

Ascension Sunday

May 16, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you.

Our Approach to God

Prelude *Let There Be Praise!* Tunney & Bock
Lord I Lift Your Name on High Founds & Bock
One License #77828 & #70145

The Call to Worship

Clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
With praise and thanksgiving worship God, who reigns in majesty above the mighty waters.

We will not stand looking up toward heaven, for God is moving in this place!

Let us worship God together.

The Hymn of Praise *Crown Him with Many Crowns* 51
(verses 1 & 4)

The Call to Confession 1 Peter 5:6-7
Let us humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, casting all our anxiety on the Lord, who cares for us. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

The Prayer of Confession
O God, in Christ you bore the suffering of the world and made us witnesses to your grace. In your Word you showed us your vision of peace and made us witnesses of your promises. Forgive us, O God, when we fail to work for your reign, forgetting that you have called us to bear your truth. Forgive us, O God, when we gaze up toward heaven, forgetting that you have called us to do your work on earth. Forgive us O God, and by your forgiveness, enlighten us to recognize the resurrection all around us. Hear us O God, as we bring our individual intentions before you in the silence of our hearts. (Silence)
O God, speak your words of peace to us this day, and make our lives a testimony to your grace. For you are the source of life itself, and only in you can we truly live. Amen!

The Assurance of Pardon 1 Peter 5:10

Brothers and Sisters, hear the good news. The God of all grace, who calls us to eternal glory in Jesus Christ, will restore, support, and strengthen us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen..

The Response 579
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

The Special Music *Glorify* Pethel
One License #1003365

The Word of God

The Time with the Children

The New Testament Reading Acts 1:1-11

The Gospel Reading John 17:6-19

The Sermon "Just Don't Look Up, Get Busy" Pastor Philomena

Our Response to Serve

The Affirmation of Faith (*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26*)
Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ. Amen.

The Hymn *Lord, Make Us More Holy* 536
(verses 1,3 & 4)

The Morning Prayers and the Lord's Prayer (using sins)
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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

The Offering of our Tithes and Gifts
The Prayer of Dedication

The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

As We Go
CCCLI #5043277

Johnson

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Please consider taking the bulletin home and disposing of it there.



Seeking and Serving Christ. We are a Place for Growing Christians

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Acts 1:1-11

Good News Translation

¹ Dear Theophilus:

In my first book I wrote about all the things that Jesus did and taught from the time he began his work ² until the day he was taken up to heaven. Before he was taken up, he gave instructions by the power of the Holy Spirit to the men he had chosen as his apostles. ³ For forty days after his death he appeared to them many times in ways that proved beyond doubt that he was alive. They saw him, and he talked with them about the Kingdom of God. ⁴ And when they came together,^[a] he gave them this order: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift I told you about, the gift my Father promised. ⁵ John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Jesus Is Taken Up to Heaven

⁶ When the apostles met together with Jesus, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time give the Kingdom back to Israel?”

⁷ Jesus said to them, “The times and occasions are set by my Father's own authority, and it is not for you to know when they will be. ⁸ But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ After saying this, he was taken up to heaven as they watched him, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They still had their eyes fixed on the sky as he went away, when two men dressed in white suddenly stood beside them ¹¹ and said, “Galileans, why are you standing there looking up at the sky? This Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way that you saw him go to heaven.”

John 17:6-19

Good News Translation

⁶ “I have made you known to those you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me. They have obeyed your word, ⁷ and now they know that everything you gave me comes from you. ⁸ I gave them the message that you gave me, and they received it; they know that it is true that I came from you, and they believe that you sent me.

⁹ “I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those you gave me, for they belong to you. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine; and my glory is shown through them. ¹¹ And now I am coming to you; I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world. Holy Father! Keep them safe by the power of your name, the name you gave me,^[a] so that they may be one just as you and I are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them safe by the power of your name, the name you gave me.^[b] I protected them, and not one of them was lost, except the man who was bound to be lost—so that the scripture might come true. ¹³ And now I am coming to you, and I say these things in the world so that they might have my joy in their hearts in all its fullness. ¹⁴ I gave them your message, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask you to take them out of the world, but I do ask you to keep them safe from the Evil One. ¹⁶ Just as I do not belong to the world, they do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Dedicate them to yourself by means of the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ I sent them into the world, just as you sent me into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I dedicate myself to you, in order that they, too, may be truly dedicated to you.