

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 24th 2020

Call to Worship and Approach to God. *You are invited to light a candle.*

Ascribe power to God,
**whose majesty is over Israel;
and whose power is in the skies.**
Awesome is God in his sanctuary,
the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people.
Blessed be God!

Psalm 68: v.34-35

❖ Hymn

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| 1 The Lord is King! lift up thy voice,
Let earth and all the heavens, rejoice;
from world to world the joy shall ring,
'The Lord omnipotent is King!' | 4 Come, make your wants, your burdens known;
Christ will present them at the throne:
for he is at the Father's side,
the man of love, the crucified. |
| 2 The Lord is King! who then shall dare
resist his will, distrust his care,
or murmur at his wise decrees,
or doubt his royal promises? | 5 One Lord one empire all secures;
he reigns, and life and death are yours;
through earth and heaven one song shall ring,
'The Lord omnipotent is King!' |
| 3 The Lord is King! Child of the dust,
the judge of all the earth is just;
holy and true are all his ways:
let every creature speak his praise. | |

❖ Prayer of approach ending with the Lord's Prayer:

(say this in whichever language or version you prefer.)

Our Father, which 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word of God

❖ Children's address

❖ Holy Scripture: Acts 1:6-14

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

❖ Music in worship: *O World, I Must Leave You* - J.G. Walther

❖ Sermon: *followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

Hymn

- 1 Rejoice, the Lord is King:
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
- 2 Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He has purged our stains,
He took his seat above;
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
- 4 Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up
To their eternal home:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

❖ Prayers of Intercession

❖ Offering and dedication

Please note that in the absence of an offering of money in this service you are invited to use the PayPal donation opportunity on the church's webpage.

Living God,
giver of every good gift
and source of all life,
**accept the offerings of our lives,
and use us to bear witness
to the sovereign rule
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

❖ Hymn

1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed us by His blood."
2. Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him,
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise?—
"I am with you evermore."
3. Alleluia! Bread of angels,
Here on earth our Food, our Stay;
Alleluia! Here the humble
Flee to You from day to day.
Advocate and Intercessor,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea;
You, the Lamb, alone we worship,
You, the Lamb, alone we see.
4. Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, Heav'n Your throne.
Robed in flesh, the veil You sundered,
Limitless High Priest we laud—
You have saved us from destruction,
You have raised us up to God!
5. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed us by His blood."

Blessing:

Go in peace to love and to serve God;
**and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us and unite us, now and always. Amen. *Threefold Amen***