendees to make a contribution to an organization of their choice which is providing relief to those in need throughout this time of pandemic. Below is a partial listing of such organizations in the greater Harrisburg area:

Bethesda Mission <https://www.bethesdamission.org/>

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank <https://www.centralpafoodbank.org/>

Christian Churches United of the Tri-County Area <https://www.ccuahbg.org/>

Downtown Daily Bread <https://pinestreet.org/ministries/downtown-daily-bread/>

The Salvation Army Harrisburg Capital City Region

<https://pa.salvationarmy.org/harrisburg-pa/Home>

Order of Worship

Prelude *“Jesu meine Freude”*

“Our Father in Heaven”

Opening Hymn “A Mighty Fortress” vv1,2,4

A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood Of Mortal ills prevailing;
For still the ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, And, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God’s own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;

Lord Sabaoth his name, From age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord, open your hearts and let us confess our sins and ask forgiveness in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P I, a poor sinful being, acknowledge before You, Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Therefore I flee to Your boundless mercy, and ask for mercy. Be merciful to me, Lord, a poor sinner.

C The Almighty and Merciful God, has had mercy and has given His only Son to die for our sins and, for His sake, has forgiven us our sins. To all who believe in His Holy Name, He gives power to become children of God and gives them the promised Holy Spirit. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, O Lord, to us all. Amen.

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, and forever and ever. Amen

Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Glory be to God in the highest!

And on earth, peace, good will to men.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray:

P Jesus Christ, King of Glory, Lord of Lords, today you triumphantly ascended to heaven. We ask you to not leave us orphaned, but to send the promised Holy Spirit, through you who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 1:1-11

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶So when they had come together,

they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But 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.”⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and 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.”

Psalm 47:1,5-10

¹Clap your hands, | all you peoples;*

shout to God with a | cry of joy.

⁵God has gone up | with a shout,*

the Lord with the sound | of the ram’s horn.

⁶Sing praises to | God, sing praises;*

sing praises to our | king, sing praises.

⁷For God is king of | all the earth;*

sing praises with | all your skill.

⁸God reigns o- | ver the nations;*

God sits upon his | holy throne.

⁹The nobles of the peoples have gath- | ered together*

with the people of the | God of Abraham.

¹⁰The rulers of the earth be- | long to God,*

and he is high- | ly exalted.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C Praise to You, O Lord.

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

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word”

Lord, keep us steadfast in thy word, Curb those who fain by craft or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from thy Son, And set at naught all he hath done.

Lord Jesus Christ, thy power make known, For thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend thy Christendom, that we may evermore sing praise to thee.

O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife, And lead us out of death to life. Amen.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Abide with us, Lord,
for it is toward evening and the day is far spent;
abide with us, and with your whole Church.
Abide with us in the evening of the day,
in the evening of life,
in the evening of the world.
Abide with us in your grace and mercy,
in holy Word and Sacrament,
in your comfort and your blessing.
Abide with us in the night of distress and fear,
in the night of doubt and temptation,
in the night of bitter death,
when these shall overtake us.
Abide with us and with all your faithful ones,
O Lord, in time and in eternity.
Amen.

Georg Christian Dieffenbach (1822-1901)

P Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C 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.

Sending Hymn “The Church’s One Foundation” vv 1,2, 4

The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation By water and the word:
From heaven he came and sought her To be his holy bride,
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Benediction

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 give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.