

# Sign Post

**May – June,  
2023**

## **In This Issue...**

- 1 – Pastor’s Article
- 2 – Prayers  
Birthdays
- 3 – Bible Study
- 4 – Bible Study answers
- 5 – May Calendar
- 6 – June Calendar
- 7 – Word Search

Sign Post is online at  
[www.iowaeastdeaf.org](http://www.iowaeastdeaf.org).  
It is the newsletter for:

Word of God Lutheran  
Church for the Deaf  
1515 29th St. NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Rev. Tim Eckert  
DeafLutheran@q.com  
Home: 563-424-7141 VP  
or 563-359-7105 V/TTY

*When Jesus came near, He spoke to them. He said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations: Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to do everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am always with you until the end of time.” Matthew 28:18-20 (God’s Word)*

The church year follows the same pattern every year. Lent is a time of repentance and remembering why we need a Savior. That leads to Holy Week and Easter, when we celebrate all that God did to save us. We celebrate Easter for 7 weeks. At the end of the 7 weeks of Easter, we remember Jesus ascending (going up) to heaven, the Holy Spirit coming to the church on Pentecost, and then Trinity Sunday.

Trinity. Three-in-one. That word describes our God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. But they are not three Gods. They are united as one God. Some people will use an egg as an example. One egg has three parts – shell, egg white, and the yolk. Or people will use water as an example. Water can be vapor (steam), liquid, or ice, but it is still water. Those are examples to help us try to understand, but they don’t perfectly describe God. The Trinity is a mystery that we cannot understand. But God shows us in His word who He is, so we believe it.

The true Christian church believes in the Triune God. Every Sunday, we announce our belief in the Triune God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, when we say the Apostles’ Creed or the Nicene Creed. The very early church also used creeds to show they believed in the Triune God. The creed shows that we and all the Christian Church believe what the creed says about God.

Some groups don’t believe that. The Mormons say they believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They want you to think they believe the same as you about God, but they don’t. They say only God the Father is truly God, and that the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit are not true God with the Father. The Jehovah’s Witnesses have a similar idea. They say only God the Father is true God. They say God the Father created the Son as a god, small “g”, not full God, less than the Father. They say that the Holy Spirit is only God’s power, not true God Himself. That is an old false teaching that the church condemned almost 1700 years ago.

There is another false teaching about God that is popular today. It is especially spreading in some Pentecostal churches, called Oneness Pentecostals. They say there is one God and He shows Himself as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit like He is wearing masks. Sometimes He will put on the “Father” mask and talk like God the Father.

*Continued on p. 2*

## Trinity (continued from p. 1)

Or He will use the “Son” mask and look like He is God the Son, Jesus. Other times He will put on the “Holy Spirit” mask and talk like He is the Holy Spirit.

We will not let those false teachings fool us. The Bible tells us that God is one God and three persons at the same time. For example, look at these verses.

- Matthew 28:19. So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations: Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (There are three persons – Father, Son, Holy Spirit.)
- Deuteronomy 6:4. Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. (The Lord is one God.)
- Matthew 3:16-17. After Jesus was baptized, He immediately came up from the water. Suddenly, the heavens were opened, and He saw the Spirit of God coming down as a dove to Him. Then a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love—my Son with whom I am pleased.” (You see the Son Jesus, the Holy Spirit as a dove, and the voice of the Father, all together.)

Also, the true church has always believed what we say in the creeds. We believe in One God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. When these groups come around and try to convince you they are right, don’t believe them. Stay with what you have learned from God’s word, the truth about who God is.

Pastor Eckert

## Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Praise God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit for His love for us and how He saves us. Ask Him to make us good witnesses to tell everyone the good news of salvation through Jesus.
- ✦ Continue to pray for Ukraine and an end to the war there.
- ✦ Pray for our nation, as people continue to rebel against God and His ways. Ask God to lead people to true repentance and faith.
- ✦ Ask God to bless people with trust and health: Mollie Schmitz, Doris Harris, Shirley Green, Susan Green, Barbara Zimmerman, Norma Jean Mangrich, Kent Kischer, James Weber, Jerry Hanson, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, Gerald Mitchell, Arlene Ritze, Chris Wrage, Ricky Moore, Sharon Pope, Paula Slavin, Jeanette Kern, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ Pray for people who are studying to serve God and His church: Vince Mroz, Dan Wallis, and Pastor Luvisha in Kenya (as pastors), Nola Gray, and Peggy Gott (as deaconesses). Becky Jungklaus will finish her studies and will serve as a deaconess in Sealy, Texas, when she graduates this summer.
- ✦ Pray for the church in Kenya, that God will protect and bless them. Thank God for the rain He has given them in their drought. Pray for more rain. Ask Him to bless Pastor Luvisha in his studies for deaf ministry.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.



