

THE LORD'S DAY ~ May 8, 2016

Ascension Sunday Mother's Day

MORNING WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church

to all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and need strength;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Preparation for Worship Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

The Ascension

"He took us with him to the heart of things"

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place
As earth became a part of Heaven's story
And heaven opened to his human face.
We saw him go and yet we were not parted
He took us with him to the heart of things
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,
Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness
And sing the waning darkness into light,
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,
Which all creation waits to see revealed.
~ Malcolm Guite, *Sounding the Seasons*

"The message of the Ascension story is: Jesus the Savior reigns!"
~ J. I. Packer

Pastor's Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"O Help My Unbelief" (1)

How sad our state by nature is! Our sin, how deep it stains!
And Satan binds our captive minds fast in his slavish chains.
But there's a voice of sov'reign grace, sounds from the sacred word:
"O ye despairing sinners come, and trust upon the Lord."

My soul obeys th'almighty call, and runs to this relief.
I would believe thy promise, Lord; O help my unbelief!
To the dear fountain of thy blood, Incarnate God, I fly;
Here let me wash my spotted soul, from crimes of deepest dye.

Stretch out Thine arm, victorious King, my reigning sins subdue;
Drive the old dragon from his seat, with all his hellish crew.
A guilty, weak, and helpless worm, on thy kind arms I fall;
Be thou my strength and righteousness, my Jesus, and my all.

* For those who are able, please stand at these times.

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Prayer of Invocation and Praise

*Call to Worship

Psalm 24:3-4, 7-10

*Hymn Medley of Praise

"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" (T289)
"Knowing You" (2)

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own,
All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now compared to this:

*Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You ~ there is no greater thing.
You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness, and I love You Lord.*

Now my heart's desire is to know You more, to be found in You and known as Yours,
To possess by faith what I could not earn, all surpassing gift of righteousness.

Oh to know the pow'r of Your risen life and to know You in Your sufferings,
To become like You in Your death, my Lord, so with You to live and never die.

*Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 46-52

Leader: *What do you mean by saying: "He ascended into heaven"?*

People: That Christ, while his disciples watched, was lifted up from the earth into heaven and will be there for our good until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.

Leader: *But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as He promised us?*

People: Christ is true man and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth; but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is not absent from us for a moment.

Leader: *If His humanity is not present wherever His divinity is then aren't the two natures of Christ separated from each other?*

People: Certainly not. Since divinity is not limited and is present everywhere, it is evident that Christ's divinity is surely beyond the bounds of the humanity he has taken on, but at the same time his divinity is in and remains personally united to his humanity.

Leader: *How does Christ's ascension into heaven benefit us?*

People: First, he pleads our cause in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven ~ a guarantee that Christ our head will take us, his members, to himself in heaven. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a further guarantee. By the Spirit's power we make the goal of our lives, not earthly things, but the things above where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

Leader: *Why the next words: "and sitteth at the right hand of God"?*

People: Christ ascended to heaven, there to show that he is head of his church, and that the Father rules all things through him.

Leader: *How does this glory of Christ our head benefit us?*

People: First, through his Holy Spirit he pours out his gifts from heaven upon us his members. Second, by his power he defends us and keeps us safe from all enemies.

Leader: *How does Christ's return "to judge the living and the dead" comfort you?*

People: In all my distress and persecution I turn my eyes to the heavens and confidently await as judge the very One who has already stood trial in my place before God and so has removed the whole curse from me. All his enemies and mine he will condemn to everlasting punishment: but me and all his chosen ones he will take along with him into the joy and the glory of heaven.

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:1-11

Offertory Hymn

"O Great God" (3)

O great God of highest heav'n, occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel pow'r.
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me; make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me,
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify Your name through me.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

II Corinthians 9:8

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm 119:19

Sermon

I Timothy 3:16

"Taken Up in Glory"
Ascension Sunday Series
Rev. Cory D. Colravy

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Reading of the Law

Ephesians 4:1-16

Confession of Sin

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, we are your covenant people ~ one church, drawn from all nations. Our citizenship is in heaven. Yet we confess, O Lord, that we sometimes lose sight of your kingdom and its ways. We confess that we sometimes live more as citizens of our own land than as citizens of your kingdom. By your truth you call all peoples to account. Forgive us for losing our distinctiveness. Focus us on the cross and on the salvation you give through him who is the Judge of us all, Jesus, the bodily risen and ascended Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords, our Prophet, Priest and King, our Savior, Brother and Friend in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hebrews 8:1

Special Offering

Covenant Mercy Ministry

Hymn of Meditation *"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"* (T290)

Distribution of Elements

(Please note that grape juice is in all the inner circles of cups
and wine is only in the one outer circle.)

