

# A SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

May 12, 2024  
Ascension Sunday

The Prelude  
The Welcome & Announcements  
The Silent Preparation

## -THE LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP-

### Salutation

1 Corinthians 1:3

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

### Call to Worship

Psalm 47:1-2, 5-7 (Responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, all peoples!

**Shout to God with loud songs of joy!**

<sup>2</sup> For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,

**a great king over all the earth.**

<sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout,

**the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**

<sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises!

**Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

<sup>7</sup> For God is the King of all the earth;

**sing praises with a psalm!**

### Hymn #370

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

1. A hymn of glory let us sing;  
new songs throughout the world shall ring:

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Christ, by a road before untrod,  
ascends unto the throne of God.

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

2. The holy apostolic band  
upon the Mount of Olives stand;

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

and with his followers they see  
Jesus' resplendent majesty.

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

3. To whom the angels, drawing nigh:

"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

"This is the Savior," thus they say.

"This is his noble triumph day.

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

4. "Again shall you behold him so  
as you today have seen him go,

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

in glorious pomp ascending high,  
up to the portals of the sky."

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

## Invocation & Prayer of Praise

### -THE LORD ASSURES US OF HIS FORGIVENESS-

#### Call to Confession

Romans 3:23

<sup>3</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

#### Confession of Sin

- ❖ Silent Prayers of Confession
- ❖ General Prayer of Confession

Unison:

O Lord, we have sinned and rebelled against you; we have turned aside from your commandments and rules. We have not listened to your servants, the prophets, who spoke in your name. To you, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame, for we have not obeyed your voice. But to you also belong mercy and forgiveness, which you have shown us by sending our Lord Jesus Christ for us. Now therefore, O our God, hear our pleas for mercy. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your forgiveness and steadfast love assured to us through Christ our Savior. O Lord, hear us. O Lord, forgive us. Amen.

#### Assurance of Pardon

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

#### Hymn #172

*Speak, O Lord*

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you  
to receive the food of your Holy Word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;  
shape and fashion us in your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today  
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
all your purposes for your glory.

2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
holy reverence, true humility;  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail,  
let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us:  
truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
that will echo down thro' eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises;  
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built,  
and the earth is filled with your glory.

## Prayer of the Church

Daniel 6:10

<sup>10</sup>When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

### -THE LORD INSTRUCTS US FROM HIS WORD-

#### Old Testament Reading

Amos 3:1-8

#### New Testament Reading

Galatians 4:8-31

#### Sermon

Rev. Dr. Michael J. Matossian

*Don't Turn Back!*

Galatians 4:8-20

#### Hymn #373

*See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph #373*

*(Tune: G. Grueninger, 2023)*

1. See, the Conqu'ror mounts in triumph;  
     see the King in royal state,  
     riding on the clouds, his chariot,  
     to his heav'nly palace gate.  
     Hear the choir of angel voices  
     joyful alleluias sing,  
     and the gates on high are opened  
     to receive their heav'nly King.
2. Who is this that comes in glory,  
     trumpets sound with jubilee?  
     Lord of battles, God of armies,  
     he has gained the victory.  
     He who on the cross did suffer,  
     he who from the grave arose,  
     he has conquered sin and Satan,  
     he by death has beat his foes.
3. You have raised our human nature  
     on the clouds to God's right hand;  
     there we'll sit in heav'nly places,  
     there with you in glory stand.  
     Jesus reigns, adored by angels,  
     man with God is on the throne;  
     mighty Lord, in your ascension  
     we by faith behold our own.

## -THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS TABLE-

### Confession of Faith

*The Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #46,47*

Question #46: *What do you mean by saying, "He ascended to heaven"?*

A. Unison:

That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead. (*Trinity Psalter Hymnal* © 2018, p.879)

Question #47: *But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?*

A. Unison:

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 never absent from us. (*Trinity Psalter Hymnal* © 2018, p.879)

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

- ❖ Words of Institution
- ❖ Breaking of the Bread
- ❖ Sharing of the Cup

## -THE LORD DISMISSES US TO HIS SERVICE-

### Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

<sup>14</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

### Doxology

*Gloria Patri (Tune: Regent Square #213)*

Glory be to God the Father;  
 Glory be to God the Son;  
 Glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one:  
 As it was in the beginning, now and evermore shall be.

*Scripture quotations taken from the ESV. All Lyrics Used by Permission: CCLI #11063671*