

# Ascension Sunday May 12, 2024 10:30 am Morning Worship

### **Prelude**

Prayer (Collect) of Preparation:

Deliver us when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind: Grant that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections, we may worship You in Spirit and in Truth. Amen

## Call to Worship

Bob Sawyer

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Congregation: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Leader: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

Congregation: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

Leader: He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

All: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of men! For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things. — *Psalm 107:1-9* 

### Invocation

### Preparation

We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

### Call to Worship

God calls his people to assemble for worship; accordingly the church calls itself together. God's people sing not only as an expression of our love for God but also to remind ourselves of our place in God's redemptive work. O Worship the King

The church is marked by its singing, from Israel's deliverance through the Psalms to our worship today.



Words: Robert Grant:

## My Soul Finds Rest In God Alone

Words and Music: Stuart Townend and Aaron Keyes, based on Psalm 62



### **Confession of Faith**

We join the global and historic church in professing what we believe as Christians, to remind ourselves of the hope we have and the life that hope invites us to live.

### Confession of Sin

In God's presence, the evil that mars our lives – corporate and individual – comes to light. Through Jesus Christ, we are safe to be honest about ourselves because we fear no condemnation.

### **Assurance of Grace**

God declares through his Church that all who repent and believe in Jesus Christ are completely forgiven from all their sins and their guilty consciences cleansed.

### **Confession of Faith**

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

Congregation: We believe that the Father, when it seemed good to him, created heaven and earth and all other creatures from nothing, by the Word—that is to say, by the Son. God has given all creatures their being, form, and appearance and their various functions for serving their Creator. Even now God also sustains and governs them all, according to his eternal providence and by his infinite power, that they may serve humanity, in order that humanity may serve God.

- Belgic Confession Article 12

### **Confession of Sin**

All: Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your Son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen. – from John Knox, Liturgy of 1560

### **Assurance of Grace**

Leader: Now hear this promise of grace and forgiveness from the word of God, from Colossians 1, verses 13 and 19 through 20:

God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins... For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Leader: To those who repent of their sin and look to Jesus Christ for salvation, the forgiveness of sins is fully yours, by the grace of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

Congregation: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.



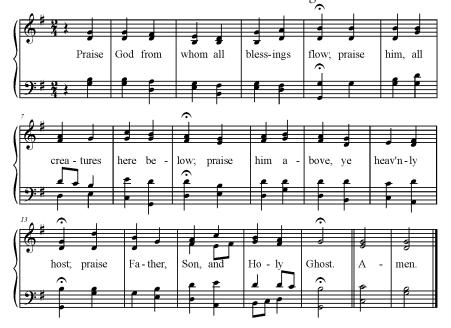
### Offertory

We give back to God our wealth and talents in recognition that they all come from him. These gifts help support the mission and ministries of the church.

## Offertory

Doxology

Words: Thomas Ken; Music: Louis Borgeouis's *Genevan Psalter* 



## Prayers of the People

We cry out together for grace and mercy in a time of need.

## Prayers of the People

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## Passing of the Peace

We remind each other of the peace given us in the gospel – peace first between us and God, leading to reconciled relationships with each other.

## Life Together

We share important announcements and prayer requests for our church community.

## Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

## Life Together

## Offering Collectors:

Chet Bickhart, Morgan Crago, Philip De Groot, Susanne van Veluw

## **Scripture Reading**

Leviticus 19:33-34; Matthew 7:12, pages 98, 812 in pew Bible

Reader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Travis Drake

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Words: Joseph Hart; Music: *The Southern Harmony* 



**Scripture Reading** 

The public reading of God's Word is integral whenever God's people gather to worship. The first step to faith is listening to his Word.

### Sermon

God has ordained the preaching of his Word to illuminate and apply the good news of Jesus Christ to our hearts that would remain dull and hard apart from the operation of his Holy Spirit

Lord's Supper

God meets us not only in hearing the Word, but also in visible, tangible form – uniting us with himself spiritually by faith in Christ.

Servers come forward as liturgy begins.

We ask that those in the balcony come forward first, followed by those on the main floor, starting in the back row.

Grape juice is available in the center of each wine tray and gluten-free wafers are in the center of each bread tray for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

At the end of the service, please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary.

## Lord's Supper

Invitation

Words of Institution

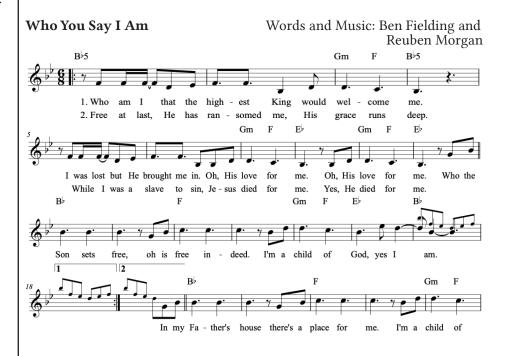
Distributing of Elements

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be unafraid of the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is clear, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer for Those Desiring to Trust in Jesus Christ for the First Time Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed. And I know that through you I am more loved & accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and providing forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord and desire to live a life of loving and serving you. Amen.

Partaking of the Elements



### Communion Servers:

Chet Bickhart, Morgan Crago, Philip De Groot, Susanne van Veluw



### **Benediction**

### **Benediction**

We depart with this 'good word' of God's calling upon our lives in the world.