

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, forever, Amen.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Shalom Duet, Stefen Kane, Tenor

***DOXOLOGY #607**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Great God, to you we give our thanks; your steadfast love endures forever.
With gratitude we bring our gifts to you.
Bless us and our gifts, that our lives and our resources
may be a source of healing and hope, of joy and justice in our world. Amen.*

— Sending —

***HYMN #275** A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May the love of the holy triune God— Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— abide with you forever.

Alleluia!

Now go forth in Jesus' name, remembering his new commandment to love one another, just as he has loved us. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE Great is the Lord Joshua Allen

You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HENDERSON, TX**

**Ascension of the Lord
7th Sunday of Easter
May 21, 2023**

(Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response*

— Gathering —

**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

There's Something About That Name

Joshua Allen
Rev. Michele Goff

https://faithconnector.s3.amazonaws.com/sancarlosunc/images/thumbs/blogs/ascension_brightened.png

***LITANY FOR ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

Liturgist: Claudia Morgan-Gray

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with songs of joy.
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

God is ruler over all the earth; the Lord reigns on a holy throne.
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

God put this power to work in Christ, raising him from the dead.
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

God has highly exalted him, giving him the name above all names.
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Jesus Christ is Lord! Glory to God in the highest.
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Most High God, we are witnesses: to the life of Jesus Christ our Lord:
written in the Law, promised by the prophets, sung by the psalmists;
given in love for the world, risen from the dust of death, lifted up in heavenly glory.
Let our lives proclaim Christ's life.
Draw us into your presence that we may worship you always,
continually blessing your name;
through Jesus Christ our Savior who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***HYMN #267**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

CONFESSION

But we are children of the Most High, and we are invited to bring these confessions before
God, that we might find peace and forgiveness.

***Christ who was and is and is to come,
we stand looking up at the heavens, looking for you there.***

Forgive us for believing that you have left us.

Forgive us for failing to recognize you in the world around us.

Forgive us for waiting idly for your return,

instead of doing the work you have called us to do.

You are above us, around us, before us, and within us;

help us to embody you in our time and place,

today, tomorrow, and forevermore.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear this astounding truth: Christ is the one who reigns on high, Christ is the one with the
power to judge us, and Christ is the one who offers us eternal love, forgiveness, and mercy.

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All praise to Christ who lived, died, and lives again! Alleluia!

***CELTIC ALLELUIA #587**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

— **Word** —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:1-11

Bible p. 110, LG p. 143

Christ has opened our minds to understand the scriptures. Hear the word of the Lord.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

Bible p. 181, LG p. 235-236

Hear the word of God for us.

We are witnesses to these things—the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S MOMENT

GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Bible p. 85, LG p. 111

Hear God's wisdom for us.

The wisdom of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Continually Ascending

Rev. Michele Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

— **Response** —

***HYMN #370**

This Is My Father's World

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

***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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We offer our prayers through Christ, who lives and reigns forever,
and prays for us in heaven.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

...God of all power and glory, receive these prayers,
and continue your mighty work among us,
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. **Amen.**