

WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*Seventh Sunday of Easter
Celebration of the Ascension*

*May 21, 2023
10:00 AM*

PRELUDE (Josh Acampado/Trish Conover)

In the Mornin'

Ives

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Christian Life Groups, today following the worship service.
- Women's Breakfast at Manny's, Wednesday (5/24) at 9 am.
- Care Team (In-reach/Deacons), Wednesday (5/24) at 1 pm.

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Almighty God, as we prepare to worship today, we ask that you will stretch our imaginations to sense the majesty and mystery of your ascension.

MANY: Help us perceive how Jesus' presence in heaven can give us confidence in our praying and hope for the future. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing:

Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King:

Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,

Before his throne rejoice;

Praise is his gracious choice:

Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high:

Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky:

Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend;

To us he'll condescend;

His love shall never end:

Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again:

Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain:

Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore

His goodness we'll adore,

Singing forevermore:

Alleluia! Amen!

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: God of us all, your blessed Son asked that his Church be one as you and he are one, but we have not been united as he prayed. We have isolated ourselves from each other and have failed to listen to each other. We have misunderstood and ridiculed and even gone so far as to attack each other.

MANY: In doing so we have offended against You, against all our brothers and sisters in the Church and against all who have not believed in you because of our scandalous disunity.

ONE: Forgive us and make us fully one. Blot out our sins, renew our minds, rekindle our hearts, and guide us by Your Holy Spirit into the oneness that is your will. In Jesus' name we pray.

MANY: Amen.

(We pause for a moment of silent, personal confession.)

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE PARDON

ONE: Sisters and brothers, God is at work in us and with us! The glory that God has wrought in Jesus Christ is given to us even now, so that we may live and love as one. Because God's love has been made incarnate in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and free.

MANY: We are free indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me *GLORY TO GOD*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:6-14

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 17:1-11

SERMON

Never Lost to God

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown his head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
The prisoners leap to loose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen!**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

(Scan the QR Code to give online →)

OFFERTORY

Better Than a Hallelujah



Hart & Hartford

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

PASTORAL PRAYER 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 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

**Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end;
And round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown him the Lord of years,
The potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.**

**All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.**

SENDING POEM

POSTLUDE (Josh Acampado/Trish Conover)

How Great Thou Art

arr. Larson

THREE WAYS TO GIVE

Your support is important to our work at Northampton Presbyterian Church. There are many ways you can contribute towards our causes, and every little bit that you commit goes a long way in helping us fulfill our mission.

1

OFFERING PLATE

Place cash or check made out to Northampton Presbyterian Church in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or mail a check to Northampton Presbyterian Church, 539 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966. Contact the Church Office (npchurch@comcast.net) to request a set of Giving Envelopes.

2

QR CODE / ONLINE GIVING

Scan the QR Code or visit northamptonpresby.org/online-giving to make a one time gift by debit or credit card. Add your donations individually like you would to an online shopping cart and once you are ready to "check out" just click the basket and continue to payment.



3

SCHEDULE A DIRECT WITHDRAWAL

Scan the QR Code or visit northamptonpresby.org/online-giving to schedule a regular gift (i.e. weekly/monthly) directly withdrawn from one's checking or other designated account.

Our Guest Musician today is **Joshua Acampado**.

Joshua is a graduate of Westminster Choir College, with a Bachelors of Music Education (2018) and is a choral music teacher in Monroe, New Jersey. He is an avid lover of instruments, playing guitar, ukulele, bass, and piano, while primarily being a vocalist. Aside from teaching, he has a passion to perform, joining local productions. He is looking forward to performing as a Shark in the Villager's Theatre production of West Side Story. Interests outside of music involve cooking, games, and spending time with his dog, Daffodil.

WORSHIP NOTES:

The **Call to Worship** is from *The Chapter of a Great Lord*, posted on the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship website. <http://worship.calvin.edu>

The **Prayer of Confession** is from the *New Joseph People's Prayer Book*. Posted on the Santa Maria del Mar Catholic Church website.

The **Pastoral Prayer** is written by Thomas Merton (1915-1968) and posted on re-worship.blogspot.com.

The **Sending Poem** is written by Steve Garnass-Holmes and posted on his site of daily reflections and worship resources at www.unfoldinglight.net.

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Christian Life Groups—Questions for Discussion:

1. What are your first thoughts when you hear the story of Jesus being taken up into heaven?
2. Thinking of the ways in which God has forgiven you, how do you extend that forgiveness to others?
3. How does your life of discipleship bear witness to the power of the Holy Spirit?
4. When have you had your head in the clouds when what God wanted you to do was “get a move on”? What work was God inviting you to do?