## May

- 9 Janet Weber
- 13 Norman Wilson  
Curtis Sparks
- 24 Barbara Saeugling
- 26 Becky Eiben



## June

- 8 Matthew Brown
- 8 Linda Jackson
- 12 Beverly Brown
- 13 Tom Eaton, Sr.
- 29 Jonah Legg
- 30 Robert Gruhn

# Dive Into God's Word

## **Ascension Day** – *What does it mean?*

Ascension Day is a day in the church year that many people forget about, but it is still an important day. Ascend means to go up. On Ascension Day, we remember that Jesus went up again into heaven. Why? Let's see what God's word tells us! *Answers are on p. 4*

## **When did Jesus ascend (go up) into heaven?**

Many people think Jesus rose alive from the dead and went up into heaven right away. Not true! Look at what happened in Holy Week and then when Jesus ascended into heaven.

Palm Sunday – Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey

Holy Thursday – Jesus gave the Lord's Supper. Judas betrayed Jesus later that night.

Good Friday – Jesus died on the cross and was buried.

Easter Sunday – Jesus rose alive from the dead.

Ascension Day – Jesus went up into heaven.

Pentecost – Jesus sent the Holy Spirit for the church. This was 50 days after Easter.

1. Read Luke 18:31-33, and Luke 24:45-46. Jesus said He will rise how many days after He died?
2. Read Acts 1:1-3. Jesus appeared to the disciples for how many days, and then went up to heaven?

## **Why did Jesus go up into heaven? What does that mean?**

Jesus' ascension into heaven is important! It means much about Jesus and for us!

1. Read Philippians 2:8-11. Jesus humbled Himself and died on the cross. Then what happened? What does that say about Jesus?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 15:25-26. What does this say Jesus will do? (He couldn't do that if He didn't ascend!)
3. Read Ephesians 4:10-16. These verses may be a little confusing, but Jesus ascended into heaven to do what for His church?
4. Read John 16:5-8. Why did Jesus say He had to go away?
5. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. Where is Jesus now? How does that help us?

## Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 3.

### When did Jesus ascend (go up) into heaven?

1. Read Luke 18:31-33, and Luke 24:45-46. Jesus said He will rise how many days after He died?  
Jesus said He will rise on the third day after His suffering and death. Understand, the Jews counted different from how we count. In the Jewish way of counting, Jesus died on Friday, so that is day 1. Saturday is day 2. Then Sunday is day 3 and Jesus rose alive on that day.
2. Read Acts 1:1-3. Jesus appeared to the disciples for how many days, and then went up to heaven?  
Jesus appeared to His disciples for 40 days and then He went up into heaven. If you count Easter Sunday as day 1, then day 40 this year is on May 18. That is when we remember Jesus going up into heaven.

So this is the timeline.

Palm Sunday – Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey

Holy Thursday – On Thursday of that same week, Jesus gave the Lord's Supper. Judas betrayed Jesus later that night.

Good Friday – That next day, Jesus died on the cross and was buried.

Easter Sunday – On the third day after Good Friday, Jesus rose alive from the dead.

Ascension Day – 40 days after Easter Sunday, Jesus went up into heaven.

Pentecost – 50 days after Easter Sunday (10 days after Ascension Day), Jesus sent the Holy Spirit for the church.

