

Order of Worship
ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
9:30 am – May 29, 2022

Participating Live?

Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

PRELUDE *Improvisation on Jesus' Ascension* Lance Crane
Lance Crane, organ

GREETING

HYMN *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise* UMH 312
Words: Charles Wesley, Public Domain. Music: Robert Williams, Public Domain.

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia! To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia! Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia! Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia! Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!
3. See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia! Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia! Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!
4. See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia! See! he shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia! Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) Tasha Salas, liturgist

Good news, friends! God does not remain hidden in a cloud, concealed from us.

God is still among us!

Let us not gaze longingly at heaven for a sign. God is revealed, here and now!

Let us glimpse the face of Christ in one another.

Let us celebrate the Holy Spirit, who works in our community.

Let us give glory to God our Creator, today and every day!

(adapted from Rev. Allen M. Christensen, ©2014)

HYMN *He Is Exalted* TFWS 2070
CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371
CCLI Song # 17827

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted And I will praise His name!

He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign;
heaven and earth Rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made
VFUMC Chancel Choir; Bob Riggs, interim director; Lance Crane, accompanist

Words: Mark Hayes, ©1995 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. Song # BP14423. Permission to print, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24: 44-53; Acts 1: 1-11 (NRSV) Tasha Salas, liturgist
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Matt McPhee

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Spirit of the Living God UMH 393
CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371
CCLI Song # 23488

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

God of Heaven and Earth: As we remember Christ's ascension, we pray that we would not look to heaven for his return, but to the faces of those who walk alongside us. May we see Christ in the face of the stranger, the outcast, the oppressed, the unloved, and the unlovely. Empower us to make room at the table for all of your beloved children, whom we may embrace in love, and in so doing, find ourselves in your embrace. Amen.
(adapted from umcdiscipleship.org, ©2014)

HYMN

O Christ, When You Ascended Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
Music: Henry Thomas Smart, Public Domain – Tune: Lancashire, UMH 303
Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2007. All rights reserved – Used with permission.

1. O Christ, when you ascended, you took your rightful throne;
Your time on earth had ended — yet we weren't left alone.
You reign o'er earth and heaven; your Spirit guides our way.
Your prayers uphold your people; you lead your church each day.
- 2.
2. We look at earthly rulers and see what they command:
We note their years of power, the borders of their land.
Yet, Lord, you are not bounded by things like time and space;
Your reign is never-ending, you rule in every place.
3. We're tempted. Lord, to leave you in stories nicely told;
Sometimes we don't believe you and say your ways are old.
Sometimes we feel so lonely and live in doubt and fear —
But your ascension means, Lord, you're present with us here.
4. It's often quite a challenge to follow in your Way;
We're easily distracted! It's hard, Lord, to obey.
Sometimes we give you Sundays — an hour, maybe two —
But your ascension means, Lord, all life belongs to you.
5. One day, O Lord, we'll know you, as we are fully known;
One day this world of sinners will bow before your throne.
One day, God's whole creation will sing and praise your name;
On earth as now in heaven, we'll celebrate your reign.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary
Lance Crane, organ

John Stanley

Prayer Request

Santa Maria First UMC—Pastor Robert Isip

Sherman Oaks UMC—Pastor Garth Gilliam

Kate Stradling—ongoing health issues

Dixie Zimmer—health issues

Kathleen Matarazzo—for friend Clarissa newly diagnosed with breast cancer

All those affected by the recent mass shootings

Socks and Soap for Hygiene Kits



We are collecting:

- Individually wrapped bars of full-sized soap
- New socks, black or white, men's size 10

Place in the box in the foyer or bring to the Ventura FUMC office.

Hygiene kits will be assembled at the CalPac Annual Conference in June.