

“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,  
*you are welcome here.*”

**God is Still Speaking**



A FUTURE  
WITH HOPE

# ASCENSION



*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

**May 22, 2022**

**11:00 AM**



*Abraham Welcoming the Three Visitors, detail*

*Hospitality is a gift;  
one to be given and received.  
In both instances,  
one becomes vulnerable;  
one trusts and is trusted.*

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**Order of Worship**

**PRELUDE**

“God’s Graciousness” (Edwards)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**RECEIVING THE LIGHT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*please rise*

**Leader:** Jesus said to the disciples, “the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you” (John 14:26).

**People:** **The crucified Christ is risen! Jesus is Lord, and the promises of Jesus are sure.**

**Leader:** Let us rejoice together that there is one who comes alongside to enable our worship and walk the path of discipleship with us, the Spirit helper, the Advocate.

**All:** **Praise be to God and to Christ Jesus for this wondrous gift.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

“Shall We Gather at the River” *Glory to God 375*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Compassionate God, we confess that there are times in our Christian journey when deaths and doubts threaten our faith, confusions confound, and loneliness and fear lead us into desolation. We can become so self-focused on our troubles that we begin to think there is no escape, that no one cares. We have forgotten there is one who shares this journey of life with us – the Advocate – who is ready to remind and assure us of your caring and your love, to lift our spirits, and to guide us toward the light of a new day of hope and trust. Forgive our failure to invite and expect the presence of the Paraclete. Forgive our failure to be receptive and perceptive of the Holy Advocate who can enliven our worship, enlighten our minds, enlarge our hearts, and equip us to witness the teachings of Jesus by our living and loving any and all to whom we are guided. Grant us the grace of your pardon, we pray.

*silent prayer of confession*

## KYRIE

*Unison* A D E A

1 Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri -  
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri -

F# Bm E A (A)

e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
ste e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Leader:** Jesus said that we would know the truth and the truth would make us free. (John 8:32)

Praise be to God, the liberating Spirit!

**People:** **Praise be to God!**

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” *Glory to God 591*

## **THE SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*please be seated*

First Reading Acts 16:9-15

“When All Is Ended” *Verses 1-3 Glory to God 376*

Second Reading Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

“When All Is Ended” *Verses 4-6 Glory to God 376*

*please rise*

Gospel Lesson John 14:23-29

Leader: Holy Wisdom

**People: Holy Word**

## **THE SERMON**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **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.*

*Forgive us our sins,*

*as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For Thine is the kingdom,*

*and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

# THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

## DOXOLOGY

*please rise*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, your Holy Spirit recalls to us the self-giving of Jesus, and his command to love our neighbor as ourselves. We would attend to this reminder as we make our offering freely, cheerfully, and generously. We care that our neighbors in need be fed and housed, healed, and freed. Receive and bless our giving in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”      *Glory to God 285*

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

## POSTLUDE

“Salvation Among the Nations”      (Jarvis)

## May Birthdays

5/22-5/28/2022

*Cory Fryer (22); Cindy MacNeel (23); Addyson Gear (27)*

**Ascension will be collecting items for the Norristown Hospitality Center from now until Father's Day.**

**Please see the list of items needed to the right. Please help us stock up the center, I know they will appreciate our generosity as they continue to serve the community.**



## All Together!

The **Strengthen the Church** Offering supports the efforts of our conferences and the national ministries of the United Church of Christ to support leaders, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Together, we all grow stronger.

## Strengthen The Church Offering

**Ascension will be collecting this offering at our June 5<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup> worship service. Please drop your envelope in the offering plate, or you can mail or drop off at the church office. Thank you for your continued generosity.**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**June 21, 2022**

***MAKE MUSIC NORRISTOWN***

**The longest day of the year  
filled with music in our  
community. More  
information on the events  
will be forthcoming.**





*We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.*

*We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Ministers</b>                        | All the people of the Congregation  |
| <b>Pastor</b>                           | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier   |
| <b>Minister of Music</b>                | Dan Weckerly  |
| <b>President of the Consistory</b>      | Liz Brunton   |
| <b>Vice President of the Consistory</b> | Michele Luke  |
| <b>Secretary of the Consistory</b>      | Liam D'Aquila   |
| <b>Moderator of Spiritual Council</b>   | Molly Lorenz  |
| <b>Elders:</b>                          | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon<br>Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham             |
| <b>Chair of the Diaconate</b>           | Michele Luke  |
| <b>Deacons:</b>                         | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce, Jan Backes<br>Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| <b>Church Secretary</b>                 | Judy Parker   |
| <b>Sexton</b>                           | Emeric Suto   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                        | Sandy Maben   |

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