

Covenant Congregational Church

Seventh Sunday of Easter - Ascension Sunday

Service of Worship May 28, 2017 10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Shackley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Alynne MacLean

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Why are we looking up to heaven?

**Christ has come;
Christ has risen;
Christ will come again.**

Why are we looking ahead to the future?

**The Holy Spirit is among us now.
In our baptism, we have already died and risen with Christ.**

Why are we afraid of death and dying?

God's love casts out our fear.

Why are we afraid to follow Jesus?

**In Christ, we have the promise of new life now, eternal life to come.
In Christ, we join our hearts to worship God,
who has prepared for us to enter the reign of God.**

*HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* Hymn #265

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**You have heard what was written about Jesus in Scripture—
how He would suffer and die
and then rise from the dead on the third day;
how the same power that raised Jesus from the dead
raised Him to heaven and seated Him at the right hand of God,
where He now lives to intercede on our behalf.
So let us come before God with confidence,
through the loving name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ!**

SPECIAL MUSIC *What A Beautiful Name* Hillsong
Soloist: Karis Watie

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SONG FOR REFLECTION *God Bless America* Berlin
Saxophones: Billy Evans, Rosie Larson

CHILDREN'S SERMON Alynne MacLean
(Children K through 3rd grade are dismissed to Junior Church at this time)

THE WORD OF GOD Sam Schumacher
Scripture Reading: Acts 1:6-14 NIV (New Testament page 118)

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

¹²Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. ¹³When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Response: The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON Ever Get A Crick In Your Neck? Pastor Jason O. Mohn

*UNISON READING

**Christ is not absent.
Christ has ascended.
Christ is not Lord-Elect.
Christ is Lord-Eternal.
Christ is not waiting to begin His reign.
Christ is reigning now from the right hand of the Father.
Christ is not far off.
Christ is with us always.
Christ is not separate from us.
Christ now fills all things everywhere with Himself.
Amen.**

*RESPONSE SONG

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

Hymn #271

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Choral Anthem

Praise the Lord, Proclaim His Glory

Martin

*Easter Doxology

***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

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Larson

*Please stand in praise to God, if able
CCLI #982653



Ascension Sunday 2017

Thank you for participating in our worship gathering! We are glad that you are here this morning and pray that this might be a meaningful faith-building experience for you and/or your family. To more deeply connect with this faith community, we invite you to stay following our worship gathering and enjoy a time of refreshments and fellowship in our Fireside Room and Narthex.

Welcome to Covenant Congregational Church
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