



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • SCHOOL

JESUS IS THE FOCUS HEBREWS 12:2



**THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
MAY 24, 2020 - 10:45 AM
SPECIAL LIVE STREAM WORSHIP FOLDER**

*(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

PRE-WORSHIP SONG

“Counting Every Blessing”

Verse 1

**I was blind now I’m seeing in colour, I was dead now I’m living forever
I had failed but You were my Redeemer, I’ve been blessed beyond all measure**

Verse 2

**I was lost now I’m found by the Father, I’ve been changed from a ruin to treasure
I’ve been given a hope and a future, I’ve been blessed beyond all measure**

Chorus

**I am counting every blessing, Counting every blessing
Letting go and trusting When I cannot see
I am counting every blessing, Counting every blessing
Surely every season You are good to me (3rd X Repeat)**

Interlude

**Oh You are good to me
Oh You are good to me (2nd X to Bridge)**

Verse 3

**You were there in the valley of shadows, You were there in the depth of my sorrows
You're my strength my hope for tomorrow, I’ve been blessed beyond all measure
(Chorus & Interlude)**

Bridge

**Surely Your goodness pursues me, Surely Your heart is still for me
I will remember Your mercies all my days, Through every storm and gale (Chorus)**

CCLI Song # 7101176 Chris Llewellyn | Gareth Gilkeson © Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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WELCOME

***OPENING HYMN**

**“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”
(sts. 1-3)**

Hymn 493

**A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand.
Alleluia, alleluia!
And with His faithful foll'wers see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

To them the shining angels cry,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
Alleluia, alleluia!
"This is the Savior," thus they say;
"This is His glorious triumph day!"
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Though Christ is ascended on high and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling and reigning over all creation, there have been times when we have lived as though we rule and reign over our own lives. We have lived as though Christ were too far away to matter. But our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him, confess our sins, and receive His forgiveness.

(Please be seated or kneel.)

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: We confess to You that we are sinful and unclean. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we walk in Your perfect way and delight in Your perfect will. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. Christ ascended, and all things are under His feet, including sin, death, and the devil. On account of Christ's saving work 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.

People: Amen. We are forgiven and restored.

**“You see Him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**“Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty.”**

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise Your name eternally.**

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, Your Son sent us to the ends of the earth with the Gospel and promised always to be with us. Embolden us to spread the good news of Jesus’ death, resurrection, ascension, and return; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 1:4-11

⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” ⁶So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹“Men of Galilee,” they said, “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.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 24:44-53

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter, verses 44-53.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” ⁵⁰When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

***SERMON HYMN**

“All the Earth will Sing Your Praises”

Chorus 1

You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise.

You did, You’re alive.

You rule, You reign, You said You’re coming back again.

I know You will, all the earth will sing Your praises.

All the earth will sing Your praises. (2nd time to Chorus 2)

Verse

You took, You take our sins away, O God.
You give, You gave Your life away for us.
You came down, You saved us through the cross.
Our hearts are changed because of Your great love. (*Chorus 1*)

Chorus 2

You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise
You did, You're alive.
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again
I know You will, all the earth will sing Your praises. (*to Chorus 3*)

Chorus 3

You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise.
You did, You're alive.
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again.
I know You will, all the earth will sing Your praises.

All of the earth; All the earth will sing Your praises.
All the earth will sing; All the earth will sing Your praises. (*Repeat*)

Paul Baloche @2003 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI Song #4037057

THE SERMON

"Ending Up"

Luke 24:44-53

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

***CONFESSION OF FAITH - NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

*THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“God Bless America”

Irving Berlin

God bless America, Land that I love,
Stand beside her, And guide her
Through the night with a light from above;
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans white with foam,
God bless America, my home, sweet home.
God bless America, my home, sweet home.

*DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Pastor

The Lector

The Organist

The Rev. Charles T. Reich

Jean Reed

Wynn Bonner

Acknowledgments

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