



**EASTER 7**

**May 16, 2021**

**ASCENSION DAY**

**PRELUDE:**

*Sanctuary*

Joyful Spirit

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Pastor Craig

**PASSING OF PEACE, POURING OF THE WATER, RINGING OF THE BOWL**

Pastor Craig

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

There are different gifts  
There are different ways of serving God  
God works through us in differing ways  
Each one is given a gift by the Spirit  
Together we are the body of Christ

**But it is the same Spirit who gives them.  
But the same Lord who is served.  
But it is God who achieves God's purposes in us  
To use for the common good  
And individually members of Him.**

### **☩ OPENING HYMN**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

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### **CALL TO PRAYER**

Although we have differing gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make Christ's Church useful in the world, and we call women and men to faith, that in the end every knee shall bow and tongue confess that Jesus Christ is LORD to the glory of God the Father.

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, You have raised Jesus from death to life, crowning him LORD of all! We confess that we have not bowed before Him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, failing to give Christ glory. Forgive us, raising us from sin, that we might be Your faithful people, obeying the commands of our LORD Jesus Christ, who rules the world as Head of the Church, the body of Christ. Amen**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The King of Kings and Lord of Lords, who humbled His divinity to be One with us, suffering for us all, ascended triumphantly above the heavens. Christ has never abandoned us. He has promised to send the Spirit of Truth. Brothers and Sisters, believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

### **GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning  
Is now and ever shall be  
World without end. Amen, Amen

### **ANTHEM**

*Lone Wild Bird*  
Soloist: Linda Freeman

Joyful Spirit

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (live worship only)

**SCRIPTURE**

Acts 1:1-5

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

**SERMON:**

*Why Stand Looking into Heaven*

**THE INSTALLATION OF AN ELDER** (live in-person)

Jim Nelson

**PRAYER**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen

✠ **HYMN** *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing* 258

**CALL FOR OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** *Alleluia with The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* Arr. M. Hayes

✠ **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

✠ **HYMN** *Joy to the World* 266

✠ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *I'll Fly Away* A.E. Brumley / Arr.M. Hayes

✠ Please stand

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**Today's Hymn Singer:** Linda Freeman

**All taped Worship Services are available for replay on our website: [valleypres.net](http://valleypres.net)**

**Welcome to all who view our worship services at home and to those who enter our sanctuary.** Drink deeply of the living waters of God’s grace as we worship together in spirit. If you are a visitor and would like more information about our church, visit us at valleypres.net where you can sign up for our daily email blasts and monthly newsletter. You can also pick up a Welcome Packet at the Welcome Centers when you visit us in person. We are glad you have joined us today.

**Flowers given by:** Gee-Gee Smith in honor of Ted’s Birthday

**Please remember those currently or recently hospitalized:** Nancy Moses

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
April-2021		Through Week #19 (5/09/21)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 62,342	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	136
Monthly Giving Budget	\$ 60,675	* YTD 2021 Attendance Sanctuary	2553
*YTD Giving Support	\$ 239,439	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	99
*YTD Giving Budget	\$ 297,513	** YTD 2021 Viewing On-Line	2733
		* YTD 2021 Attendance / On-Line	5286
		* YTD 2020 Attendance Sanctuary	5272
* YTD = Year to Date		** Number of on-line devices tuned into Sunday service	
D. Brooks - VPC treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959      2021 Per Capita is \$41.50 per member			

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