

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

7th Sunday of Easter

Ascension Sunday

May 29, 2022

The In-Between Time

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

PRELUDE *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Robert Powell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy! For Jesus has ascended with shouts of triumph and trumpet fanfare!

People: Our God is exalted on high, Sovereign over all the nations, and Lord of our lives.

All: Let's worship together!

*HYMN *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise* No. 312

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Almighty God, as we prepare to worship today, we ask that you stretch our imaginations to sense the majesty and mystery of your ascension. Help us perceive how Jesus' presence in heaven can give us confidence in our praying and hope for the future. Through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Acts 1:1-11*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE *Hallelujah! What a Savior* (vs. 5) No. 165

*LITANY FOR ASCENSION DAY

Liturgist: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new world has broken into ours-

People: a world in which justice does come for the poor, freedom comes for the prisoners, and healing for the sick.

Liturgist: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new community has been formed-

People: a community that loves and cares for all members, a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected, a place where all find a place of belonging.

Liturgist: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new creation has begun-

People: all that was distorted is being restored, all that is corrupted is being renewed, all that was broken is being made whole.

All: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, God's new world has begun.

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE *We Remember* Mary C. Smith

GOSPEL READING *Luke 24:44-53*
MESSAGE *"Living In-Between"* Pastor Janet Sattel

*HYMN *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* No. 158

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of in-between times, we know that Christ will be coming again, but we don't live our lives as though we're sure. We have our own lives we are living and forget that we should living in anticipation of Christ's return. In this in-between time, we should be intentional about sharing the good news, but we tend to get caught up with our own worries, or own apprehension about the future. Forgive our lack of faith and help us to remember that all things are in your hands. Amen.

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* (vs 4) No. 420

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Air* Jonathan Battishill

*Congregational Response *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* (vs. 5) No. 315

“Alleluia!” now we cry to our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal;
“Alleluia!” with the Son, God the Father praising,
“Alleluia!” yet again to the Spirit raising.

*HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* No. 154

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go out into the world.
In your words and in your lives
bear witness to the Christ who has ascended to be everywhere present.
And as you come to know him,
may God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
may Christ Jesus lift up his hands and bless you,
and may the Spirit open to you all the riches of Christ's inheritance.

People: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE *Postlude on “Llanfair”* Hal Hopson

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*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.

Liturgist: Rev. Glen Esler

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

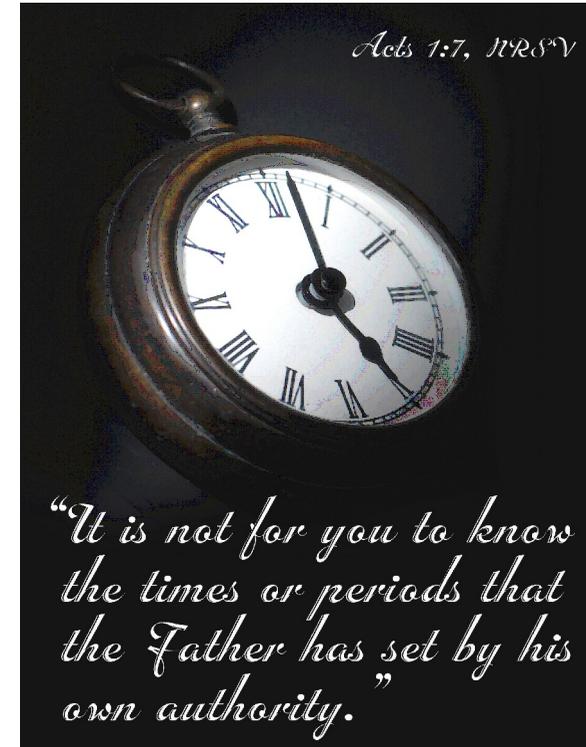
We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor
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Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor
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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP **f**
Celebration of Faith



The In-Between Time

May 29, 2022

7th Sunday of Easter / Ascension Sunday

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042

church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline:

Ascension Sunday

"Living In-Between"

Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24:44-53

Today we celebrate Ascension Sunday - when Jesus returned to heaven. We are post-resurrection people - we live after the resurrection of Jesus, but before the second coming of Christ - we live our lives waiting for his return. We are living in-between the two greatest events in history.

The disciples lived in-between and they remained strong by remembering, studying scripture, sharing and praying. This is what we as a church need to do as we live between the times, anticipating the return of Christ.

We affirm our beliefs, we remember and recall what God has done in our lives, we share our sorrows and our griefs and we pray for each other. John Wesley said, "God does nothing apart from prayer." This is what the church is called to do.

We set our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12), who has already won the victory and has ascended into heaven where he rules over all creation.

It is necessary that we fill our lives with the truth. We must focus on the truth, because not only will the truth set us free from the things that hold us down, but the truth will get us through the tough times.

We are to be a people who live a life of thankfulness. Paul encourages us to "not lose heart" (2 Cor 4:16) He wrote this because he knew that we need to remind ourselves of what God has done in our lives. And then pray. Pray for strength, pray for courage, pray for patience. Jesus has given us all the resources we need to live between the times.

Calendar for Week of 5/29/2022

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

MONDAY Memorial Day

Office Closed

TUESDAY

6:30—Life's Healing Choices [ed wing]

7:00—Reading While Black [pavilion]

WEDNESDAY

5:30-8:00 - High School Yth [Hall/Forge]

7:00 - Celebrate Recovery

THURSDAY

5:00—Contemporary Design Team

5:30—Traditional Design Team

6:00—CR step study [rm 21]

FRIDAY

7:00 - Life's Healing Choices [Lounge]

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

4: 00 - Private Hall, yth rm, Gthrng Area

6:00—Middle School Youth Night