



All are invited to worship God here. Our Mission Statement: This church is a family of faith coming from different backgrounds. We are Christ-centered, welcoming to all, and mission-driven.

If you wish to join this congregation, please consult with the pastor after the service or by appointment in the church office or your home.

OPENING *Coming to order with song: Hymn #652 “This Is the Day”*

This is the day; this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice, let us rejoice, and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day; this is the day that the Lord has made.

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Prepare your hearts and minds for worship as you ponder these words that come to us from Scripture pertaining to the ascension of our Lord:

Why stare at the heavens to find God? Look within, for God’s Spirit is there.
Look around, for Christ’s disciples are all around.

PRELUDE “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” C. Callahan

CALL TO WORSHIP *[Please stand as you are able for the Call to Worship]*

Like empty jars, we have come to be filled.

Like ornamental candles, we have come to be set ablaze.

Like aged wine in a cask, we have come to be poured out.

Like weary travelers, we have come to find rest.

Like lovers drifted apart, we have come to be reconciled.

Like little children, we have come to be surprised!

Hear the word of God and make your reply: “My heart has heard you say,
‘Come and talk with me, O my people!’”

And my heart responds, “God, I am coming!”

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING GOD WITH SONG

Hymn #559 “Here I am, Lord”

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark
and sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their
darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them, they turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my Word to the. Whom shall I send? Refrain

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Refrain

[Note: Sunday School Children may be dismissed at this time for Sunday School.]
[Please be seated.]

CONFESSION

Confession is God's invitation to repentance, and authentic repentance, in turn, is the key that opens the floodgates of forgiveness. "The sacrifice acceptable to God is . . . a humble and repentant heart." Let us gladly accept the invitation to cleanse ourselves by confessing together the ways in which we have missed God's presence within and among us.

Great and glorious God, we are tired of thinking small. When we look for you in all the wrong places, remind us that your Spirit resides within. When we shy away in shame and regret, help us sense the fullness of your grace. Lift our eyes to your glorious presence in our midst, that we may reflect your glory and grace for all to see. Amen.

In Christ's love, we are loved.

Thanks be to God!

In Christ's glory, we are glorified.

Thanks be to God!

In Christ's grace, we are saved.

Thanks be to God! Amen

SCRIPTURE READINGS Genesis 1:26-28; Exodus 20:12 Pastor William Mitchell

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” ²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,

in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

¹² “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor William Mitchell

SERMON “Honor Your Mother and Father”

Pastor William Mitchell

PRAYER OF THE WORD

Pastor William Mitchell

HYMN OF THE WORD

[Please stand as you are able and sing]

Hymn #581 “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

1. Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace, we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend, equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.

2. Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth, let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth. Men and women, richer, poorer, all god’s people, young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

3. Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission, in a small or global sense, help us bear each other’s burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care, bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

4. So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife. Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase, messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preparation for Prayer

Sounding of the Singing Bowl

Hymn #471 "As the Deer"

1. As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you; you alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.

Refrain: You alone are my strength and shield; to you alone may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

2. I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy; you alone are the real joy giver and the apple of my eye. Refrain

3. You're my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a king; I love you more than any other, so much more than anything. Refrain

Call for Joys and Concerns

Pastor William Mitchell

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor William Mitchell

Lord's Prayer [unison]

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.

OFFERTORY

With songs of joy and hearts of love, let us bring our offerings and gifts in God. I invite the ushers to come forward to receive our gifts.

[Stand and sing as the offering is brought forward:]

Hymn #34: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offertory Prayer [*Unison*]

Through our offerings we identify with the cause of Christ. We proclaim our concern for all people, and name them as our own next-of-kin. We identify with their suffering and grief and we rejoice when good comes to them. Both our material resources and our personal time and effort are offered here to extend the body of Christ into this moment in history and into the whole world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN [*Remain standing as able and celebrate, singing with our children as a church family.*]

Hymn #5 “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Refrain: Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah. Repeat

1. Praise God in this holy place, every nation, every race. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Sound the trumpet, sound it clear. Sound it for the world to hear. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Refrain

2. Everything that breathes now praise; sing your songs, let voices raise. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Play the cymbals, play the lute; play the timbrel, play the flute. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Refrain

BENEDICTION Pastor William Mitchell

POSTLUDE “Fugue in C” G.F Handel

Please join us in the fellowship hall for fellowship time.