



**HE LIVES TO RULE ALL THINGS FOR THE CHURCH**



# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Reaching Up. Reaching Out. Reaching Across.

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## **WELCOME**

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

## **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS**

If you would like to meet with Pastor Koepke, please contact him to make an appointment. Our pastor is here to serve both Lamb of God members and our community.

## **CHILDREN'S ROOM**

We love having children in our service. However, if you feel your child needs to be taken out for a while, you may choose to use the children's room off the hallway near the mailboxes. We also ask everyone to reserve the back few rows for families with young children, making it easier to leave the church area if needed.

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WEBSITE: [MyLambofGod.org](http://MyLambofGod.org)  
CALENDAR: [MyLambofGod.org/calendar](http://MyLambofGod.org/calendar)  
FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/MyLambofGod](https://facebook.com/MyLambofGod)  
INSTAGRAM: [@LambofGodLutheran](https://instagram.com/LambofGodLutheran)

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# He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church

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## ✠ The Gathering ✠

*Please stand.*

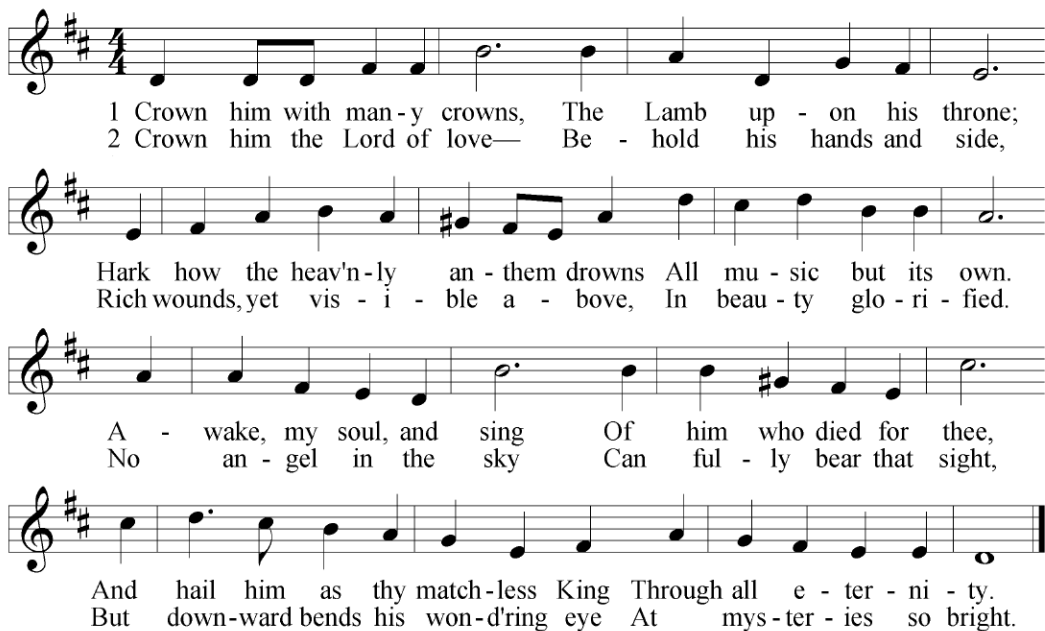
### INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne;  
2 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and side,  
Hark how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.  
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
A - wake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,  
No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,  
And hail him as thy match - less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
But down - ward bends his won - d'ring eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy!

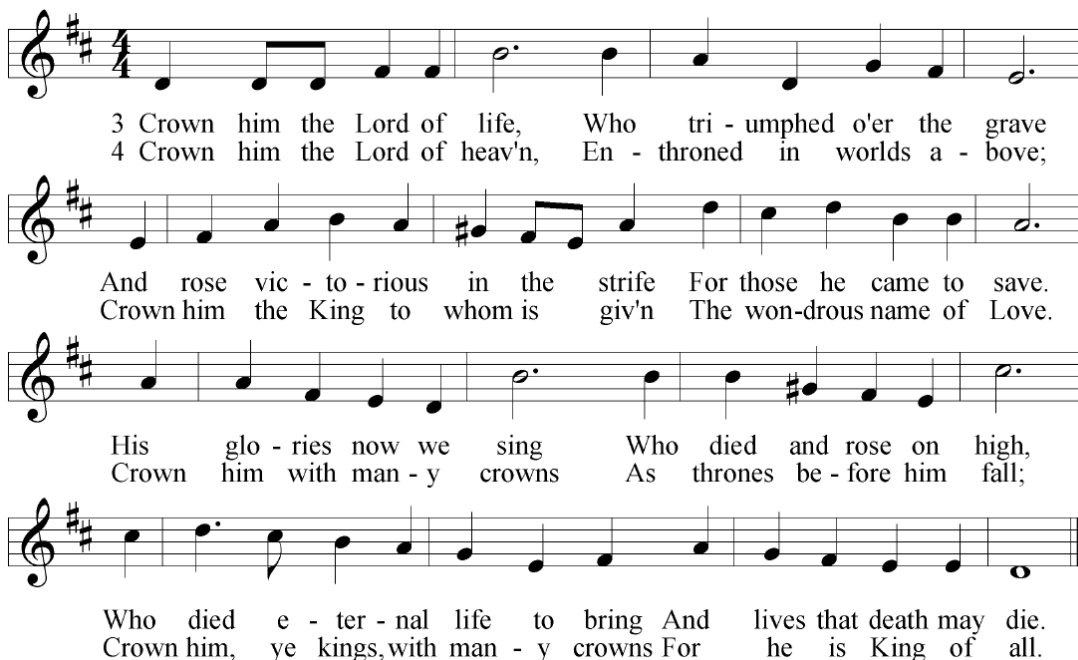
C: Let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

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.**



3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove;  
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those he came to save.  
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.  
His glo - ries now we sing Who died and rose on high,  
Crown him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore him fall;  
Who died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.  
Crown him, ye kings, with man - y crowns For he is King of all.

