



# Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship  
Sunday, May 17, 2020  
Ascension Sunday

Pastor: Bruce Farrell  
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046

717-865-3286

www.ziongosherts.org

PRELUDE

Tara Zimmerman

[9:55 a.m.]

WELCOME and Ringing of the Bell

PASTORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

[from Psalm 47 and 93, Luke 24]

Come now, clap your hands, all you peoples. Shout to God with cries of joy! For the Lord Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth. Worship God Who has blessed us and ascended amid shouts of joy. Exalt our Lord Jesus, Who was taken up to Heaven where He sits at the right hand of God, robed in majesty. Your Word stands firm. Holiness adorns Your house for endless days. You are sovereign over all. We sing praises to You now and always. We sing with great joy.

HYMN

*Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise*

**<sup>1</sup> Hail the day that sees Jesus rise, Alleluia! to His throne beyond the skies. Alleluia!  
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia! enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!**

**<sup>2</sup> There for Him high triumph waits. Alleluia! Lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!  
He has conquered death and sin. Alleluia! Take the King of glory in. Alleluia!**

**<sup>3</sup> Highest Heaven its Lord receives. Alleluia! Yet He loves the earth He leaves. Alleluia!  
Though returning to His throne, Alleluia! still He calls us all His own. Alleluia!**

**<sup>4</sup> Still for us He intercedes. Alleluia! His atoning death He pleads, Alleluia!  
near Himself prepares our place, Alleluia! the first fruits of our race. Alleluia!**

**<sup>5</sup> There we shall with You remain, Alleluia! partners of Your endless reign, Alleluia!  
see You with unclouded view, Alleluia! find our Heaven of Heavens in You. Alleluia!**

PRAYERS for the People and Pastoral Prayer

[Romans 8:34]

Christ Jesus is the One who died

– more than that, Who was raised – Who is at the right hand of God, Who indeed is interceding for us.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father Who is 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 forgive our debtors.**

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

**For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

*A Heavenly Celebration*

Roberto Marti

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: What would you ask Jesus?

THE SCRIPTURE Acts 1:3-11

SONG

*He is Exalted*

**He is exalted. The King is exalted on high. I will praise Him. He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His Name.  
He is the Lord. Forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth. Rejoice in His holy Name.  
He is exalted. The King is exalted on high.**

SERMON: When Things Really Go Back to Normal

HYMN

*O Christ, When You Ascended*

Tune: *The Day of Resurrection*

**<sup>1</sup> O Christ, when You ascended, You took Your rightful throne;  
Your time on earth had ended — yet we weren't left alone.  
You reign o'er earth and heaven. Your Spirit guides our way.  
Your prayers uphold Your people; You lead Your church each day.**

**<sup>2</sup> We look at earthly rulers and see what they command:  
We note their years of power, the borders of their land.  
Yet, Lord, You are not bounded by things like time and space;  
Your reign is never-ending; You rule in every place.**

**<sup>3</sup> We're tempted. Lord, to leave You in stories nicely told;  
Sometimes we don't believe You and say Your ways are old.  
Sometimes we feel so lonely and live in doubt and fear —  
But Your ascension means, Lord, You're present with us here.**

**<sup>4</sup> One day, O Lord, we'll know You, as we are fully known.  
One day this world of sinners will bow before Your throne.  
One day, God's whole creation will sing and praise Your name;  
On earth as now in Heaven, we'll celebrate Your reign.**

BENEDICTION

[Ephesians 1:17-21]

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion and every name that is invoked – not only in the present age, but also in the one to come.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

POSTLUDE

You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what My Father has promised; ... you [will be] clothed with power from on high. While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into Heaven.  
Then they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

Luke 24:48-53

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