



Sunday, May 16, 2021

Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshippers:

[This Week's Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Seventh Sunday of Easter: Ascension of the Lord

10:30 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*LITANY FOR ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

Shout to God with songs of joy.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

God is ruler over all the earth;
the Lord reigns on a holy throne.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

God has highly exalted him,
giving him the name above all names.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Glory to God in the highest.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

*OPENING PRAYER

Most High God, we are witnesses: to the life of Jesus Christ our Lord: written in the Law, promised by the prophets, sung by the psalmists; given in love for the world, risen from the dust of death, lifted up in heavenly glory. Let our lives proclaim Christ's life. Draw us into your presence that we may worship you always, continually blessing your name; through Jesus Christ our Savior who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
3. Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
4. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

1 Pet. 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.

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 to 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. Amen.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Pet. 5:10

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.**

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 266)

RICHMOND

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God Most High, reigning in glory, send down your Spirit of wisdom to shine in your heavenly Word, so that we may worship you with joy, continually blessing your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:1-11
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Ephesians 1:15-23
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Reverend Wendy McCormick

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Book of Order, F-1.0201 & F-1.0204

Almighty God, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead and set him above all rule and authority, has given him all power in heaven and on earth, not only in this age but also in the age to come. God has put all things under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and has made Christ Head of the Church, which is his body. The Church's life and mission are a joyful participation in Christ's ongoing life and work. In affirming with the earliest Christians that Jesus is Lord, the Church confesses that he is its hope, and that the Church, as Christ's body, is bound to his authority and thus free to live in the lively, joyous reality of the grace of God.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might,
hea-ven and the earth are full of your glo - ry, love, and light.
Bles-sed is the one who comes in your ho - ly name, O Lord.
Ho - sa - na in the high-est! Ho - sa - na in the high - est!

THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God Most High, we have lifted our hearts to you in this joyful meal with our risen Lord. Continue to sustain us with your power and draw us into your presence so that we may feast with you in glory at the wedding of heaven and earth; through Christ, who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING & PRESIDING AT THE TABLE

Reverend Wendy McCormick

ASSISTING

Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission
Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School

LITURGIST

Paul Puckett

MUSICIANS

Patrick Ritsch, Organist
Choral Scholars