



The ascension cloud confounded Jesus' first disciples as it took him from their presence. But that famous cloud did something else. It lifted their eyes from the flatness of life. It raised their imagination above the predictability of their days. It forced them . . . to take the Holy Spirit's power seriously. Challenged with the unknown and plunged back into demanding discipleship, this fragile little community would now find its strength from prayer and its lead from the power of the Holy Spirit. -- *Peter Marty*

The Worship of God

Ascension Sunday

May 29, 2022

Welcome

Sharlande Sledge

Prelude

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
arr. Albin Whitworth
Cindy Fuller

Meditation

This is how it is when we praise you.
We join the angels in praise, and we keep our feet in time and place . . .
awed to heaven, rooted in earth. *Walter Bruggeman*

***Litany for Ascension**

Lauren Abel

Why do you look upward?

Our Lord has been taken away into heaven.

Look around you. What do you see?

We see so many places in the world where people need God’s care.

Look around you. Where will you go?

We will wait for God’s Spirit to guide us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven.

Let our hearts ascend with him.

***Hymn of Praise, No. 5**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
AZMON

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23
Vernon Davis

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

Vernon Davis

Silence for Reflection

The two men in white garments who were present at Jesus’ ascension hint at our commission. Why do you stand there looking at the sky? You have work to do. You have a commission to fulfill. From now on, you are the body of Christ; you must proclaim the good news . . . you must embrace all people with the merciful love of God.— *Dianne Bergant*

*Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53
Sharlande Sledge

This is the Gospel of grace.
Thanks be to God.

*Hymn of Prayer

“God, Our Nation Feels the Loss”
Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
PICARDY



1. God, our nat - ion feels the_ loss_ as our child - ren
2. Je - sus, Lord, we hear you_ say, "Don't turn li - ttle
3. Ho - ly Spi - rit, wind and_ flame, send us out in



pay the_ cost for the vio - lence we ac - cept,_
ones a - way!" May we build a kin - der_ land_
Je - sus' name. May we shout and say, "En - ough!"



for the si - lence we have_ kept.
where our chil - dren un - der - stand:
May we build a world of_ love —



Ra - chel weeps for chil - dren gone; _____
Ev - ery child here mat - ters more. _____
till the sounds of wea - pons cease, _____



God of love, this can't go_ on!
than the guns we cla - mor_ for.
till our young can grow in_ peace.

*Blessing of Our Gifts

Caroline Abel

God of love, help us to remember, Christ has no body now
on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours.

**Ours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion
sees the needs of the world.**

Ours are the feet by which Christ is to go about doing good,
and ours are the hands by which he is to bless everyone now.

—*St. Teresa of Avila*

Offertory

“Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor”
arr. Larry Shackley
Cindy Fuller

Meditation

Now it all depends on them. Jesus entrusts everything to them. Will they continue
his work? Will they live in his Spirit? —*Rien Poortvliet*

***Doxology**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the Source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon

“Rooted in the Earth”
Sharlande Sledge

Litany of New Life

Sharlande Sledge

Because Jesus ascended and promises us the Holy Spirit,
we have the chance to help create the new world for which we pray –

**a world in which justice does come for the poor,
freedom comes for the prisoners,
peace for the weary, healing for the wounded.**

Because Jesus ascended and promises us the Holy Spirit,
we have the chance to help form a new community –

**a community that loves and cares for all members,
a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected,
a place where all find a place of belonging.**

Because Jesus ascended and promises the Holy Spirit,
we have the chance to witness God’s new creation –

**a world where what was distorted is being restored,
what is corrupted is being renewed,
what was broken is being made whole.**

Because Jesus ascended and promises us the Holy Spirit,
God’s new world is ready to be born anew.

**We trust in the name of the Risen Christ
who lives among us now in the Holy Spirit.**

***Hymn of Commitment, No. 95**

“Jesus Shall Reign”
DUKE STREET

***Pastoral Benediction**

Sharlande Sledge

Postlude

“Jesus Shall Reign”
arr. Albin Whitworth
Cindy Fuller

Worship Notes

Today is Ascension Sunday, the seventh and final Sunday of Easter. Ascension Sunday commemorates Jesus' ascension into heaven 40 days after his resurrection. Along with the resurrection, the ascension functioned for early Christians as a proof of Jesus' claim that he was the Messiah. On this day we examine the meaning of the ascension for our lives, both individually and as a community. This Sunday's message, "Don't Just Stand There, Do Something," is part of a two-part series with Pentecost, "Don't Just Do Something, Stand There." Don't forget to wear your red, orange and/or yellow next week for Pentecost.

Welcome

We are a welcoming and affirming community of Christians, attempting to discover, articulate, and embody the meaning of the Gospel in the world today.

We welcome all at Lake Shore because we believe that God's love knows no bounds.

For information about becoming a member of Lake Shore, please contact one of our ministers.



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Church Staff

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