



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

May 28, 2017, 11:00 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. Brandon Morrison

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

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 Chancel Choir
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. An elder will serve gluten free communion bread to those who raise their hands.

✦ 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

LITANY OF PRAISE

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our joyful duty, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks unto You, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God. And we praise You for Jesus Christ our Lord, Who has come to bring us light and life;

**Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we laud and magnify Your glorious Name;
evermore praising You and saying:**

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, Ho - san-na in the high-est.

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION: "The Power of the Cross"arr. Mark Hayes

SHARING OF THE CUP

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION: "In Paradise" Gabriel Faure; arr. Metzger

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

♠HYMN OF COMMITMENTSINE 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