



# Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

**Sunday, May 13, 2018, 10:00 AM**  
**Ascension of Christ/The Seventh Sunday of Eastertide**

## Gather in God's Name

*Thank you for silencing all mobile phones. \* Stand as you are able. Please sign the fellowship pad, found on the chair on the center aisle. When all have signed, pass the pad back to the center.*

**Prelude** *Concert for Clarinet #3* C. Stamitz  
Dorothy Grimm - Clarinet

*Please conclude conversation in preparation to hear God's Word in worship.*

## **Lighting of the Christ Candle and Opening Prayer**

## **Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors**

**Introit** *Peace* G. Norbet

## **Call to Worship** (responsive, adapted from Luke 24: 36 and 50-53)

Worship Co-Leader: Deborah Derting

Jesus, crucified and risen, stood among his disciples.

**He said to them, "Peace be with you."**

Then he led them out as far as Bethany,  
and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them  
and was carried up into heaven.

**They worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.**

**They were continually in the temple blessing God. Amen!**

**\*Hymn #263** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

## **Call to Confession** (adapted from Luke 24:45-47)

Jesus opened his disciples' minds to understand the scriptures,  
and he said to them, "Thus it is written,  
that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,  
and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name  
to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." Let us pray.

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

God of glory, beloved of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
send us your Holy Spirit. Make us wise  
and let us understand what it means to know you.  
For the ways we live as though Christ is not risen, forgive us.  
Renew our hope in you, calm our fears, and deepen our faith.  
Help us turn away from forces, authorities, powers, and rulers  
that are not the Christ of mercy. Let your light flood our hearts  
so we will understand the hope given to us  
when you chose us to be people of faith in the Risen Lord.  
In Jesus' name, we offer you ourselves to be forgiven, healed, and made new.  
*(Please pause to offer a silent prayer.)*  
By your resurrecting power, grant us new life, O God.  
Integrate us wholly into the body of Christ.  
Let your church serve the world in Jesus' name and Spirit,  
sharing with neighbors the fullness of life we find in you. Amen.  
*(Quiet prayer and reflection)*

**Sung Response**

Tune: 834, Precious Lord

Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light;  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

**Words of Assurance** (responsive, inspired by Ephesians 1: 19-23)

God's power for us is the same mighty power  
that raised Jesus Christ from the dead  
and seated him in the place of honor in the heavenly realms.  
Forgiven, we live under the authority of Christ,  
whom God has made head over all things.  
We are made full and complete by Christ! Alleluia. Amen.

**\*Sung Response**

Tune: 2276

Glory to God in the highest!  
Sing glory to God!  
Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth!

**\*The Passing of Christ's Peace**

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you...**and also with you.**  
*You may turn to your neighbor and share a sign of Christ's peace.*

**Special Music**

*Change My Heart O God*  
Charmaine Piane Dame-Soprano, Joan Smith-Alto,  
Dorothy Grimm-Clarinet

Arr. Joel Raney

**Proclaim God's Word**

**Epistle Reading** Ephesians 1:15-23 (N.T. pg. 181; lg. print pg. 234)

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

**Sermon** Above All Rev. Rachel Srubas

**\* Hymn of Affirmation # 481** *I Believe in God the Father*

**Respond to God**

**Invitation to the Offering** (inspired by Psalm 22:26)

Everything we have is a gift from God.  
We, ourselves, belong to God,  
whose Word gives us life.  
By sharing our gifts and making our offerings in support of Christ's ministries,  
we express our thanks to the Giver whose generosity sustains us.

**The Offertory**

*Be Still My Soul*  
Dorothy Gimm – Clarinet

Arr. David H. Edelfelt

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**  
**Praise Christ, all people here below.**  
**Praise Holy Spirit ever more.**  
**Praise God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (unison, inspired by John 17:6-19)

**O God, as Jesus is of one heart and mind with you, unite us with each other**  
**as we unite our offerings. Through these thankful gifts, complete our joy in you.**  
**Send us out into the world to welcome others into the joy Jesus offers. Amen.**

**Give Thanks to God**

**The Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

*You are invited to speak your prayer requests first on behalf of the wider world; then for those close to you, and for yourself.*

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### The People's Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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.

## Go in God's Name

\*Hymn O Christ, When You Ascended\*

Tune: 233, Lancashire

O Christ, when you ascended, you took your rightful throne;  
Your time on earth had ended — yet we weren't left alone.  
You reign o'er earth and heaven; your Spirit guides our way.  
Your prayers uphold your people; you lead your church each day.

We look at earthly rulers and see what they command:  
We note their years of power, the borders of their land.  
Yet, Lord, you are not bounded by things like time and space;  
Your reign is never-ending, you rule in every place.

One day, O Lord, we'll know you, as we are fully known;  
One day this world of sinners will bow before your throne.  
One day, God's whole creation will sing and praise your name;  
On earth as now in heaven, we'll celebrate your reign.

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Ode to Joy*  
Dorothy Grimm - Clarinet

Beethoven

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.