



May 24, 2020
Ascension of the Lord

*Ascension Day is the 40th day of Easter. It occurs 39 days after Easter **Sunday**. It is the day we commemorate **Jesus Christ's ascension** into heaven, the 40th day after **Jesus Christ's resurrection***

ORGAN PRELUDE **If I Can Help Somebody** *Cameron Kuzepski*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoA7Cvq8QKg>

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Shout for joy, sing songs of praise,

Many: for God reigns over all the earth!

One: God has gone up with a shout!

All: Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!

OPENING HYMN **All Creatures of Our God and King**

<https://youtu.be/FFtBsnyQdnw>

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. When we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you, you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Amen.

Ps. 103:17

AN ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria*

**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.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Geraldine Harvey

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRt-RKozBOK>

Come Holy Spirit, open our minds to see the power of Scripture to give life; enlighten our hearts that we might see Christ in all whom we meet; in the name of the one, holy, and living God, to whom we give all glory. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

PSALTER

Psalm 93

The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty;
the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength.

He has established the world; it shall never be moved;
your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O LORD,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.
More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the LORD!

Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O LORD, for evermore.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stephanie DeGeneste

<https://youtu.be/LbjngQfKR38>

GOSPEL READING Luke 24:44-53

<https://youtu.be/j5po0qgSkjg>

Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

SERMON

Rev. Lynn Santulli

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bsb6wa7f6tE>

SERMON HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

<https://youtu.be/psmel83jB7U>

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostle's 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.

OFFERING - *Reflect on what offering might make to those around you and to the community. Commit your tithes to church (you can even go to the church's website and click on 'Donate Now' to send in your gifts or mail them to the church office.)*

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, we offer these gifts to you in faith and in trust that they will be used for the building up of Your Kingdom here on earth. Lord, grant that we may make a difference, lighting the darkness with Your Spirit of love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

CLOSING HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

<https://youtu.be/htjbeKsEOGg>

BENEDICTION

The joy of the Lord is your strength. Go from this time of worship and be encouraged for God has called you to serve Him this day and to live life abundantly. May the Lord bless and keep you, May His Face shine brightly upon you, May His Holy Spirit grant you peace.

POSTLUDE **Passacaglia in C Minor - J. S. Bach** *Cameron Kuzepski*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiAOsk-a6yA>

Worship Note:

There will be a special (brief) remembrance on Memorial Day, Monday for our fallen heroes. Please check the website for the link to remember.

www.crescentonline.org





Ascension Cloud

Forty days earlier
the eleven were huddled together
in the Upper Room of
grief, sorrow, and despair...
their hopes dashed
of having the Kingdom of Israel
restored in their time...
because their friend and mentor
now lay in a tomb of darkness.

none, not even one,
had ever grasped or understood
God's Kingdom was not of this world
but established before
the foundation of
this world was ever laid.

Now, now a faithful few
stood together on a hill of Bethany
with their Savior, Friend, and Master...
still wondering, still hoping
this, this would be the time
of Kingdom restoration.

Yet,
all the words and teachings
Jesus had imparted to them
could simply not have prepared them
for a moment such as this...

A cloud - an Ascension Cloud
drawing near to them
A cloud of fulfillment of
the law of Moses, the prophets, the psalms.
A cloud - an Ascension Cloud
which gently, gently enveloped and cradled
their risen Savior, Friend, and Master.
A cloud - an Ascension Cloud
rising, rising ever higher
beyond all sight of human eyes.
A cloud- an Ascension Cloud
piercing the vault of heaven itself
where the throne of the Heavenly Kingdom
had awaited Him before
Time had ever begun.

The risen Savior, Friend, and Master
of the disciples
now belongs to the ages.
We can hear those words spoken to them
on the hill of Bethany
the day the
Ascension Cloud appeared...
now speaking from the
Throne of Grace...
telling us, assuring us, prodding us...

"With the power of My Word,
the power of My Love,
the power of My Holy Spirit...
spread, spread the
Glory of My Kingdom
to the ends of the earth,
the end of the ages.
For My Word, My Love, My Holy Spirit
are for all in every age
who have hungered or will ever hunger for
My Word,
My Love,
My Holy Spirit.

The glorious Kingdom of God
prepared since the beginning of Time...
waits for you.
My home. For all believers.
Now. and to the End. of the Age."

js. haer
05.19.2020

Acts Luke



Health Issues:

Brian; Anthony; The Beaucasan Family; Leon Edwards; Cynthia;
Elaine Duesbury; Frank; Drew Moore; Candyce Norris; Glenna Stevens; Terry;
Janie Whiteford; Henry Ward, Jr.; Jay and daughter; Bob Newell; Kassi and
Family; Juliet Fydrich; Michael R.; the Carlson family; Karen West; Lindsey
Loftons and Brenda Hopper; Thomas West Jr.; Marlotte Troy Williams; Ben
(Covid-19); Norma & Leslie Fagan (thanksgiving for healing); Harvey Downing
(Jeff's father)

Homebound:

Sonia Cook; George Germinder.

Bereavement:

All those grieving the passing of loved ones during this pandemic; Sara Burke on
the passing of her son, Karl.

World Issues:

Southern Cameroon (Ambazonia)



**Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church
Plant & Flower Sale
Entire Month of May 2020**

To facilitate our 2020 annual flower sale, CAPC in conjunction with Gray's Florist, invites you to purchase your favorite plants directly from their garden center. Throughout the month of May, you can take advantage of this joint venture which supports local small businesses.

Gray's Florist
1590 RT 22E
Watchung, NJ 07069
908/757-0400
www.graysflorist.com

Please call or order online and mention you are participating in CAPC plant sale and 10% of your purchase will benefit our church. Kindly, pick up your order directly from Gray's Florist at your convenience.

CAPC Popular Orders

Annuals:

Begonia, Impatiens, Petunia, Marigold

10" Hanging Baskets:

Ivy Geranium, New Guinea, Assorted

Thanks For Your Support!!