### **Liturgy Appreciation**

*The Venerable Bede was an English monk who lived around 700 AD. Known as "the Teacher of the Middle Ages," Bede's best known contribution is the system of dating events by years before or after Christ. Bede died in 735 AD on the Feast of the Ascension, and the words he spoke on his deathbed serve as the Prayer of the Day for the Festival of the Ascension of our Lord. The words themselves flow from the great ascension texts in Scripture. The prayer sets the tone for the Sunday, beginning with a note of triumph and ending with a supplication for the Spirit and his work on Pentecost, which we celebrate next Sunday. Today we see that Christ rules all things for his Church.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord Jesus, King of glory, you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Be seated.*

## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

*Jesus ascends to rule over all things as his Church serves as his witnesses.*

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach <sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> On 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. <sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>6</sup> Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

<sup>7</sup> He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But 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."

<sup>9</sup> After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> "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."

**HYMN:** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (CW 169)*

1. 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."
2. 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.
3. 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"?

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL READING:** *Luke 24:44-53*

*Before he ascends, Jesus promises to send the disciples power from on high to carry out the mission of the Church.*

<sup>44</sup> He 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."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I 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."

<sup>50</sup> When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them.

<sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup> And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

*Be seated.*

**HYMN:** *The Church's One Foundation (CW93 538)*

1. The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is his new creation by water and the Word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2. Elect from ev'ry 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 ev'ry grace endued.
3. The Church shall never perish. Her dear Lord, to defend,  
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end.  
Though there be those that hate her and strive to see her fail,  
Against both foe and traitor she ever shall prevail.
4. Though with a scornful wonder the world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
5. Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest  
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

**SERMON:** *Jesus' Rule Is More than Meets the Eye, Ephesians 1:15-23*

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>16</sup>I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup>and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup>he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

*Please stand.*

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Apostles' Creed***

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

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

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

## **✠ The Prayers ✠**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Prayers and petitions are made on behalf of the Church*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

M: All this we ask, Lord Jesus, in joyful confidence that you have conquered death and the grave, and ascended to your throne on high to rule over all things for the good of your people. We pray in your name, and as you taught:

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.*

**CLOSING SONG:** *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (CW93 171: select verses)*

A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs 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 followers they see their Lord ascend in 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!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES at LAMB OF GOD

You are invited and encouraged to share your unique gifts and become a vital part of our church family's mission. Volunteering is more than just completing a task; it is a way to live out our faith and grow in fellowship with one another.

See the poster in the narthex to see what volunteers our church needs. Then decide where you can help—and let us know if some area is missing from the list.

- Ushers, Greeters, Welcome Table
- Tech Positions
- Building & Grounds
- Service Preparations: Altar, Printing, Communion Setup, etc.
- Pre-teen & Teen Positions: Acolyte, Children's Materials Assistant
- Music
- Kitchen & Event Assistance
- Prayer Partners
- Caring Committee
- Psalm 45 Committee

See the poster for more information, or ask. New volunteers and new ideas are welcome!

***"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others,  
as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10***

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*All hymns in today's service are public domain.*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **GUEST PASTOR**

Thank you to Pastor Allen Schroeder for sharing the Ascension message with us this morning. Pastor Schroeder is a retired pastor living in the area and has served us previously. We appreciate him leading our worship in Pastor Koepke's absence.

## **BIBLE CLASSES**

There will be no Sunday School or Bible Class this morning.

## **ROMEOs LUNCH**

The ROMEOs (*Religious Old Men Eating Out*) will meet for lunch this Tuesday, May 19, at 12:30pm at Arriba Mexican Restaurant, 4649 E Chandler Blvd, Phoenix, 85048. It's Taco Tuesday! Join us at Arriba Mexican Restaurant. A great selection of Mexican food and free chips and salsa. If you're interested, please contact Dave Hackett, [ROMEOS@DaveHackett.com](mailto:ROMEOS@DaveHackett.com) or just show up!

## **CARING CARDS**

Do you have a graduate you want to remember on their milestone event? Check out the graduation cards on display for your use in the fellowship area. They are available for a freewill donation of at least \$1 per card. Thank you for using greeting cards from this LOG ministry!

## **SUMMER LIFE GROUPS**

Life Groups for the summer session are planned, and a booklet explaining each group is available on the Welcome Table. Please take one to see what's happening over the summer months. You can also see the information online at [MyLambofGod.org/life-groups](http://MyLambofGod.org/life-groups).

## **GRADUATE RECOGNITION**

Next Sunday, May 24, Lamb of God will recognize our high school and college graduates. If you haven't already done so, please share your graduate's information using the link in the email update. If a graduate cannot attend, we'd still like to include him/her in this celebration.

## **COYOTE SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS**

Coyote camps at Arizona Lutheran Academy offer excellent, affordable instruction with opportunities to learn fundamentals and time to practice them. Camp directors are AZ Lutheran teachers and coaches with experience working with children of all ages. For more information and registration, visit [ALAcoyotes.org/camp](http://ALAcoyotes.org/camp).

