

Morning Prayer

May 16, 2021

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94>

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Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

The Sunday after the Ascension, Easter 7B

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 460

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scap - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
5 scap - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Presider Alleluia! Christ the Lord has ascended into heaven:
People **Come, let us adore him. Alleluia!**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

A Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, + forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise!

People **And your glory all the day long!**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Alleluia! Christ the Lord has ascended into heaven:
Come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

Invitatory: *Jubilate*

May all lands be joyful before you, O God,
serve you with gladness and come before your presence with a song.

**For we know that you are God;
you yourself have made us, and we are yours; we are your people
and the sheep of your pasture.**

We shall enter your gates with thanksgiving, go into your courts with praise,
give thanks to you and call upon your Name.

**For you are good; your mercy is everlasting,
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the Holy One,
and they meditate on that law day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous;

**For the Holy One knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ the Lord has ascended into heaven:
Come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

The Lessons

First Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Bar-sabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Ascension Litany

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Christ was baptized as one of us, but he destroyed sins as God.

He was tempted as a human, but he conquered as God. He wants us to rejoice, for he has overcome the world.

He hungered, but he fed thousands. He is the living bread that comes down from heaven.

He thirsted, but he cried, "If anyone thirsts, let them come to me and drink" He promised that fountains would flow from those who believe.

He was wearied, but he is the rest of those who are weary and heavy-laden.

The demons acknowledge him, but he drives them out. He plunges into the sea the legions of foul spirits and sees the prince of demons falling like lightning.

He prays, but he hears prayers.

He weeps, but he makes tears to cease.

He asks where Lazarus was laid because he was human; but he raises Lazarus because he was God.

He is sold, and very cheap — for only thirty pieces of silver; but he redeems the world at a great price — the cost of his own blood.

As a sheep he is led to the slaughter, but he is the Shepherd of Israel—and now of the whole world.

He is bruised and wounded, but he heals every disease and infirmity.

He is lifted up and nailed down to the tree, but he restores us by the tree of life.

He lays down his life, but he has the power to take it up again.

He dies, but he gives life; and by his death he destroys death.

He is buried, but he rises again.

He descends into hell, but he raises souls from death.

He ascends to heaven, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading

1 John 5:9-13

A Reading from the First letter of John.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And

this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Hymnal 215

He who on the cross did suffer

2 He who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the
 3 Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture on the clouds to
 grave a - rose, he has van - quished sin and
 God's right hand: there we sit in heaven - ly
 Sa - tan; he by death has spoiled his foes.
 plac - es, there with thee in glo - ry stand.
 While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, he is
 Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels; Man with
 part - ed from his friends; while their ea - ger
 God is on the throne; might - y Lord, in
 eyes be - hold him, he up - on the clouds a - scends.
 thine as - cen - sion, we by faith be - hold our own.

Third Reading

John 17:6-19

A Reading from John.

Jesus prayed for his disciples, “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”



Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The Presider begins

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

**He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

V. Help us, O God our Savior;

R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

V. Look upon your congregation;

R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.

V. Declare your glory among the nations;

R. And your wonders among all peoples.

V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

R. Never forget the lives of your poor.

V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Officiant Benevolent God, hear our prayers through Jesus who intercedes on behalf of the Church, and fulfill the joy of your Son by sending your blessing upon your creation, as we pray: As you have sent Christ into the world; so Christ has sent us into the world.

Intercessor Gracious One, through Christ you have made your name known, and your Church has been given everything from the Father. We pray today for our bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig, all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our sisters and brothers worshipping at St Clement's, Inkster; and Church of the Transfiguration, Bani, and Divine Grace, Mosovi, in the Dominican Republic. As you have sent Christ into the world, **so Christ has sent us into the world.**

Silence is kept.

Loving One, you have given all nations the testimony of God in their hearts: Extend your providence to protect them from the evil one and to bestow the liberating blessings of justice and peace to humanity. As you have sent Christ into the world, **so Christ has sent us into the world.**

Silence is kept.

Compassionate One, you have promised to lose nothing that you have made: Look upon all who suffer from illness, violence, poverty, or threat: Protect them in your name and sanctify them in your truth. As you have sent Christ into the world, **so Christ has sent us into the world.**

Silence is kept.

Ever-present One, you have planted this community like trees by streams of water: Empower us to bear fruit in due season and to make Christ's joy complete in this place. As you have sent Christ into the world, **so Christ has sent us into the world.**

Silence is kept.

Honor our prayers on behalf of the sick and the suffering, especially _____.
Accept our thanksgiving for the many blessings of this life, especially _____.
Let your eternal life raise all who have died, especially _____.
As you have sent Christ into the world, **so Christ has sent us into the world.**

Silence is kept.

Presider Loving God, you have kept your word through Jesus your Son and sanctified your Church in truth: Fulfill the testimony of scripture and inspire our witness to the resurrection of Jesus, that we may share in the eternal life which reconciles all creation in the unity of the Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

The Presider then says

My sisters and brothers, I invite you- wherever you are- to take into your hands the gifts you offer today. Gifts of food, gifts of money, gifts of whatever form, and join me as we offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good our vows to the Most High.

