

REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome

Welcome to Redeemer Presbyterian Church! We are glad that you have joined with us to worship God. Please stay after the service and get to know others in our community who are calling Redeemer Presbyterian Church “home.” If you have any questions about our church, feel free to contact us using the information on the back of the bulletin.

When you arrive for worship, please observe silence as you prepare to enter into God’s Divine Service. Silence your cell phone, listen to the prelude, read the Words of Preparation and the Scripture lessons in the back of the bulletin, and join others in prayer and meditation.

Our Worship

Our service is intentionally structured to reflect our belief that worship is God’s service to us, his people. By design, there are three parts to our worship: the Service of Entrance, the Service of the Word, and the Service of the Table.

The **Service of Entrance** begins when the choir sings the Introit, followed by our Hymn of Invocation, Call to Worship, and Prayer of Adoration. We will then join in a Corporate Confession of Sin, hear God’s Declaration of Absolution, and respond with the Gloria and Hymn of Gratitude or Psalm.

The **Service of the Word** will include readings from the Lectionary (a calendar-based system for reading through the Bible) along with corporate responses of song and prayer. The sermon is God’s Word to us and we ask that you listen attentively, asking the Holy Spirit to apply his Word to you in a particular way.

The **Service of the Table** begins with a Corporate Confession of Faith, followed by the Passing of the Peace. Our service concludes with the Lord’s Supper and Benediction. Our church partakes of the Lord’s Supper every week. We welcome to the table all baptized Christians who are trusting in Christ alone for their salvation, have made public profession of their faith, and are part of a local church. We offer both wine and grape juice (located in the center rings) in the communion tray. If you have any questions, please speak with a pastor.

Your Children

We love kids! And we try to make them feel welcome during our worship service. You can help your children profit from the service by working through the bulletin with them. If your child needs a break from the service, please feel free to sit in the Narthex where you can still hear the service. You can also take young children to the Nursery. A private space is provided in the Nursery for nursing mothers.

Liturgical Color: White – symbolizes the brightness of the day and the Resurrection of Christ

Hearing enhancement devices available – please ask an usher.

WiFi: RedeemerPrivate | Password: wireless@office

The Ascension of Our Lord

May 9, 2024

In Preparation



Please observe silence as you read, pray, and meditate.

PRELUDE

Chris Oelkers, guest organist

Präludium in G Minor; BuxWV 149 – Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

WORDS OF PREPARATION

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, as your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Liber Usualis DORIAN SERVICE KYRIE Thomas Tallis

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on
us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Minister: Hear what the LORD our God says, “The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

Minister: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Minister: Hear the Word of the Gospel: “Christ has died for our sins and been raised for our justification.” All you who repent of your sin and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation, rejoice and be glad and give glory to the Lord who has taken away all of your sins in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

❖ Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

People: **and our mouth will declare your praise.**

❖ THE GLORIA

Gloria in Excelsis Nicolas Decius

Glo - ry be to God on high! And on earth peace, good will t'ward men. We praise thee,
we bless thee, we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give thanks to thee
for thy great glo - ry, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - might - y.

❖ HYMN OF GRATITUDE

Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1973

GOD OF GODS

Christian Strover, 1973



1. God of gods, we sound his prais - es, high - est heav'n its hom - age brings;
 2. Chris-tians in their hearts en-throne him, tell his prais - es wide a - broad;
 3. Hail the Christ, the King of glo - ry, he whose praise the an - gels cry,
 4. Lord, we look for your re - turn - ing, teach us so to walk your ways,



earth and all cre - a - tion rais - es glo - ry to the King of kings.
 proph - ets, priests, a - pos - tles own him, mar - tyr's crown and saints' re - ward.
 born to share our hu - man sto - ry, love and la - bor, grieve and die.
 hearts and minds your will dis - cern - ing, lives a - light with joy and praise.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, name him, Lord of all his hosts pro-claim him,
 Three in one his glo - ry shar - ing, earth and heav'n his praise de - clar - ing,
 By his cross his work com - plet - ed, sin - ners ran - somed, death de - feat - ed,
 In your love and care en - fold us, by your con - stan - cy up - hold us,



to the ev - er - last - ing Fa - ther ev - 'ry tongue in tri - umph sings.
 praise the high ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, praise the ev - er - last - ing Lord.
 in the glo - ry of the Fa - ther, Christ as - cend - ed reigns on high.
 may your mer - cy, Lord and Fa - ther, keep us now and all our days.

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The Service of the Word



THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:1-11


Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 47:1-2, 5-8

Antiphon:



Organ: Everyone:
God is gone up with a shout —
— the Lord with the sound of the ram's - horn. —

Choir: Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a cry of joy.
For the Lord Most High is to be feared;
he is the great King over all the earth.

All: Antiphon

Choir: God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

All: Antiphon

Choir: For God is King of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill.
God reigns over the nations;
God sits upon his holy throne.

