



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

May 28, 2017, 8:15 a.m.
Ascension Sunday



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

Today is Ascension Sunday when we remember and celebrate that our Savior was taken up into heaven to rule at the Father's right hand until He comes again in the same way that the disciples saw Him go into heaven.

What difference should Christ's ascension make in our lives? It means that in heaven there is One who, knowing firsthand the experience of suffering and temptation, prays for us and perfects our prayers. The ascension is a witness and guarantee of our own bodily resurrection as well as an invitation for us to set our hearts and minds "on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God" to rule over all things in heaven and throughout the universe (Colossians 3:1-2). – *The Worship Sourcebook*

If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were precisely those who thought most of the next... It is since Christians have begun thinking less of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at heaven and you get earth thrown in; aim at earth and you get neither. – *C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" Rebecca Groom Te Velde
Samuel Metzger, organ

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" . .arr. M. Sherrill Kelsey
Brad Jones, piano

SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP T. Barton Kimbro

♠HYMN OF ASCENSION: No. 289 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" . LASST UNS ERFREUEN

♠PSALTER LESSON: Select verses from Psalm 68 Shelley Hill

You ascended on high,
leading a host of captives in your train
and receiving gifts among men,

**even among the rebellious,
that the Lord God may dwell there.**

Blessed be the Lord,
who daily bears our burdens;
the God who is our salvation.

**Our God is a God of salvation,
and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.**

Bless God in the great congregation,
the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain!

**Summon your power, O God,
the power, O God, by which you have worked for us.**

O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord,
to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens

**Awesome is God from his sanctuary;
he is the one who gives power and strength to his people.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to Thee let earth accord, alleluia, alleluia.
Who art, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN Timothy M. Johnson

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Gerry A. Peak

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Morning Has Broken" Mack Wilberg

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight; mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning
God's recreation of the new day!

*The Westminster Singers
Steven Hancock, Director*

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

EPISTLE LESSON Colossians 2:11-15
(page 984 in the pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;
**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** *(Isaiah 40:6b, 8)*

HOMILY *Drink from the Fountain of Fullness – Part Two* Richard G. Cain

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

✦ INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.

We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.

Gluten free communion bread is available upon request from the elder at the east side of the transverse aisle (opposite from the door leading to the Connector).

✦ PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Apostles' Creed

**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 on 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.**

✦ GLORIA PATRI GREATOR EX

**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!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, our heavenly Father,
You raised Jesus from death to life and crowned Him Lord of all.
We confess that we have resisted His rule in our lives.
Pardon us for embracing and being led by
the false values, priorities, and commitments
of this present world that is hostile to You.
Forgive us for failing to set our minds on heaven
and giving our ascended King
the honor and homage that He deserves.
So transform us that we delight to serve our King,
who rules the world and is head of His church,
Jesus Christ our ascended and reigning Lord. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns below.

"How Deep the Father's Love for Us" Stuart Townend

**How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.**

*"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" QUEBEC
Reference page 646 in the Hymnal for music.*

**Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, Thou fount of life, thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to Thee again.
Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou savest those that on Thee call;
To them that seek Thee Thou art good, to them that find Thee all in all.
We taste Thee, O Thou living bread, and long to feast upon Thee still;
We drink of Thee, the fountain-head, and thirst our souls from Thee to fill.
Our restless spirits yearn for Thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad when Thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.
O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away, shed o'er the world Thy holy light.**

"Behold the Lamb" Keith Getty

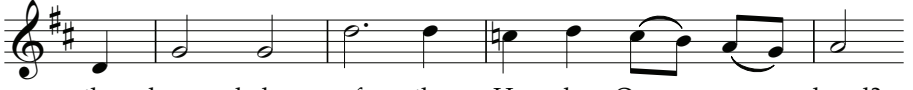
**Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us — and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.
The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, torn for you — eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.
The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you — drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.
And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond — and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.**



1. Who shall a - scend the moun-tain of the Lord,
 2. One King a - lone, whose hands and heart are pure,
 3. He on - ly can a - scend to God's right hand
 4. Be - fore the clouds re - ceive the King on high,



to search the mys - t'ry in heav - en stored,
 one Ser - vant of the Lord with pur - pose sure,
 who first came down as His high mer - cy planned;
 a cross lifts up His form a - gainst the sky;



the know - ledge of the Ho - ly One a - dored?
 can en - ter in that glo - ry to en - dure.
 true God and man has earth and heav - en spanned.
 the Fram - er of the world has come to die.



Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT SINE NOMINE

**He shall ascend the mountain of the Lord,
 The King of glory, whose own blood out poured
 Paid that dear price that mercy did afford. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Now Thank We All Our God" J.S. Bach; arr. Fox

✦Indicates congregation standing

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