Let us pray.

Loving God and merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature:

we come to you with thanksgiving and praise.

We offer to you this day our gifts of time, talent, and possessions, knowing that all we are, and all we have, is a gift from you.

Please accept these gifts, and help us to reach out to others as you, our God, have reached out to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

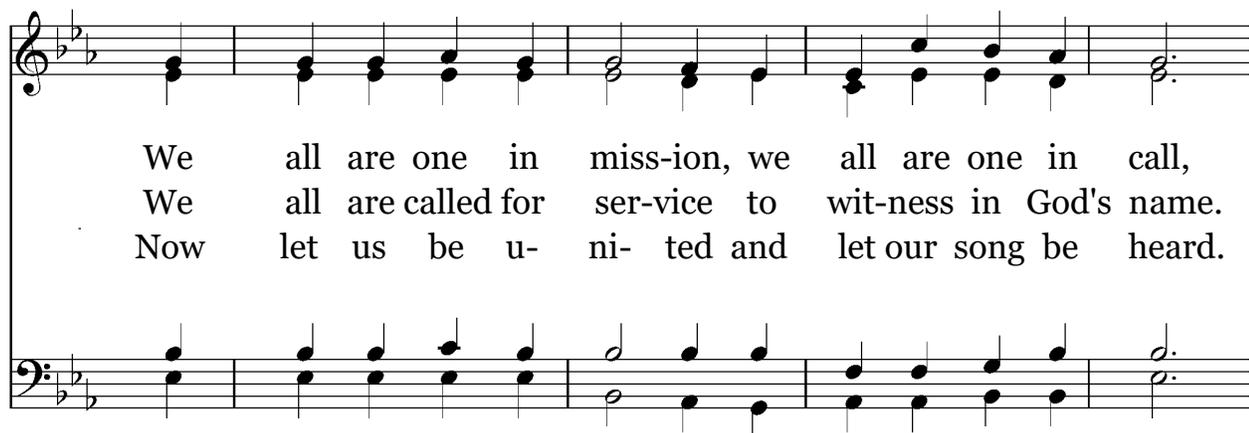
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,

**and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Tune: *Aurelia*

We all are one in mission



We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
We all are called for service to witness in God's name.
Now let us be united and let our song be heard.

our var-ied gifts u- ni- ted by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our mi- ni- stries are different, our pur- pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves- sel for God's re- deem- ing Word.

A sin- gle, great com- miss- ion com- pels us from a- bove
 to touch the lives of oth- ers by God's sur- pris- ing grace,
 We all are one in miss- ion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to- geth- er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo- ple of all na- tions may feel God's warm em- brace.
 Our var- ied gifts u- ni- ted by Christ, the Lord of all.

Dismissal and Blessing

A Priest says

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

My sisters and my brothers, go now in peace, in the name of + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

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REGARDING OFFERINGS TO ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

To make an offering to St Barnabas, please mail your check to the church: 20500 W Old US-12, Chelsea MI 48118-1309. Mail is being collected daily.

BEDDING COLLECTION PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

Our project to help Friends In Deed, a charity that works with Washtenaw County’s homeless to help them get into homes, is in need of bedding of all kinds, and St Barnabas has agreed to help them gather as much as they can.

Our donations—of new or lightly used bedding of all kinds and sizes—will be gathered in on **Sunday, May 23.** This is the Day of Pentecost, and our service will be live on the Labyrinth. This is the perfect opportunity to bring your donation to the church. **IF YOU CAN’T BRING A DONATION ON THAT DAY,** please contact Amma Marion to arrange a pick-up from your house. Many thanks for your help and care for our neighbors in need.

**CONTINUING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS
TO FAITH IN ACTION**

Faith in Action is continuing to provide leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They will be in need of our continuing help in the weeks of winter still to come.

Needed right now: *boxed/shelf-stable milk, cooking oil, salt/pepper, spices, coffee, tea bags, sugar, flour, canned tuna, crackers, cake mix, canned frosting, dish soap, women’s hygiene products.* You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA,** please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our

records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive at the church** will be **today, May 16**. The building will be open for you to leave your donations. Please be generous with our neighbors in need.

Financial donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at www.faithinaction1.org, by [Facebook](#), or by mailing a check to *Faith in Action*, 603 S. Main Street, Chelsea MI 48118. **If you need help, please call FIA at (734) 475-3305**

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Upcoming Commemorations

- May 16 Martyrs of Sudan & South Sudan. 1983
- 17 William Hobart Hare, Bishop, 1999;
and, Thurgood Marshall, Public Servant, 1993
- 19 Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988
- 20 Alcuin of York, Deacon & Abbot, 804
- 21 Lydia of Thyatira, Co-worker of the Apostle Paul;
and, John Eliot, Missionary among the Algonquin, 1690
- 22 Helena of Constantinople, Protector of the Holy Places, 330

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Easter 7B: the Sunday after the Ascension

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

They prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart.”

