

**First Presbyterian Church**  
*Ascension Sunday – May 24, 2020*

**Prelude**

*“Glorious Day”*

Chapman/Hall/Bleecker

**Welcome and Announcements**

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

**Psalm 47**

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**

God has gone up with a shout... **Let us sing praises, sing praises to God!**

For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

**God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.**

*Shout to the Lord*

Zschech

*Thine Is the Glory*

**# 122 (PH)**

*“Death has been swallowed up in victory.” (1 Corinthians 15:54)*

*Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Baloche

*“...so that with the eyes of your heart opened,  
you may know the hope to which he has called you...” (Ephesians 1:18)*

**Prayer of Adoration (Unison):** O God of glory, sovereign of all nations, there is none like you. You are our comfort, our shelter, our tower of refuge and strength. The risen conquering Son calls us to carry your message of life and hope to all people. Led by the power of your Holy Spirit, may we witness always to the Endless victory over death you have won. Open the eyes of our hearts to see glimpses of the truth that will set us free. Let every breath we have never cease to worship you. **AMEN! You may be seated.**

**Call to Confession and Prayer**

Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. While we sing on this day of glory your lordship over all creation, too often we act as though you are powerless in the face of today’s events. Reassure us, even in our sin and doubt... that when we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you... you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Hear now the penitent cries of wayward hearts...

Friends, believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ, with whom our sins are also taken up into heaven,  
we are forgiven! Amen!**

**Prayer of Illumination (Unison):** Blessed are you, Lord God, King of all creation. Just as Jesus did while on earth, you too have taught us by your Word. Open our hearts to our Spirit and lead us on the paths of Christ, your Son. All praise and glory by yours forever. Amen.

**Acts 1:6-11**

**Scripture on screen**

**Luke 24:48-53**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

**“Hold Your Head Up”**

Rev. Chan Willis

**+ We Believe...**

**1 Timothy** (selected verses), *Heidelberg Catechism*

“This saying sure and worthy of full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. There is one God; there is one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, to whom we testify. Great indeed is the mystery of our religion: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.”  
All his chosen ones he will take along with him  
into the joy and the glory of heaven. Amen!

**Dedication of Our Offerings**

**+ Doxology**

**# 592 (PH)**

**Sharing of Prayer Concerns and “The Lord’s Prayer”**

“Our Father, who 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen”

**+ Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

**# 8 (PH)**

**+ Charge and Benediction**

*God Be With You Til We Meet Again* (verse 3 only)

**# 540 (PH)**

**+ Postlude**