

Ascension Sunday

June 1, 2014 ♦ 11:00 a.m. Worship

Welcome

*Passing the Peace

*Prelude

Sing for Joy by Purcell
Sanctuary Choir

*Call to Worship

Leader: In a world where power is the ultimate high, Jesus did not regard equality with God as something to exploit.

People: Instead he emptied himself of power, claiming the lowly lot of a slave.

Leader: In human form he was brought low by death, death on a cross.

People: Therefore, God has highly exalted him, and granted him power above all the powers that be!

Leader: Lift up your hearts,

People: Jesus Christ is Lord! Hallelujah!

*Opening Hymn #312

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Centering Prayer (Acts 1:9-11)

Exalted Lord, you reign in the high and holy place, but for your royal throne you choose people of humble heart. We need not gaze into heaven to follow you, for you pledge to abide with all who live in your name. Grant us grace to recognize your presence in the brothers and sisters with whom we live and worship. At the last, permit us to know you face to face in glory. Amen.

Special Music

Awesome God arr. Chavez
Joyful Noise

Children's Message

Psalter Reading

Psalms 47

Hymnal, Page 781



Leader: "The Word of God for the People of God."

People: "Thanks be to God."

Sermon

"Willing Witnesses"

Rev. Bates

Sermon Text: Luke 24:44-53 (NLT)

Invitation

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

O God of transformation, where we have been fearful and doubting, bring new life. Where we have been hardhearted and unforgiving, bring new life. Where we have sown discord and wounded others, bring new life. Where we have been selfish and greedy, bring new life. Where we have been tired and confused, bring new life. Stir your Spirit in us, so we never fail to be the willing witnesses you call us to be.
(continue to pray in silence)

Offering

God of Wonders arr. Bettcher
Carillon Bells

*Doxology (#94)

The Great Thanksgiving (UMH pg. 17)

The Lord's Prayer (Kriewald)

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Prayer after Receiving

Lord, you have placed a call on each of our hearts. You call us not only to a particular vocation, but in all that we do, to follow you, serve others and worship you. Whatever we do, we do as one of your disciples. You have given us what we need to do our work, and you provided spiritual nourishment through your Word, and in this holy meal of bread and wine. This meal, as no other, fills us, renews us, convicts and sustains us in our quest to further your kingdom. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #2088 (insert)

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

*Benediction

All: Hear the Word of the Lord: "I dwell in the high and holy place, but also with you who are humble in spirit."

Leader: Go in peace. Abide in the Lord. Do good work.

People: The Holy One is our guardian and guide forever.

Leader: Go out in peace, being a willing witness to God's grace and power.

*Postlude

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

**Please Stand As You Are Able*