



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day  
 Stone Presbyterian Church  
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation  
 May 17, 2026 ~ Ascension Sunday



**We Gather to Celebrate the Ascension of Christ**

PRELUDE "Darwall's 48th" Betty Roe  
 (Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER  
 AND CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (from 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 sovereign over all the earth.**

God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

**Let us worship God!**

+HYMN (insert) "The Lord Ascendeth Up on High" ASCENDIT DEUS

WELCOME

+PRAYER OF PRAISE (together)

Let us pray responsively with joy to Christ,  
 who is seated at the right hand of God, saying:

**You are the king of glory!**

You have raised the weakness of our flesh.

Heal us from our shortcomings, and restore to us the full dignity of life.

**You are the king of glory!**

May our faith lead us to God as we follow the way that you have shown.

**You are the king of glory!**

You have promised to draw all people to yourself;  
 let no one of us be separate from your body.

**You are the king of glory!**

Grant that we may join with you in full plan of God's shalom

in which your humanity and ours is glorified.

**You are the king of glory!**

As true God from God, who will be our judge at the end,  
 lead us to contemplate and celebrate your tender mercies,

**You are, indeed, the king of glory! Amen.**

+HYMN #144 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!" HYFRYDOL

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**We Listen for the Word of God**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(You are invited to say the "amen" aloud.)

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

**Acts 1:1-11 Jesus ascends into heaven.**  
 The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**Ephesians 1:15-23 Christ is ruler of the universe.**  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God.



ANTHEM "How Firm a Foundation" John Karl Hirten

**Luke 24:44-53 Jesus ascends into heaven.**  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God.

Told by Donna Goodfriend

SERMON "Let's be the Church" Rev. LaDana Clark

**We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving**

HYMN (insert) "Every Time We Tell the Story" RUSTINGTON

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (together)

**The Apostles' Creed** (Tradition Version, p. 14 in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS & CONCERNS

OFFERTORY "To Realms of Glory in the Skies" David N. Johnson

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. / **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. / **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. /  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**



...Therefore with angels and with archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your holy name.

### (SINGING)

**O holy, holy, holy Lord, by heav'n and earth a-  
like adored, Your glory fills the universe!  
Hosanna in the highest heav'n! To you all praise be  
ever giv'n! Hosanna in the highest!**

ASCENDIT DEUS

...as together we sing, proclaiming the story of our faith:

### (SINGING)

**The Lord of life was crucified, for us he suffered  
And he died, but then was raised to life again.  
Ascended after forty days, in heaven still he  
Reigns and prays, As we await his coming!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional, *The Hymnal*, p. 16)

### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE COMMUNION

*(Please come forward by the center aisle to receive and partake the bread and individual cups, then return to your seat by the side aisles.)*

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

### ***We Go Out in the Joy of the Resurrection***

+HYMN #155

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

DARWALL'S 148th

POETRY BY: **Sparkle Anthony & Dee Dee Waters**

+CHARGE & BLESSING

+CHORAL RESPONSE & POSTLUDE

## STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

May 17, 2026 ~ Ascension Sunday ~ 10:30 a.m.



*The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ,  
engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow  
as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.*

### All the People, Ministers

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Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus  
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[www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/](https://www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/)

# The Lord Ascendeth Up on High 212

Arthur T. Russell (1806-1874)

ASCENDIT DEUS: 8. 8. 7. D.  
Johann Gottfried Schicht (1753-1823)

1. The Lord as - cend - eth up on high, The Lord hath tri-umphed  
2. The heavens with joy re - ceive their Lord, By saints, by an - gel  
3. Our great High Priest hath gone be - fore, Now on His Church His

glo - rious - ly, In power and might ex - cell - ing;  
hosts a - dored; O day of ex - ul - ta - tion!  
grace to pour, And still His love He giv - eth;

The grave and hell are cap - tive led, Lo! He re - turns, our  
O earth, a - dore thy glo - rious King! His ris - ing, His as -  
O may our hearts to Him as - cend; May all with - in us

glo - rious Head, To His e - ter - nal dwell - ing.  
cen - sion sing With grate - ful ad - o - ra - tion!  
up - ward tend To Him who ev - er liv - eth!

JESUS CHRIST: HIS ASCENSION

CHRIST THE KING / ASCENSION

# 144 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

William Chatterton Dix, 1866

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the scep - ter,  
2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in  
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, Thou on earth our  
4. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Thee the Lord of

His the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,  
sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;  
food, our stay. Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful  
lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of Ma - ry,

His the vic - to - ry a - lone! Hark! the songs of peace - ful  
Faith be - lieves nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
Flee to Thee from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
Earth Thy foot - stool, heaven Thy throne. Thou with - in the veil hast

Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood; Je - sus out of  
ceived Him, When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -  
sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, plead for me, Where the songs of  
en - tered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest; Thou on earth both

# Every Time We Tell the Story

RUSTINGTON 8.7.8.7. D

Dennis Dewey, 2008

C. Hubert Parry, 1897

1. Ev' - ry time we tell the sto - ry, Word takes flesh and love finds voice,  
2. Ev' - ry time we hear the sto - ry, We're drawn in - to mys - ter - y.  
3. Ev' - ry time we share the sto - ry, We touch peo - ple's deep - est need;  
4. Tell it with an ur - gent pas - sion; Let the sto - ry's life im - bue

Praise re - sounds to God's great glo - ry, Light shines on each troub - led choice.  
The div - ine with us is dwell - ing in that ho - ly his - to - ry.  
In a place pro - found - ly ho - ly We en - count - er Christ, in - deed.  
Our be - liev - ing with com - pas - sion For those seek - ing all that's true.

In each true and faith - ful tell - ing We are an - gels of God's Word,  
In the hear - ing we are chal - lenged, Changed, re - newed in sto - ry's power  
In the shar - ing with each oth - er We be - come com - mu - ni - ty,  
Ev' - ry time we tell it, hear it, Share it as our heart's de - sire,

Wit - ness - es to new cre - a - tion, That the good news may be heard!  
To live out a Christ - like wit - ness In each mo - ment of each hour!  
Ev' - ry time we share the sto - ry God's re - vealed for all to see!  
We live in that ho - ly mom - ent with a Pent - e - cost - al fire!

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CHRIST THE KING / ASCENSION

Revelation 1:18

155

# Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148TH 6.6.6.6.8.8

Charles Wesley, 1746

John Darwall, 1770

Desc. Sidney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

3. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1. Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
2. God's king - dom can - not fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;  
3. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

To glo - ri - fy the saints For their e - ter - nal home:

Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more:  
The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus given:  
To glo - ri - fy the saints For their e - ter - nal home:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

This tune in a higher key and without descant, 430