



# Sermon Study Guide for May 12, 2024

*Our Savior Lutheran Church and School*

**Theme:** The disciples saw Jesus taken up before their very eyes. We also keep our eyes to the sky, because we know Jesus will return. So we live as if Christ died yesterday, rose today, and is coming back tomorrow.

## **Getting Started: (sharing with each other)**

1. How often do you simply look up to the sky and look at everything above us?
2. What do you think the last day will be like when Christ returns?

## **In the Word: Acts 1:1-11**

3. What do you imagine those last few days or moments with Jesus would have been like for the disciples?
4. What did Jesus do in His 40 days with the disciples?
5. What is the purpose of Jesus telling the disciples they will be His witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth?
6. What hope are you given, that Jesus will indeed return the same way He went up into heaven? What does His eventual return mean to you?

### **In the Word: Luke 24:44-53**

7. Jesus ascends as He was blessing them. What is the response of the disciples here in Luke's gospel? How does that differ from the ascension in Acts?
8. What does the ascension mean for the disciples, and what does it mean for you in your life today?

### **Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)**

9. I once had a professor end a prayer like this, "Lord help us to live as if you died yesterday, rose again today, and are coming back tomorrow. Amen." What does it look like to live with that mindset? Or how might that mindset make you live differently?
10. Jesus is with you every moment of every day. He ascended, but he doesn't leave you, nor does He forsake you. He will return to take you home to be with Him. How can you share that hope, and live it out?

**Prayer:** Thank God for sending His son to die on the cross for our sins. Thank God that Jesus will return one day to take us to be with Him in eternity. Ask God that He would help you to share the hope and joy that you have of the return of Jesus. Ask God that He would help you to live as though He died yesterday, rose again today, and is coming back tomorrow.

### **Next Week: Fan the Flame**

Wherever the flame of God's Spirit rests, the gospel is being shared and the church is alive. Pentecost shows us an early church that is on fire for the Lord. In some places today, it feels more like an ember. Yet we live by the same Spirit, whose desire is to fan the flame and share the love of Jesus.