

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:30 a.m. Sunday 21 May 2023**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension Sunday**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles, including Christ Candle

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

\*Greeting\*\*:*Sing praises to God, sing praises!*

**Sing praises to our Ruler, sing praises!**

For God reigns over the nations;

**Sing praises with a psalm! Alleluia! *(Psalm 47)***

Praise choruses: 2070 "He Is Exalted"

3087 "O Christ, When You Ascended"

\*Opening Prayer:323 "The Ascension"

\*Opening Hymn: 154 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for Illumination: UMH 321 "Sundays of Easter"

First Lesson: Acts 1:1-11

Psalter: 781 Psalm 47

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

\*Hymn of Preparation: 326 "The Head That Once  
Was Crowned"

\*Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:44-52

Sermon: *"Translating"*

Affirmation of Faith: 887 "Affirmation from Romans 8:35, 37-39"

(2)

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

\*The Peace: Let us offer one another  
signs of reconciliation and love.  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**THANKSGIVING**

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people,  
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

\*Doxology: 70: "Gloria Patri" ("Glory Be to the Father")

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving:

All things come from you, O God,  
and with gratitude we return to you what is yours.

**By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*(Hoyt L. Hickman, U.S.A., 20<sup>th</sup> Cent., Alt.)*

\*The Lord's Prayer: 895

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Closing Hymn: 157 "Jesus Shall Reign"

\*Closing Prayer^:

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,**

(3)

**one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**

*(The Book of Common Prayer, U.S.A., 20th Cent.)*

\*Extinguishing of candles, including Christ Candle, and Postlude

\*Going Forth

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\*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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