

WORSHIP HANDOUT

May 16th
Ascension Sunday



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're in person and online

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new world has broken into ours—**

a world in which justice does come for the poor,
freedom comes for the prisoners,
and healing for the sick.

**Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new community has been formed—**

a community that loves and cares for all members,
a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected,
a place where all find a place of belonging.

**Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new creation has begun—**

all that was distorted is being restored,
all that is corrupted is being renewed,
all that was broken is being made whole.

**Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
God's new world has begun.**

~ written by Christine Sine, and posted on Godspace. <http://godspace-msa.com/2014/05/13/ascension-day-what-is-it-all-about/>

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision 451

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

**Almighty God,
as we prepare to worship today,
we ask that you will stretch our imaginations
to sense the majesty and mystery of your ascension.
Help us perceive how Jesus' presence in heaven
can give us confidence in our praying
and hope for the future.
Through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

~ from *The Chapter of a Great Lord*, posted on the Calvin Institute of Christian
Worship website. <http://worship.calvin.edu/>

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)

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 now and
forever. Amen.

HYMN

Spirit of the Living God 393 x2

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Andrew

LESSON I

CEB

Acts 1:1-11

**Theophilus, the first scroll I wrote concerned everything Jesus
did and taught from the beginning, 2 right up to the day when
he was taken up into heaven. Before he was taken up, working**

in the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus instructed the apostles he had chosen. **3** After his suffering, he showed them that he was alive with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days, speaking to them about God's kingdom. **4** While they were eating together, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what the Father had promised. He said, "This is what you heard from me: **5** John baptized with water, but in only a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6 As a result, those who had gathered together asked Jesus, "Lord, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now?"

7 Jesus replied, "It isn't for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. **8** Rather, 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 end of the earth."

9 After Jesus said these things, as they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** While he was going away and as they were staring toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood next to them. **11** They said, "Galileans, why are you standing here, looking toward heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you saw him go into heaven."

May God add a blessing to this reading.

LESSON 2

CEB

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that ¹⁶ I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation

that makes **God** known to you. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of **God's** call, what is the richness of **God's** glorious inheritance among believers, ¹⁹ and what is the overwhelming greatness of **God's** power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of **God's** powerful strength. ²⁰ **God's** power was at work in **Christ** when **God** raised him from the dead and sat him at **God's** right side in the heavens, ²¹ far above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that might be named not only now but in the future. ²² **God** put everything under **Christ's** feet and made him head of everything in the church, ²³ which is his body. His body, the church, is the fullness of **Christ**, who fills everything in every way.

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Distilled down to Faith

HYMN

Take My Life, and Let it Be 399

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

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.

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,

teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives.

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Breathe on Me, Breath of God 420 v 2

POSTLUDE