An interesting and easily misleading aspect of this reading is found in Peter’s declaration that the Scriptures had to be fulfilled. At first glance, Peter’s analysis might seem like a strict application of a theology rooted in predestination. Throughout the ages, however, the Church has taught that Scripture reveals truths about how things will unfold, but that the actions of individuals are not directly caused by these revelations. It may even be said that, in light of Christ’s death and resurrection, Peter and the other apostles were able to discern a way forward through a more enlightened understanding of the prophecy of the Hebrew Scriptures.

We, my friends, are not off the hook! After all, the whole body of the baptized is called to discernment throughout the Christian life of discipleship. Sometimes in our 21st century world, discernment can be framed as something esoteric, lofty, and excessively impractical. Today’s reading from Acts, however, shows us an example that is extremely practical in nature; there was work to be done, and someone needed to be appointed to do it. While casting lots may not be the most popular method of discernment nowadays, it certainly demonstrates that the 11 had a great deal of trust in God’s plan and care, even in the most uncertain of times. May it be so for us, too.

- How is God nudging us out of our comfort zones so that we may use our gifts in the service of the Gospel?

Psalm 1

Verse 3: They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

Only a moment ago, we were talking about the wicked and the seat of the scornful. Somehow, we have quickly moved—with a quick moment to ponder God’s law along the way—to this beautiful and poetic imagery of abundance that is rooted entirely in nature. It is fitting that this wonderful, short psalm is the very first one. It may be that the Psalmist wanted to give a foretaste of what was to come by briefly demonstrating the range of topics to be addressed in subsequent segments, which constituted the bulk of daily prayers for the Hebrew people. Psalms, like the human condition, are layered, challenging, and best understood when sung!

- Do we really believe that God can handle the roller coaster of our lives?

1 John 5:9-13

At first glance, this brief reading can seem rather formulaic, almost like a mere logical pronouncement: if this, then that. Where is the heart in it? Faith is more than belief, right? If we focus on verses 11 and 12, we may begin to move beyond belief and into experience, and ultimately back into belief through experience. Christ, after all, has never left us:

All who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ like a garment (Galatians 3:27) and dwell in Him, and He in us.

Christ’s presence in the Eucharist is real, mystically uniting us in a divine supper that provides saving medicine to the soul.

- How can we better prepare to receive Christ in the Eucharist each week so that we more fully imitate Christ in all our daily actions?

John 17:6-19

Today’s Gospel lesson comes from the 17th chapter of John’s Gospel, which is a series of prayers that our Lord offers. Traditionally, these prayers are divided into four categories:

Christ prays for himself

Christ prays for the Disciples

Christ prays for the Church

Christ prays for all.

Today’s portion forms the entirety of the second category, Christ prays for the Disciples. It goes without saying that God’s love has no limits, and that Christ loves every corner of creation. At the same time, however, we know that the Incarnation happened for very specific reasons, and with very specific means. As such, this prayer contains a clear divide, as Jesus juxtaposes himself and the disciples with the world. Does this, then, contradict the core message of John 3:16? Absolutely not! After all, in just a few short verses, Jesus expands the reach of his prayer. Here, the “world” refers to the portion of humanity that chooses darkness over light, directly opposing the will of God. This, therefore, allows Jesus to identify himself as one who does not belong to the world, in spite of his own humanity.

We, too, know that our true citizenship is not attached to our passports or identification numbers, but to our baptism. Nevertheless, we live and move about the world with great gusto; few of us are called to a life of ascetic solitude, after all. Our greatest honor—and perhaps our greatest challenge—is to bear the light of Christ when we are so often surrounded by darkness.

We cannot do it alone, just as the disciples could not do it alone; Jesus prayed for them and entrusted them with the very risky and transformative ministry that has endured for nearly two thousand years.

- As citizens of the Kingdom, how are we called to respond to darkness?

This study written by Gus Crysson

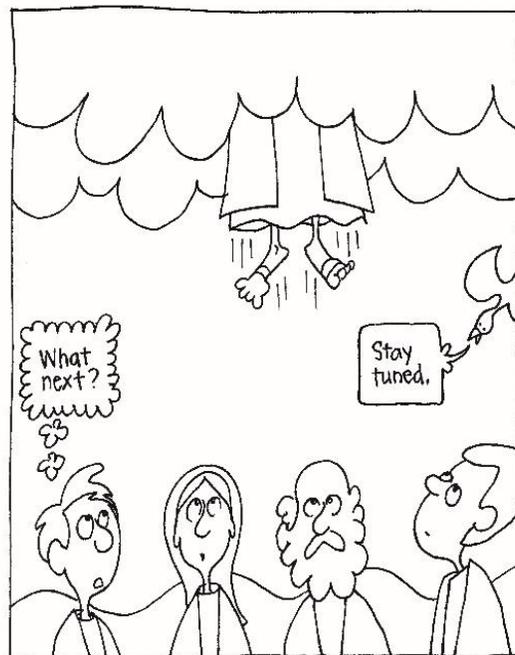
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Litany as found in *Planning for rites and rituals*. p.165. “The mystery of Christ—an Ascensiontide Litany” from *The wideness of God’s mercy: litanies to enlarge our prayer*. Ed. By Jeffrey W. Rowthorn. New York: Church Publishing, 2007, pp.89-90.

Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



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