

Willow Springs Worship recorded for Ascension Sunday! May 24, 2020

Prelude song: Rejoice the Lord is King HWB#288

Call to Worship

L: Our God has ascended with a mighty shout.

P: The Lord has ascended in mystery and awe!

L: Come, let's worship our God together,

All: for our God is King and sovereign over all the earth!

Opening Prayer

Songs: All hail the power of Jesus Name HWB#285

He's the Lion of Judah

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord, we are impatient! We want everything right now, instantly! We don't want to wait for anything. We rush our very lives and then wonder why our spirits are exhausted and depressed. Give us patience, Lord. Help us to enjoy the process of waiting for the wondrous things you offer us. Let us feel the power and beauty of praising you and singing your praises.

Clear away our "high gear" mentality and place us on paths of peace and hope.

Forgive our arrogance and impatience.

Help us to overcome those traits which pull us away from you and from appreciating all that you have done for us. As we listen to the scriptures this day in which the disciples witnessed Jesus' ascension to you, let our hearts be at peace knowing that you have taught us what we need to know to serve God joyfully in this world. Inspire us and give us delight for what is to come. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Forgiveness and love have been poured out upon you, to offer hope to all nations.

You are called and blessed to be messengers of God's good news to all people.

AMEN.

Song: In the beauty of holiness

Fairest Lord Jesus HWB#117

Children's time:

We read about the disciples learning from Jesus after he rose from the dead. I think it would be so special to listen to Jesus teach. Do you know what he was teaching about? The Kingdom of God. Sometimes the easy way to think of Kingdom is to think about a king's dome. Like a big glass bowl put over the top of us. Inside the dome, we can celebrate life, find peace and really live in security. The king has a awesome dome. Jesus has a dome for us - a way to live. Jesus loves us so we can live now and forever. What a life - eternal life. After Jesus taught, it was time for him to leave. But since he was leaving, actually he wouldn't be gone because his spirit would come back. Jesus ascended - he went up. He told the disciple to wait. Then, his spirit would come to them and they would live pointing to Jesus!

Pray: Lord, thanks for your kingdom. A reality, a place to live in your security, hope and purpose. We celebrate life in your Kingdom.

Scriptures: Acts 1:1-14

Sermon: Together Looking Up

Songs: In the bulb there is a flower (Phil and Pam Kaufmann) HWB#614
May we follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ

Sharing and pastoral prayer

The Lord walks with us these days in all the unanswered questions in our lives and around the world.

Prayer for many impacted by the coronavirus:

+Health care workers, and other leaders in care centers.

+Neighbors near and far.

+The unemployed.

+Small business owners.

+Those with the virus.

+Those with other illnesses.

+People around the world grieving the loss of a loved one.

+The poor and homeless.

+All in developing countries.

+Societal and cultural institutions.

+National leaders all over the world.

+The church here and around the world, even as the church is now closed.

Guide us in the re-gathering vision as the future unfolds.

We offer our lives to the Lord for encounters of life in the midst of the pressure and stress of the CV19 challenges.

Give us wisdom as we know we belong to you and each other!

Offerings can be mailed to Willow Springs at PO BOX 386, Tiskilwa, 61368

Song: Jesus, be the center SS#31

Benediction

The Lord is risen!

The Lord ascended!

The power and love of Jesus Christ is with you.

You are sent forth to be his witnesses in the world, bringing the good news, healing, establishing ministries of justice and peace.

Continue in confidence and the power and love of God goes with you.

AMEN.

Prayer song for farmers.