All: Antiphon

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CHORAL ANTHEM

Psalm 47:5

Ascendit Deus – Peter Philips (1560-1628)

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione,
Is ascended God in jubilation,

God has ascended amid jubilation

Et Dominus in voce tubae,
And Lord to sound of trumpet.

And the Lord to the sound of the trumpet.

Dominus in coelo paravit sedem suam,
Lord in Heaven has prepared seat his

The Lord has prepared his seat in Heaven.

Alleluia.

Alleluia!

❖ **THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Luke 24:44-53

Minister: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

❖ **OUR RESPONSE**

Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855

BRYN CALFARIA

William Owen, 1813-93



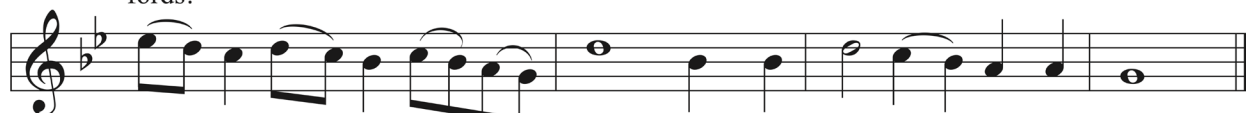
1. Look, ye saints, the sight is glo - rious; see the Man of Sor - rows
 2. Crown the Sav - ior! An - gels, crown him! Rich the tro - phies Je - sus
 3. Sin - ners in de - ri - sion crowned him, mock - ing thus the Sav - ior's
 4. Hark, those bursts of ac - cla - ma - tion! Hark, those loud tri - um - phant



now! From the fight re - turned vic - to - rious, ev - 'ry knee to him shall
 brings; on the seat of pow'r en - throne him; while the vault of heav - en
 claim; saints and an - gels crowd a - round him, own his ti - tle, praise his
 chords! Je - sus takes the high - est sta - tion; oh, what joy the sight af -



bow.
 rings. Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!
 name.
 fords!



Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow. Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow.
 Crown the Sav - ior King of kings. Crown the Sav - ior King of kings.
 Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame. Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame.
 King of kings and Lord of lords! King of kings and Lord of lords!

❖ **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

HOMILY

Rev. Jon Herr

The Ministry of Ascension

Luke 24:44-53

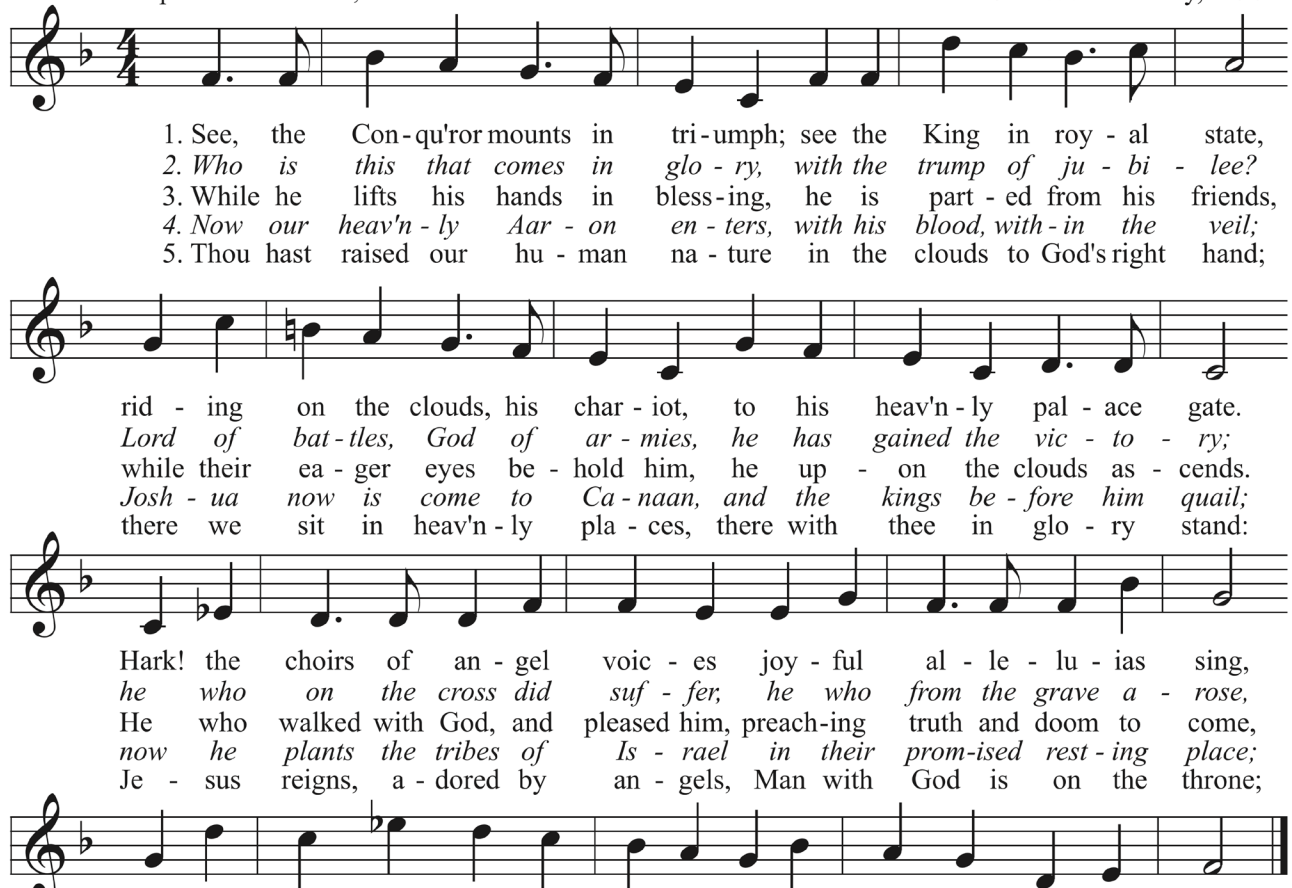
INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (1 Cor. 11:23-24)

