KIRK IN THE HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) ASCENSION OF THE LORD MAY 29, 2022



Don't just stand there, do something!The White Rabbit, Alice in Wonderland



We Remember Them

During the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, the evening news program closed with an honor roll of American service personnel killed in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. The honor roll was run in silence—no soft music to soothe the painful reality, no sentimental commentary to placate the heart. There they are: Army Major Ronald Culver Jr., Shreveport, Louisiana, 44 years old. Marine Lance Corporal Joshua Davis, Perry, Iowa, 19 years old. Private First Class Adriana Alvarez, San Benito, Texas, 20 years old. Marine Sergeant Philip Bocks, Troy, Michigan, 28 years old. The list would roll on.

I was always transfixed by their faces—some too young to have begun to live, others old enough to leave behind husbands and wives, daughters and sons. All of them loved by family and friends. All of them leaving gaping wide a tear in the fabric of the world that cannot be repaired. We remember them.

Their names are among the 6,843 who have fallen in the Iraq-Afghanistan conflicts. Their names are added to those 58,200 Americans who fell in the Vietnam War, the 37,000 killed in the Korean War, to those 406,000 Americans killed in World War II and the 117,000 Americans killed in the Great War, the 720,000 who died in the Civil War. We remember them.

Ever has it been so. Ever have we human beings been willing to fight with our neighbor over properties, philosophies, patriotisms. Today we remember those women and men who have fought our battles for us. Those men and women who were courageous enough, selfless enough and hopeful enough to set aside their own security, to leave families and homes behind, to go to the sacrificial extent of leaving their lives behind. We remember them with humbling awe and deep respect.

And we remember them best by praying for the day when wars will cease. We remember them best by offering the hand of friendship to folks in every corner of the globe, by reaching out in the spirit of reconciliation, generous cooperation, and compassionate understanding. We remember them best by working together in real and practical ways toward the day when all peoples everywhere will beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into pruning hooks, and when there will be no need for us to send our daughters and sons, our husbands and wives, our sisters and brothers into war. For in this way we fulfill the great commandment: that we love the Lord our God with all of our heart, and mind, and soul, and strength, and that we love one another as God has loved us.

This is how we best remember them. With hearts broken wide to share in God's peace, love and hope, we will always remember them.

May the peace of Christ reign in all of our hearts, Pastor Marjorie

These statistics are drawn from a report titled American War and Military Operations Casualties: Lists and Statistics.

Published by the Congressional Research Service. Updated July 29, 2020

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

...why do you stand looking up toward heaven? — Acts 1:11

GARDEN CLUB FOR CHILDREN

(parents may drop their children, ages 3 to grade 5, at the garden upon arrival to outdoor worship.)

GATHERING

PRELUDE Open the Eyes of My Heart Paul Baloche

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; Open the eyes of my heart;

I want to see You, I want to see You.

To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory. Pour out Your power and love As we sing "Holy, holy, holy."

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord...

To see You high and lifted up...

"Holy, holy, holy."

We cry "Holy, holy, holy." You are "Holy, holy, holy."

I want to see you.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL CONCERNS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

You have heard what was written about Jesus in Scripture—

How he would suffer and die

And then rise from the dead on the third day;

How the same power that raised Jesus from the dead

raised Him to heaven and seated Him at the right hand of God,

where he now lives to intercede on our behalf. So let us come before God with confidence,

throught the loving intercession of our risen Lord,

Jesus Christ!

* HYMN A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

A hymn of glory let us sing!

New hymns throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ, by a road before untrod. Ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The holy apostolic band

Upon the Mount of Olives stand.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And with his faithful followers they see Their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

To all, the shining angels cry,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"This is the Savior!" Thus they say,
"This is his glorious triumph day!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come, O Lord, on this day of glory to confess our lack of trust.

While we claim to celebrate the ascension of our Lord, The way we live proclaims our lack of faith

In the power of God's love to deal with the world.

We confess the incongruity between our faith and practice.

While we sing of your reign over all creation,

We give in to despair, give up on community, reconciliation,

We give up working for justice and peace.

Help us to live with confidence in your presence today And in hope for life with you forever. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news!

Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of life...

...Lord, Your children are praying.

How long, O Lord?

We are tired of excuses...

...Lord, Your children are praying.

Send the power of your Holy Spirit...

...Lord, Your children are praying.

How long, O Lord?

In the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, 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.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SOLO Ride On, King Jesus!

Hall Johnson

Ride on, King Jesus. No man can a hinder me. Ride on, King Jesus, ride on! No man can a hinder me.

For he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords. Jesus Christ the first and last, no man works like him. For he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords, oh Jesus Christ the first and last, no man works like him.

King Jesus rides a milk white horse, no man works like him. The river of Jordan he did cross, no man works like him. For he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords, oh, Jesus Christ, the first and last, oh!

