



# *Covenant Presbyterian Church*

## **Mission Statement:**

**Witness to our faith through worship  
and compassionate Christian service**

## **Vision Statement:**

**People's lives will be transformed by knowing  
and experiencing Christ so that God is glorified.**

## **Core Values:**

**Commitment, Faith, Generosity, Hospitality, Love, Respect**

# Covenant Presbyterian Church

## “Ascension Sunday”

Ten-thirty am

May 1, 2016

*We praise you, O Christ. You have ascended to your place with God Most High, yet you remain in our midst forever, Alleluia!*

### Centering Songs

“Let Us Talents ad Tongues Employ”

“Come and Fill Our Hearts”

### Centering Prayer

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

### Centering Prayer for Worship

Holy God of every time and every place, you gather us to hear of Jesus. Give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth until the end of time; Help us to see his blessed life in our own community and in all of creation. By your Holy Spirit, hold the church in unity, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent.

May we be united with Christ in faith and love and service, now and forever. Amen.

### Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

## PRAISE AND ADORATION

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: We praise you, mighty God, for Christ has ascended to rule at your right hand.

People: **Our Lord Jesus Christ has ascended to the throne of heaven and now rules over all things as King of glory.**

Unison: **You alone, O Lord, are worthy to rule the world and our lives.**

**We worship and praise you for your glory!**

\*Opening Hymn #268 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

### **\*Prayer of Invocation 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 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, forever. Amen.

### **\*Affirmation of Faith    The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **\*Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

## **CONFESSION**

### **Unison Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. Day by day we have failed to believe in his presence with us. We have gone along with the ways of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us. Strengthen our faith, that your reign will be proclaimed in our lives. May the presence of your Spirit govern our thoughts, words, and actions. We pray through Christ who is head of the Church, whose body we are. Amen. (Silent Personal Confessions)

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: God's love is constant and sure, always providing a way out, a way through,  
a way back to God. Believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**All:    In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

Leader: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us also forgive one another. The peace of  
our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **\*Greeting Time**

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Song of Praise “Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

Chancel Choir

The Gospel in Story

+All children and youth go to WOW (Worship Outside of Worship)

\*Hymn of Meditation #260 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!”

“Cares Chorus” (*All Sing*) and Morning Prayer

I cast all my cares upon you; I lay all of my burdens, down at your feet; And anytime I don't know what to do, I will cast all my cares upon you. I will cast all my cares upon you.

We Offer Our Gifts and Selves to God

\*Offertory

\*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Dave Buck

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New Testament Reading: Acts 11: 1-18

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades.

People: But the word of the Lord endures forever.

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Sermon “Easter Practices Series: Open Table”

Dr. Sarah Nave



## **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

### **Invitation to the Table**

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.  
It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.  
So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
you who have been here often and you who have not been here long,  
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.  
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.  
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.  
-from the Iona Community

### **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

#### **Sanctus (all sing) "Holy, Holy, Holy" #552**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

### **Words of Institution**

#### **Communion by Intinction**

(Please come down the center aisle, receive the bread, dip it in the cup and partake, then return to your seat. We are happy to serve anyone who wishes to remain seated. Just raise your hand and the servers will come to you).

#### **Communion Song "Eat This Bread"**

**(All Sing during Communion)**

### **CARRYING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*Hymn of Dedication #263 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Eastertide Sung Response "Now unto Him" (find song on next page) All Sing**

**†Postlude**

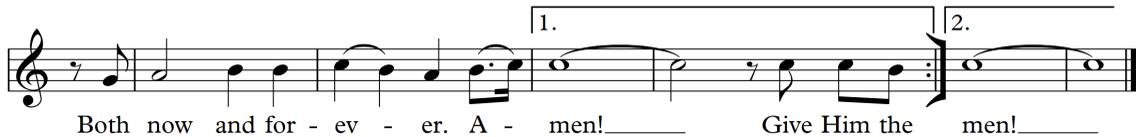
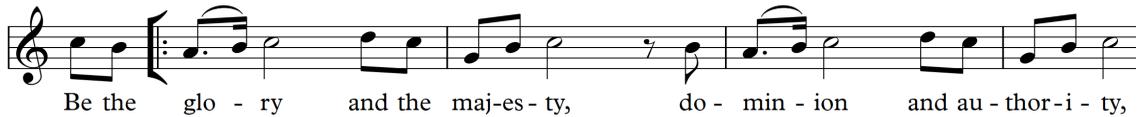
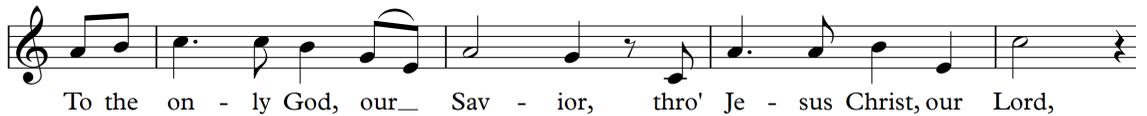
**†We invite you to remain seated during the Postlude if you like, in order to reflect on what we have heard and on our experience of God together. Likewise, please feel free to leave immediately if you would rather. Blessings to all!**

**\*Congregation invited to stand if able**

# Now unto Him

David Morris

David Morris  
Arr. Tom Fettke



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**THE FLOWERS** in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our mothers, Claire Calhoun Locks and Esther Bigley Welch by Dr. & Mrs. Alan Bigley Jr.

## **WELCOME!**

We're glad you are here! We invite you to fill out a visitor's card, located in the rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate. Looking for a faith community? We would love you to consider Covenant as the church family for you. Contact Pastor Sarah Nave (732-8240-w, 894-0386-c) for more information.

**PRAYER CONCERNS** *Dr. Ben Rice, Kathy Rice, Dorothy Ketcham, Nancy Porterfield, Shernette Reid, Joe Hackley.*

### **Sunday, May 1, 2016**

**10:00 am Choir Warm-up**

**10:30 am Morning Worship**

**11:30 am Fellowship hosted by Mrs. Cathy Stutz & Mrs. Beth Snead**

### **Tuesday, May 3, 2016**

**6:00 pm Woodmere Pointe Board Meeting**

### **Thursday, May 5, 2016**

**6:30 pm Garden Club**

### **Sunday, May 8, 2016**

**10:00 am Choir Warm-up**

**10:30 am Morning Worship**

**11:30 am Fellowship hosted by The Walker Family**

### **Birthdays this week**

**May 1 P. C. Spencer**

**May 2 Tricia Buck**

**May 2 Candy Taylor**



**THE CHURCH STAFF**

Dr. Sarah Nave .....Pastor  
 Rev. Dwight Nave.....Parish Associate  
 Joyce M. Collier.....Secretary  
 David Starzer..... Organist/Director of Music  
 Peggy Preston.....Sexton  
 Ann Walthall .....Nursery

**CONTACT US**

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