Christopher Wordsworth, 1862 RUSTINGTON C. Hubert H. Parry, 1897



1. See, the Con-queror mounts in tri-umph; see the King in roy - al state,
2. *Who is this that comes in glo - ry, with the trump of ju - bi - lee?*
3. While he lifts his hands in bless-ing, he is part - ed from his friends,
4. *Now our heav'n - ly Aar - on en - ters, with his blood, with - in the veil;*
5. Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture in the clouds to God's right hand;

rid - ing on the clouds, his char - iot, to his heav'n - ly pal - ace gate.
Lord of bat - tles, God of ar - mies, he has gained the vic - to - ry;
while their ea - ger eyes be - hold him, he up - on the clouds as - cends.
Josh - ua now is come to Ca - naan, and the kings be - fore him quail;
there we sit in heav'n - ly pla - ces, there with thee in glo - ry stand:

Hark! the choirs of an - gel voic - es joy - ful al - le - lu - ias sing,
he who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the grave a - rose,
He who walked with God, and pleased him, preach-ing truth and doom to come,
now he plants the tribes of Is - rael in their prom-ised rest - ing place;
Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels, Man with God is on the throne;

and the por - tals high are lift - ed to re - ceive their heav'n - ly King.
he has van - quished sin and Sa - tan, he by death has spoiled his foes.
he, our E - noch, is trans - lat - ed to his ev - er - last - ing home.
now our great E - li - jah of - fers dou - ble por - tion of his grace.
might - y Lord, in your as - cen - sion we by faith be - hold our own.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Cor. 11:25)

Edmund P. Clowney, 1987

ENGELBERG

Charles V. Stanford, 1904



1. Who shall as - cend the moun-tain of the Lord, to search the
 2. *One King a - lone, whose hands and heart are pure, one Ser - vant*
 3. He on - ly can as - cend to God's right hand who first came
 4. *Be - fore the clouds re - ceive the King on high, a cross lifts*
 5. He shall as - cend the moun-tain of the Lord, the King of



mys - ter - y in heav - en stored, the know - ledge of the Ho - ly
of the Lord with pur - pose sure, can en - ter in that glo - ry
 down as his high mer - cy planned; true God and man has earth and
up his form a - gainst the sky; the Fram - er of the worlds has
 glo - ry, whose own blood out - poured paid that dear price that mer - cy



One a - dored? Al - - le - lu - ia!
to en - dure. Al - - le - lu - ia!
 heav - en spanned. Al - - le - lu - ia!
come to die. Al - - le - lu - ia!
 did af - ford. Al - - le - lu - ia!

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❖ BENEDICTION

❖ DEPARTING HYMN

Josua Wegelin, 1604-1640

NUN FREUT EUCH

Etlich Christlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524



1. On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build the hope of my as - cen - sion;
2. Since Christ re - turned to claim his throne, great gifts for me ob - tain - ing,
3. Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, re - call - ing your as - cen - sion,



this hope a - lone has al - ways stilled all doubt and ap - pre - hen - sion;
my heart will rest in him a - lone, no oth - er rest re - main - ing;
that I may serve you faith - ful - ly, a - dorn - ing your re - demp - tion;



for where the head is, there as well I know his mem - bers
for where my trea - sure went be - fore, there all my thoughts will
and then, when all my days will cease, let me de - part in



are to dwell when Christ will come and call them.
ev - er soar to still their deep - est yearn - ing.
joy and peace in an - swer to my plead - ing.

LESSONS

Psalm 47

O clap your hands together, all you peoples;
O cry aloud unto God with shouts of joy.
For the Lord Most High is to be feared;
he is the great King over all the earth.
He shall subdue the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loved.
God has gone up with a shout of triumph,
the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
O sing praises, sing praises unto our God;
O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth;
think upon his mighty acts and praise him with a song.
God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
The princes of the peoples are gathered with the people of the God of Abraham;
for the mighty upon earth have become the servants of the Lord, and he is very highly exalted.

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Sermon Lesson—Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them.⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.

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