



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 29, 2022

Ascension Sunday

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Hermann Schroeder

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The Call to Worship

Leader: Why do you look upward?

People: Our Lord has been taken away into heaven.

Leader: Look around you. What do you see?

People: There are so many places where the love of God is needed.

Leader: Look beyond you. Where will you go?

People: Christ calls to go into the world, bringing God's healing love to all. Amen.

The Hymn No. 312

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

LLANFAIR

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!
Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!
3. See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!
4. See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia!
See! he shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!

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The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Astounding God, we come before you this day
as witnesses to Christ's ascension from this realm
to the heavenly kingdom.**

We stand in awe and wonder at what we hear and see.

**Open the eyes of our hearts to see the power and truth of your words.
Give us courage and joy that we might be witnesses
to your eternal love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

The Scripture Lesson

Acts 1:1-11

The Sermon

Graduation Day

Dr. Matthew Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

God Is Gone Up with a Merry Noise

Arthur Hutchings

God is gone up with a merry noise,
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
Thou art gone up on high,
Thou hast led captivity captive and received gifts for men.
O sing praises unto our God. O sing praises unto our King.
He hath led captivity captive and received gifts for men.
Alleluya, alleluya. God is gone up on high.

Psalm 47:5-6; Psalm 68:18

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass 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 Hymn No. 157

Jesus Shall Reign

DUKE STREET

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom spread from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To Jesus endless prayer be made,
and endless praises 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;
all prisoners leap and 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!

The Benediction

The Postlude

Rise, Shine, You People

Dale Wood

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The altar flowers this morning are given by Mary Sue Sanderlin in appreciation for musicians Stan Baker, Lee Covington, and the Centenary Chancel Choir.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning and throughout the week to make this worship possible.

Scriptures

Acts 1:1-11

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”