

* **Call to Worship:** *Psalm 47:5-8*
God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.
God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.

* **Opening Prayer**

* **Rejoice, the Lord is King** #374:1,2,3 (HFG)
Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

The Lord, our Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

* **Jesus Shall Reign** #412:1,4,5 (PH)
Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
The highest honors to our King,
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.

* indicates to stand if able

* **With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring** #183:1,3 (PH)
With grateful heart my thanks I bring,
Before the great your praise I sing.
I worship in your holy place
And praise you for your truth and grace;
For truth and grace together shine
In your most holy Word divine,
In your most holy Word divine.

O Lord, enthroned in glory bright,
You reign alone in heavenly height;
The proud in vain your favor seek,
But you have mercy for the meek.
Through trouble though my pathway be,
You will revive and strengthen me,
You will revive and strengthen me.

Profession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 49-50
How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?
**First, he pleads our cause in heaven
in the presence of his Father.**
**Second, we have our own flesh—
a guarantee that Christ our head,
will take us, his members,
to himself in heaven.**
**Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth
as a further guarantee.**
**By the Spirit's power we make the goal of our lives,
not earthly things,
but the things above where Christ is,
sitting at God's right hand.**

Why the next words: "and is seated at the right hand of God"?
**Christ ascended to heaven,
there to show that he is head of his church,
and that the Father rules all things through him.**

Offering: Ken & Chris

Evening Prayer

* **Scripture:** *Luke 24:50-53* (ESV) pg. 1108
⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Acts 1:9-11 (ESV) pg. 1139
⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message: *From Condescension to Ascension*

* **Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise** #409:1,2,3 (PH)
(Tune of *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*)

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne beyond the skies. Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
Enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!
He has conquered death and sin; Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in. Alleluia!

Highest heaven its Lord receives; Alleluia!
Yet he loved the earth he leaves. Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!

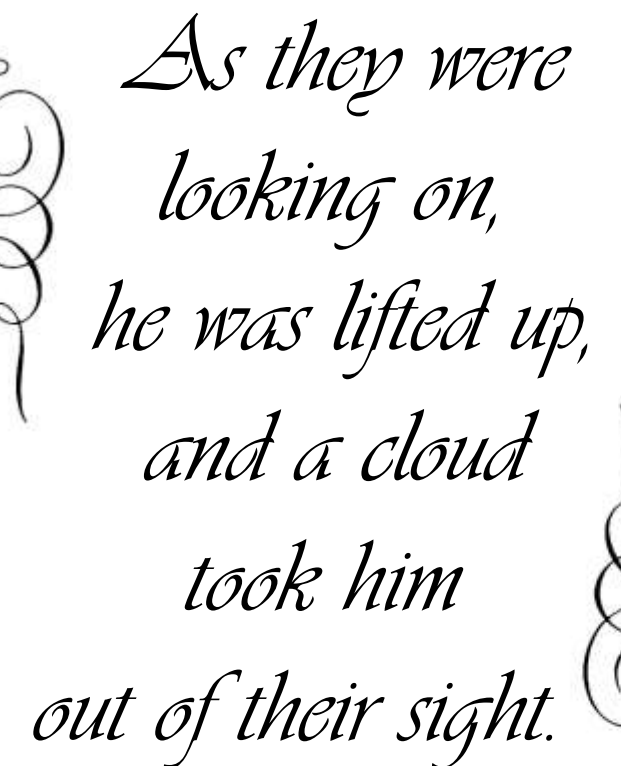
* **God's Blessing**

* **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus** #406:1,3 (PH)
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood.
Jesus, out of every nation,
Has redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! heavenly High Priest,
Here on earth our help, our stay;
Alleluia! hear the sinful cry to you from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

From Condensation to Ascension

Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-11



*As they were
looking on,
he was lifted up,
and a cloud
took him
out of their sight.*

Acts 1:9

The sanctuary is equipped with an assistive listening system.
Please switch hearing aids to "T" to use this system.

Pastor: Robert W

Music: Perlene H

Offering: Ken & Chris serve with JAARS and Wycliffe Bible
Translators in Waxhaw, North Carolina. For information,
visit www.wycliffe.net.

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First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
May 13, 2018
6:00 p.m. Worship Service