



Sunday, May 12, 2024

Sunday
Virtual Worship

SUNDAY VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Sunday, May 12, 2024
Ascension Day (observed)

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* David Hegarty

***CALL to WORSHIP** (from Psalm 47--Responsive)

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Leader: He subdued peoples under us and nations under our feet.

People: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

Leader: Let us worship God!

***UNISON PRAYER** (in unison)

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace; bring all creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN 150** *"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"*

PRAYER of CONFESSION: (in unison)

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body.

(Time for silent confession)

SONG DURING CONFESSION *"Lord, Have Mercy upon Us"*

"Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us."

ASSURANCE of GOD'S PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Leader: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

PASSING of the PEACE

CHORAL ANTHEM *“Wade in the Water”* arr. Moses Hogan

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 24:36-53

SERMON *“Powerful Witnesses”* The Rev. Dr. Hilary Livingston

***AFFIRMATION of FAITH** (In unison, from PCUSA’s A Brief Statement of Faith)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***HYMN 372** *“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”*

INVITATION to OFFERING *(Those joining us online may use our online giving platform at hocpc.org/give)*

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

*“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.”*

*** PRAYER of DEDICATION**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

***HYMN 155** *“Rejoice, the Lord is King”*

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

PRELUDE *“Ye Servants of God”* Robert Wilson

Luke 24:36-53

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷ They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to 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.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And 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.” ⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