*Charge and Benediction

II Corinthians 13:14

*Hymn of Benediction

"Our God Reigns" (C372, v.2)

*Postlude

THIS WEEK, May 8 - 14, 2016

Today •Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
•Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 - 10:25 a.m.
•Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday •WIC Bible Study, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday •Praise Team Rehearsal, 5:15 p.m.

Announcements

- ◆ **In Our Nursery Today:** Sunday School ~ Michele Devereaux
Morning Worship ~ Sara Washburn, Susan Harris
- ◆ **Nursery Next Week:** Sunday School ~ Dawn Welch
Morning Worship ~ Toni Hill, Wendy Russell
- ◆ **WIC Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall, 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ **May Operation Christmas Child Collection Items** ~ "Multi-pack Month" ~ packs of kids party favors
- ◆ **Budget Summary:**

Weekly Operational Budget Requirement	\$	5,948.00
Tithes/Offerings, May 1, 2016	\$	6,698.23
FYTD Tithes/Offerings Received	\$	219,922.77
FYTD Operational Budget Expenses	\$	210,618.56
Mortgage Balance	\$	215,457.27

Sermon Notes
 The Lord's Day, Sunday, May 8, 2016
 "Taken Up in Glory"
 I Timothy 3:16
 Ascension Sunday Series
 Rev. Cory D. Colravy

Prayer List, Sunday, April 10, 2016

PRAY DAILY FOR OUR PASTOR AND STAFF

Rev. Cory D. Colravy, Pastor
 Mrs. Glenda L. Delmar, CCS Principal
 Mrs. Martha A. Middleton, Executive Administrator
 Ms. Roseanne S. Culpepper, CCS Office Manager
 Mr. Bryan M. Walker, CCS Bookkeeper
 Mr. Art Stroh, Youth Director
 Mr. Scott Perry, Music Leader

**PRAY FOR UNSPOKEN REQUESTS
 PRAY FOR OUR NATION AND OUR LEADERS
 PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND OUR MISSIONARIES**

Sunday Pat Wood% PEF Prison Ministry
 Monday Peter Bakelaar% MTW, Japan
 Tuesday Joe Steele*
 Wednesday David & Karen Story% RUF, FSU, Tallahassee, FL
 Thursday Bruce & Pam Sinclair% Westminster Bible College, Kampala Uganda
 Friday Ross & Amy Middleton% church planters, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
 Saturday Chuck & Wyema% Enterprise Europe church planters
 (*Happy Birthday, #Happy Anniversary, %Missionary)

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AT HOME AND ABROAD

Currently Deployed Overseas: Randy Miller (Joyce Post's grandson)
Currently Serving at Home: Shawn Rost (Warren & Judy Kline's son-in-law), Brian Neal, Ben Hollo, Ian Harris, Seth Armstrong

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Cancer: Phil Khalife (Sonja Seidler's brother), Lee Broughton (friend of Martha Middleton, breast cancer), Gerald Skipper (Jan Langham's brother-in-law), Charlene Elliott (CCS parent, blood cancer), Ryan Colravy (Pastor Colravy's nephew, (chemotherapy & radiation), Charlotte Bass (4 year old friend of Mara Frazier, Aplastic Anemia)
Illness: Brian Schreiber (Fred & Carrie Hayes Schreiber's son, blood disease), Fran Coyne (friend of the Steele's, aortic valve stenosis), Johnny Langham (Jack & Jan Langham's son), Naomi (brain tumor surgery, step-daughter of James Thompson's friend Jeremy Williams), Charlie Saunders (O'Lear family member), Linda Hopkins' family member (amyloidosis), David Hill (heart blockage), Cheryl Gaudiano, Roger Leete (CIDP), Gloria Hawkins (Glenda Delmar's mother, stroke), Derrick Jensen (family friend of Raquel Clark, ALS)
Special Need: Virginia Palmer, David & Toni Hill (Rusty & Chris Hill's parents), Tom Bingham family, Richard Post family, Randy Tucker (Patty Ann Brunner's son, stroke recovery), Dawn Welch family, Dell Simpson.
Expectant Mothers: Kristi Hinkle Dugan, Valerie Welch Cleveland, Lauren Walker Bahati

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CPC Website



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