



Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Jesus Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!** Hallelujah! **Hallelujah!**

This coming Sunday, May 17, is the Seventh Sunday of Easter. This will be our observance of Jesus' ascension, his rising to heaven after rising from the dead. This is one of the most mysterious events in the story of our faith. It is also one of the most meaningful and exciting! For, it means that Jesus is at the right hand of God watching over us and interceding for us until he comes again in clouds descending. He is there in the flesh for us, and he will come back for us in the flesh! And no matter how far away he is, he is never out of reach. For, as we will learn more about next week, the Holy Spirit is with us always. In preparation for Sunday, I invite you to spend some time looking up into the sky. While you admire its majesty, imagine Jesus ascending in the flesh!

We will continue our practice of hybrid worship. This means that you are welcome to join us in person and that you are welcome to join us from home, whatever works best for you. If you are able to access technology for online worship, we will be live streaming the service via Youtube and Facebook.

For Youtube Live, please go to our channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPh2zjtSFxk2uo9_YWEusCQ/, subscribe to it, and enable notifications. The live video should be up and running just before the service starts. If you watch later, click on our channel and then select "Live" videos. You can also watch afterward on our website at: <https://fpchighland.org/worship>.

For Facebook Live, please go to our page here: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpchighland/> around the start of worship. A recording of the service will remain on our Facebook page if you want to watch later.

As always, I have included worship materials, including the bulletin, readings, hymns, a sermon, and creative activities for disciples of all ages.

I leave you with these words from *Luke*:

"Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple blessing God."

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler Orem

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