

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Ascension Sunday



Preparation: “Genuine communities of a sort frequently develop in response to crisis. Strangers in the waiting room of an intensive-care ward suddenly come to share each other’s hopes and fears and joys and griefs ... The problem is that once that crisis is over, so - virtually always - is the community. The collective spirit goes out of the people as they return to their ordinary, individual lives, and community is lost.” – Psychiatrist and author M. Scott Peck in *The Different Drum*, 1987

Gathering As a People of God

Prelude

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

[Bryn Calfaria]

setting: Michael Burkhardt

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Choral Introit

Whose Glory Fills the Skies

PCO Chancel Choir

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Rebecca Mattern

* **Call to Worship** (Adapted from Psalm 47)

Stephanie Nawyn, liturgist

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

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

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

All: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

One: For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

All: God is king over the nations; God is highly exalted.

* **Hymn #258**

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! vs. 1,2,4,5

[Deo Gracias]

Prayer of Confession

Rebecca Mattern

One: Let us put our trust in God’s grace and confess our sins.

All: Almighty God, you came down from heaven and taught us how to love you and your world. When you returned to heaven to reign in glory, you commanded us to go and do as you did. Yet we so often find ourselves staring up at the sky instead of looking at the needs of those around us. Instead of looking for how we can better advocate for your justice and peace, we can become cynical and full of doubt that the world will never change. Forgive us, Lord, for our inaction and for our disregard for your call to serve. Heal us and restore us to you. ...*(silent prayer)* Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Rebecca Mattern

One: In Christ Jesus, God has promised to forgive us and reconcile us to God and each other.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

One: With joy, let us share that peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

* **Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Rebecca Mattern

Holy One, may the reading of your Word bless us with truth and bring us joy. May the Spirit open us to the possibility that we are being chosen to be new disciples with new ministries in Jesus' name. Amen.

Children's Message

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Old Testament Readings

Exodus 33:7-11

Stephanie Nawyn

New Testament Reading

Acts 1:6-17, 21-26

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Sermon

Called Up and Called Out

Pastor Lisa Schrott

***Affirmation of Faith** (from the Nicene Creed)

in unison

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

*** Anthem**

Be Still, My Soul
PCO Chancel Choir

text by Katharina von Schlegel
music by Jean Sibelius

1. Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
in every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heav'nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2. Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertake
to guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below

3. Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Responding to the Word

Minute for Gratitude

Pentecost Offering &
Edgewood Village Snack Collection

Kent Workman

Offering

Rebecca Mattern

Invitation

Offertory

Ayre

Arcangelo Corelli

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Stephanie Nawyn, liturgist

One: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

in unison

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sent Out As a People of God

*** Hymn #761**

Called As Partners in Christ's Service, vs. 1-4

[Beecher]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Fanfare on Deo Gracias

Charles Callahan

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Adult Education Time: Presbyterian 101 and New Member Class

Ushers: Gary & Trudy Sturk, Michele Arbour

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to the Locke family for supplying snacks this morning and to Edward Ennen for taking care of the coffee.

Next Week May 19, 2024 Pentecost Sunday

Youth Led Worship and All-Church Birthday Party After Worship

The Prayer of Confession and Promise of the Gospel are adapted from words by Katy Matejka Kroodyk. From *Reformed Worship* 151; March 2024. Online at <https://www.reformedworship.org/article/march-2024/look-around-not>; The Affirmation of Faith is from The Nicene Creed 1.2 from the *PC(USA) Book of Confessions*, Westminster John Knox, 2016.

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Westin Sorrel (he/him), Chancel Choir Director
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