

Artwork by Stushie Art for the celebration of Ascension of the Lord Day, which was May 14th



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Kent Hamaker, **Director of Christian Formation and Outreach**
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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 17, 2026

7th Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

(*) *You're invited to stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jesus Loves Me/God is So Good arr. Lily Topolski

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 47, adapted

One: The heavens proclaim God's righteousness;

All: we behold God's glory.

One: God has gone up with a shout,

All: with the sound of a trumpet.

One: Give thanks to God, O faithful ones.

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

***OPENING HYMN #826**

Lift High the Cross

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God Most High, you call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice. We watch our clocks to make sure we spend more time with ourselves than with you. We are hesitant to witness to your power from on high, as we are uncertain of your presence in our lives. Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your good news, as we participate in the life and suffering of our world, as did your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ...*silent prayer.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***RESPONSE #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

One: May the love and peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

ANTHEM

Amazing Grace arr. Lisa Shoemaker

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mary Margaret Whipple

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Luke 24: 44-53

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Kent Hamaker

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:1-11

Caitlin Culp

SERMON

“We Celebrate Ascension Day?”

Caitlin Culp

***HYMN #268**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**

adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Prayer requests are listed in the bulletin. You’re invited to share prayer requests aloud.

EUCCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY #607**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN #616**

Our God Is an Awesome God (sung 3x)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus arr. David Berry

Thank you for sharing in this time of worship with us. The Usher and Liturgist is Mary Margaret Whipple. The worship service is recorded and available on YouTube and the church’s website.

Large print hymn books, individual seat cushions, and children’s activity packets are available from the usher at the entrance. Children of all ages are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for all parts of the worship service. There is also childcare available in the room off the front of the sanctuary.

Bathrooms are located outside of the sanctuary to the right, through the narthex, and up the small set of stairs in the foyer. A diaper changing station is in the “Teen Lounge,” which is past the bathrooms, through the double doors, on the left past the library. An ADA-accessible bathroom is located in the fellowship hall. To access the fellowship hall, drive around to the parking lot and enter through the double doors.

PRAYER LIST

Almighty God, we pray for our world and our church.

For all those recovering from surgery.

For Doorways for Women & Families and all of our mission partners.

For unity in our country.

For all those in the midst of transitions.

For students who are taking final exams and completing final projects.

Prayers for peace in the Middle East; for cessation of hostilities between Israel, Iran, & USA.

Lola

Othow and his ministry in South Sudan.

**If you have prayer requests you'd like added to this list, email covenantpastorpcusa@gmail.com. Prayers remain on this list for two weeks unless we hear otherwise.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Walk & Talk** - 4th Sunday Walking Group - Sunday, May 24th, 8:30am-9:30am, meet by the playground at Potomac Overlook Park
- **Rev. Culp will be out of the office from Tuesday, May 19th - Monday, May 25th.** Call her with urgent pastoral care concerns.
- **Live Music in the Lot** - Saturday, May 30th, 5pm-6pm, Covenant's Parking Lot - live music with Generation Jones
- **Summer 10:00am Worship begins Sunday, May 31st.**
 - We'll worship at 10am from May 31st through Rally Day, Sunday, September 13th.

- **To receive church emails, email covenantpastorpcusa@gmail.com**

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

MMQB Men's Group, Mondays, 10am
Bible Study, Tuesdays, 10am, Zoom
Choir Rehearsal, Wednesdays, 11:30am, Fellowship Hall
Devotional Time, Thursdays, 12pm, Zoom
Godly Play, Sundays, 10am, Godly Play Room
Choir Rehearsal, Sundays 9:45am, Sanctuary
Worship, Sundays, 11am, Sanctuary, Zoom



Lift High the Cross

826

Refrain
Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Fine

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

to Refrain

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

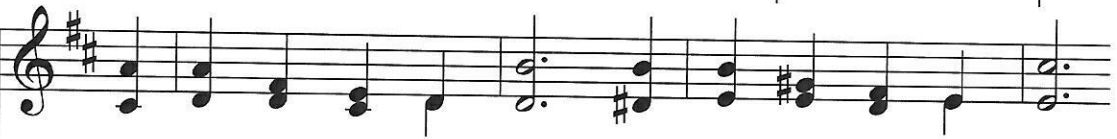
Crown Him with Many Crowns 268



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;



hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down-ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.



This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

ADORATION

Our God Is an Awesome God 616

Awesome God

Our God is an awe-some God who reigns from heav-en a-bove

with wis-dom, power, and love; our God is an awe-some God!

This is a contemporary worship song that first gained recognition on Christian radio and later became a popular congregational song. "Awesome" here is not a trivial expression but carries the meaning of "awe-inspiring" and is based on Scripture (e.g. Daniel 9:4).

TEXT: Rich Mullins, 1988, alt.
MUSIC: Rich Mullins, 1988
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AWESOME GOD
Irregular