

THE DIVINE SERVICE

May 24, 2020

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Ascension of Our Lord

In Preparation

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

PRELUDE

Michael Phillips

Four Chorale Preludes – J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Christ lag in Todesbanden (Christ Lay in Death's Bonds), BWV 625

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands, for our offenses given;
but now at God's right hand he stands and brings us life from heaven;
therefore let us joyful be and sing to God right thankfully loud songs of hallelujah. Hallelujah!

Jesus Christus, unser Heiland (Jesus Christ, Our Savior), BWV 626

Jesus Christ, our Savior true, he who death overthrew, is up arisen,
and sin hath put in prison. Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy).

Erstanden ist der heilige Christ (The Holy Christ Is Risen), BWV 628

The holy Christ is risen, Hallelujah, who is a comforter of all the world, Hallelujah.

Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn (God's Son Triumphs Today), BWV 630

Today God's only-gotten Son arose from death, and triumph won, Alleluya,
in mighty pomp and rich array; his therefore be the praise alway. Alleluya.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

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." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, we pray, leave us not without consolation, but send us the Spirit of truth, whom you promised from the Father; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Service of Entrance



❖ HYMN OF INVOCATION

Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1973

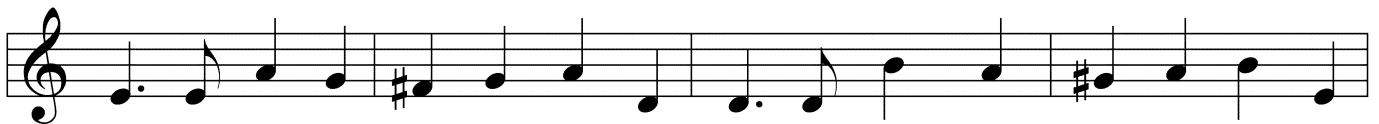
Christian Strover, 1973



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 - tyrs' 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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Minister: God is gone up with a shout,
People: **The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.**
Minister: Sing praises to God, sing praises;
People: **Sing praises unto our King, sing praises.**
Minister: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**
Minister: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

... world without end. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Liber Usualis

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 our Lord 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 AND HYMN OF GRATITUDE

Gloria in Excelsis
Nikolaus Decius, 1525

Deutsche Evangelisch Messze, 1539

All glo - ry be to thee, Most High, to thee all ad - o -
ra - tion; in grace and truth thou draw - est nigh to of - fer
us sal - va - tion; thou show - est thy good - will to men, and
peace shall reign on earth a - gain; we praise thy name for - ev - er.

Edmund P. Clowney, 1987

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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The Service of the Word



❖ THE PSALTER

Psalm 47

Minister: O clap your hands, all ye people;
People: **shout unto God with the voice of triumph.**
For the LORD most high is terrible;
he is a great King over all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us,
and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose our inheritance for us,
the excellency of Jacob whom he loved.
God is gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises:
sing praises unto our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.
The princes of the people are gathered together,
even the people of the God of Abraham:
for the shields of the earth belong unto God:
he is greatly exalted.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:1-11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

❖ OUR RESPONSE

Charles Wesley, 1739

Robert Williams, c. 1781-1821



1. Hail the day that sees him rise Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. There for him high tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. See, he lifts his hands a - bove! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Lord, be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!



to his throne a - bove the skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
 lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates, Al - le - lu - ia!
 See, he shows the prints of love! Al - le - lu - ia!
 raise our hearts to reach thy height; Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
 he hath con - quered death and sin, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow Al - le - lu - ia!
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!



en - ters now the high - est heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 bless - ings on his church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
 find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee! Al - le - lu - ia!

WELCOME

INTERLUDE

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION AND THANKSGIVING

Ruling Elder Landy Ligon

Unison: 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.

❖ THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:1-25

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

❖ PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MORNING SERMON

Rev. Eric Landry

*The Christian in a Time of Crisis:
What Is God Teaching Us About the Future?*

Deuteronomy 6:1-25

The Service of the Table



❖ CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Unison: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

❖ **Minister: Christ is risen!**

People: He is risen indeed!

Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words that the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you." During this time, please greet one another verbally and refrain from shaking hands or other physical contact.

Minister: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof;

People: the world, and they that dwell therein.

HYMN OF GRATITUDE TO GOD

Ancient Irish poem, c. 8th cent.

Traditional Irish melody



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. *Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;*
3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight;
4. *Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,*
5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
be thou my dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light,
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



thou my best thought — by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;
thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r:
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

- ❖ Minister: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

DOXOLOGY

Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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- ❖ **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Minister: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God!

People: It is good and right to do so!

Minister: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his resurrection appeared openly to all his disciples and in their sight was taken up to heaven that he might make us partakers of his divine nature. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS

William Mathias, 1934-1992

organ:
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
organ:
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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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."

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. 11:23-25)

Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855

William Owen, 1813-93



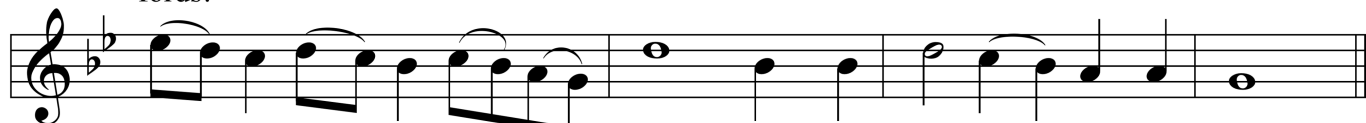
1. Look, ye saints, the sight is glo - rious; see the Man of Sor - rows
2. Crown the Sav - ior! An - gels, crown him! Rich the tro - phies Je - sus
3. Sin - ners in de - ri - sion crowned him, mock - ing thus the Sav - ior's
4. Hark, those bursts of ac - cla - ma - tion! Hark, those loud tri - um - phant



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!

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ DEPARTING HYMN

Josua Wegelin, 1604-1640

Etlich Christlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524



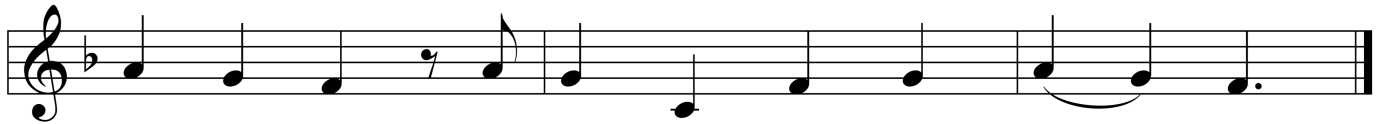
1. On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build the hope of my as - cen - sion;
2. Since Christ re - turned to claim his throne, great gifts for me ob - tain - ing,
3. Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, re - call - ing your as - cen - sion,



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.

An elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary immediately after the service concludes to pray with you and help answer questions you may have about the Christian faith or Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

LESSONS

Psalm 47

O clap your hands, all ye people;
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
For the LORD most high is terrible;
he is a great King over all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us,
and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose our inheritance for us,
the excellency of Jacob whom he loved.
God is gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises:
sing praises unto our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.
The princes of the people are gathered together,
even the people of the God of Abraham:
for the shields of the earth belong unto God:
he is greatly 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 – Deuteronomy 6:1-25

¹“Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ²that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son’s son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. ³Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

⁴“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You 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. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

¹⁰“And when the LORD your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, ¹¹and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, ¹²then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ¹³It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. ¹⁴You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you— ¹⁵for the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God—lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

¹⁶“You shall not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. ¹⁷You shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. ¹⁸And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and take possession of the good land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers ¹⁹by thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as the LORD has promised.

²⁰“When your son asks you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the LORD our God has commanded you?’ ²¹then you shall say to your son, ‘We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²²And the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes. ²³And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers. ²⁴And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are this day. ²⁵And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.’”