

They said,
"Men of Galilee, why
do you stand looking
up toward heaven?"
Acts 1:11



Ascension of Our Lord

May 17 2026

10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Tambling

Worship Song

Good, Good Father

Barrett, Brown

Verse 1

I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone

Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers
Only You provide
Because You know just what we need
Before we say a word

Bridge

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Chorus

You're a Good Good Father
It's who You are, It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, It's who I am, It's who I am

Verse 3

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into love love love

Verse 2

I've seen many searching for answers

Prayers of the Church

Refrain

***What a beautiful Name it is, What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King, What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this, What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus***

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation, kneeling, sitting, or standing as you are able.

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. We pray for military personnel and chaplains serving near and far.

Giver of joy, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love and we sing...

(Refrain)

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way, especially those on our congregational prayer list and those we name aloud at this time...

(We now invite you to speak aloud the names of those for whom you are praying.)

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and we sing our Amen.

(Refrain)

(Children may head out for C&C Kids)

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.



This Week's Story: Paul and Silas in Jail
Icebreaker Question: What did you do for your mom today?

Welcome Home and Announcements *(See back page for additional announcements.)*

THE WORD

Acts 1:1-11

[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After 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. ⁴While 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They 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."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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."

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Melody Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

Come Away to the Skies

Erickson

Come away to the skies, my beloved, arise and rejoice in the day you were born; on this festival day, come exulting away, with singing to Zion return.

For thy glory we were first created to share both the nature and kingdom divine; now created again, that our lives may remain throughout time and eternity thine.

We with thanks do approve the design of that love which has joined us to Jesus' name; so united in heart, let us nevermore part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.

Hallelujah we sing to our Father and King, and our rapturous praises repeat: to the Lamb that was slain, hallelujah again; sing, all heaven, and fall at his feet.

Offertory Hymn

674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Linstead



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Statement of Belief

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION

Come to the Table— Everyone’s Invited!

Holy Communion is a celebration of Christ’s love, shared through His body and blood. If you’re hungry for His presence, this meal is for you! We commune by taking a piece of bread and dipping it into wine or grape juice. Need grape juice or gluten-free options? No problem—the assistant will gladly help you out. Kids are welcome, too! Just let the assistant know if your child will be receiving Communion or would prefer a special blessing. We’re so glad you’re here—let’s share this joyful moment together!

Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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 trespasses,
As we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

OR

Our Father, who is of heaven,
Holy is your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
and deliver us from evil
For yours is the kingdom
And the power, and the glory
now and forever, Amen.

Welcome to the Table

P: Come now and feast on the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song

Come to the Table

McDonald, Frey, Glover

Verse 1

We all start on the outside
 The outside looking in
 This is where grace begins
 We were hungry we were thirsty
 With nothing left to give
 Oh the shape that we were in

Pre-Chorus

Just when all hope seemed lost
 Love opened the door for us

Chorus

(He said) come to the table
 Come join the sinners who have been
 redeemed
 Take your place beside the Savior
 Sit down and be set free
 (Come to the table)

Verse 2

Come meet this motley crew of misfits
 These liars and these thieves
 There's no one unwelcome here
 So that sin and shame that you've brought with
 you
 You can leave it at the door
 And let mercy draw you near

Bridge

To the thief and to the doubter
 To the hero and the coward
 To the pris'ner and the soldier
 To the young and to the older
 All who hunger all who thirst
 All the last and all the first
 All the paupers and the princes
 All who've failed you've been forgiven
 All who dream and all who suffer
 All who've loved and lost another
 All the chained and all the free
 All who follow all who lead
 Anyone who's been let down
 All the lost you have been found
 All who've been labeled right or wrong
 To ev'ryone who hears this song

Ending

Woah sit down and be set free
 Come to the table
 Come to the table
 Just sit down and rest awhile
 Just sit down and rest awhile
 Come to the table

The Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit,

our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Everlasting God

Brown, Riley

Verse

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus

Our God You reign forever
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

Chorus

You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

The Doxology (sung a capella)

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

Sending

L: Please read the sending with me.

L: Go in peace and share Cross and Crown's mission with the world.

C: Following Jesus, loving and serving all!