### Why did Jesus go up into heaven? What does that mean?

1. Read Philippians 2:8-11. Jesus humbled Himself and died on the cross. Then what happened? What does that say about Jesus?  
God exalted (lifted up) Jesus. God gave Jesus a great name that everyone should honor, so that everyone will bow down to Jesus. Everyone will announce that Jesus Christ is Lord. Jesus' ascension into heaven shows that Jesus now has great power and glory and authority.
2. Read 1 Corinthians 15:25-26. What does this say Jesus will do? (He couldn't do that if He didn't ascend!)  
Because Jesus died, rose alive, and ascended into heaven, that means He has defeated sin, death and the devil. He will continue to reign and defeat all of His enemies.
3. Read Ephesians 4:10-16. These verses may be a little confusing, but Jesus ascended into heaven to do what for His church?  
Jesus went up into heaven so He can give gifts to His church. He gives many gifts. The gifts listed in Ephesians 4 are the servants in the church – apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. Jesus works through the servants who work in the church to unite the church together with Christ.
4. Read John 16:5-8. Why did Jesus say He had to go away?  
Jesus said He had to go away to send the Holy Spirit. If Jesus didn't go back into heaven, He couldn't send the Holy Spirit. We need the Holy Spirit to give us faith, encouragement, to teach us about Jesus, to guarantee we have eternal life and resurrection, to give us hope and comfort. Because Jesus ascended and sent the Holy Spirit, we have all those things.
5. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. Where is Jesus now? How does that help us?  
Jesus is in heaven on His throne. He is in a position of great power and authority. Notice His throne is named a throne of grace, and He is named our great high priest who understands us. We can go to Him for forgiveness, grace, and help in any need.

# May 2023

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  7:00 WL – Worship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
<b>7</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00 QC – Worship 1:00 DU – Bible Study
<b>14</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times. <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  7:00 WL – Study	<b>18</b>  <i>Ascension Day</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
<b>21</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
<b>28</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times. <i>Day of Pentecost</i>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.  
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 QC – Quad Cities. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1705 E. Locust St., Davenport. Every Saturday, Worship at 10:00 a.m., Study at 11:15 a.m.  
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m.  
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Study at 1:00 p.m.

# June 2023

				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
<b>4</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  7:00 WL – Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study 1:00 DU – Bible Study
<b>11</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
<b>18</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times. <i>Happy Father's Day!</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  7:00 WL – Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
<b>25</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.  
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday (but not 23<sup>rd</sup>), Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 QC – Quad Cities. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1705 E. Locust St., Davenport. Every Saturday (but not 22<sup>nd</sup>), Worship at 10:00 a.m., Study at 11:15 a.m.  
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m.  
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Study at 1:00 p.m.

# The Church after Pentecost

From [www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch](http://www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch)

The Holy Spirit creates the church. He works through God's word, baptism, and the Lord's Supper. Through those things, He gives us faith in Jesus and forgives our sins. He connects us to Jesus our Savior. After the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, Acts 2 describes the early church. They joyfully worshiped together and shared their whole life together. This reading is from Acts 2:42-47. Find the underlined words.

R E A S L J T O A M F O R O I  
 S L P T R S H A R E D M G A P  
 P Y D I S C I P L E S I H G V  
 R S T A N I I L O T Y R F S E  
 D A E R B F O G N I K A E R B  
 L A A E E W P E A N S C R E Y  
 S E C H S P S G Z G N U S P P  
 F G H H U R O P E T L L E H I  
 G N I Z A M A R L O E O L L E  
 A P N A S R B U P G E U T E P  
 T E G Z Y M F L M E I S S D P  
 C D S F U Y E Y E T N A O E I  
 L O G M O N E Y T H V M P B P  
 H R E J O D O G D E S I A R P  
 N E E D N M P O D R C A H D R

The disciples were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. A feeling of fear came over everyone as many amazing things and miraculous signs happened through the apostles. All the believers kept meeting together, and they shared everything with each other. From time to time, they sold their property and other possessions and distributed the money to anyone who needed it. The believers had a single purpose and went to the temple every day. They were joyful and humble as they ate at each other's homes and shared their food. At the same time, they praised God and had the good will of all the people. Every day the Lord saved people, and they were added to the group.

## AFTER EDEN

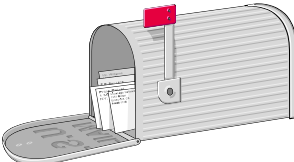
by Dan Lietha



And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was (to be) the mother of all living.  
 Genesis 3:20

Word of God Lutheran Church  
for the Deaf  
1515 29th St. NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Postal Carrier: Have a great day!

