

LAWNDALE Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 24, 2020 | Ascension of the Lord

WORSHIP GUIDE

Preparatory Reflection:

*The Beaver to the children: "They say Aslan is on the move—perhaps has already landed."
(C.S. Lewis: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe)*

Gathering Words: Psalm 47.1-2, 5

Leader: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

People: **For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,
A great king over all the earth.**

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Prayer of Invocation:

Unison: **Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**¹

Hymn of Praise: Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul and sing
Of Him Who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love,
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends His wond'ring eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to the strife
For those He came to save.

His glories now we sing,
Who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit through Him giv'n
From yonder glorious throne,
To Thee be endless praise
For Thou for us hast died;
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days
Adored and magnified.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou has died for me;
Thy praise shall never never fail
Throughout eternity.

Confession of Sin: Psalm 24.3-4

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

People: **He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who does not lift up his soul to what is false
And does not swear deceitfully.**

Comfort of the Gospel: Ephesians 2.4-6

Leader: But God, being rich in mercy...made us alive together with Christ...and seated us with him in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Scripture Reading: Acts 1.1-11

Sermon: An Ascended Savior

Profession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism

Q.54. What do you believe concerning "the holy catholic church"?

A. **I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.**

Prayer of Intercession

Hymn of Response: Jesus, with Thy Church Abide

Jesus, with Thy church abide;
Be her Savior, Lord, and Guide,
While on earth her faith is tried:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Keep her life and doctrine pure;
Grant her patience to endure,
Trusting in Thy promise sure:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May she one in doctrine be,
One in truth and charity,
Winning all to faith in Thee:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May she guide the poor and blind,
Seek the lost until she find
And the brokenhearted bind:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Benediction: Numbers 6.24-26

¹ The Book of Common Prayer 1979, 226