King Jesus rides in the middle of the air, oh! He calls his saints from everywhere, ahh! Ride on, King Jesus! No man can a hinder me. Ride on King Jesus, ride on, no man can a hinder me.

He is the King, he is the Lord, oh! He is the King, he is the Lord, oh! Jesus Christ, the first and last, No man works like him! Ride on, ride on, ride on Jesus!

SERMON SENT!: Looking Up

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

Acts 1:1-11

SENDING

* HYMN O Beautiful for Spacious Skies Materna

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain; For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!

America! America! God shed his grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood

From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved

In liberating strife,

Who more than self their country loved,

And mercy more than life!

America! America! May God thy gold refine,

Till all success be nobleness,

And every gain divine.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off donations in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross near the exit as you depart.

Please see notes on page 11.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

...why do you stand looking up toward heaven? — Acts 1:11

THE CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARIES Nimrod Sir Edward Elgar
A Solemn Melody Sir Henry Walford Davies

* CALL TO WORSHIP

You have heard what was written about Jesus in Scripture—
How he would suffer and die
And then rise from the dead on the third day;
How the same power that raised Jesus from the dead
raised Him to heaven and seated Him at the right hand of God,
where he now lives to intercede on our behalf.
So let us come before God with confidence,
throught the loving intercession of our risen Lord,
Jesus Christ!

* INTROIT arr. Joseph T. Jones

He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him. O he is King of kings; he is Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

He built his throne up in the air; no one works like him; And called his saints from everywhere; no one works like him. O he is King of kings; he is Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 258

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come, O Lord, on this day of glory to confess our lack of trust.

While we claim to celebrate the ascension of our Lord,
The way we live proclaims our lack of faith
In the power of God's love to deal with the world.

We confess the incongruity between our faith and practice.

While we sing of your reign over all creation,
We give in to despair, give up on community, reconciliation,
We give up working for justice and peace.

Help us to live with confidence in your presence today And in hope for life with you forever. Amen.

Silence is kept for personal confession.

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the tower bell.

* KYRIE ELEISON Healey Willan

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news!

Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Thanks be to God!

* GLORIA PATRI Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

Greatorex

and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER For the Fallen

Douglas Guest

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old, Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn, At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them, We will remember them.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of life...

...Lord, Your children are praying.

How long, O Lord?

(This tune is Hymn 777, "How Long, O Lord")

How long, O Lord, will you forget

An answer to my prayer? No tokens of your love I see;

Your face is turned away from me;

I wrestle with despair!

We are tired of excuses...

...Lord, Your children are praying.

How long, O Lord?

How long, O Lord, will you forsake

And leave me in this way?

When will you come to my relief? My heart is overwhelmed with grief,

By evil night and day!

Send the power of your Holy Spirit... ...Lord, Your children are praying. How long, O Lord?

How long, O Lord? But you forgive With mercy from above.
I find that all you ways are just;
I learn to praise you
And to trust in your unfailing love!

In the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, 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.

THANKSGIVING

* HYMN 265 Jesus Shall Reign Where E'er the Sun

Duke Street

Stanzas 1 & 4

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings, whether made in the worship service or outside of it, are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry here. Today's loose offering will support Foster Care and Adoption ministries. (See note on page 11.)

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

T. Frederick H. Candlyn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light, Sun of righteousness, arise! Triumph o'er the shades of night: Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by thee; Joyless is the day's return, Till thy mercy's beams I see; Till thy inward light impart, Glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit, then, this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief! Fill me, Radiancy Divine; Scatter all my unbelief; More and more thyself display, Shining to the perfect day. Amen. * DOXOLOGY Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Old Hundredth

praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Our father's God, to thee,

Author of liberty, To thee we sing. Long may our land be bright, With freedom's holy light; Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King. Amen. America

WORD

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Birmingham

Materna

Tell out my soul the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord To children's children and for evermore!

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1:15-23 (*Pew Bible, NT. page 192*)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON SENT!: Looking Up Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

Acts 1:1-11 (Pew Bible, NT. page 118)

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 338 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (Seated)

CHORAL ORISON Junkanoo

Now go in joy to spread the Word

Till all people have heard:

God embraces all!

Follow, then, the disciples' call:

Tend your neighbors with loving care

In daily work and prayer.

God's own grace empower your spirit. Amen!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Trumpet Tune Frederick Swann

Worship/Music Notes

In today's service we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. We open with the introit prayer to "open the eyes of our heart" and proclaim Jesus's reign with *He Is King* and *Ride On, King Jesus!*. We sing and celebrate the story of the ascension in our opening hymn, *A Hymn to Jesus Let Us Sing*, and offertory anthem, *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies* by T. Frederick H. Candlyn. The offertory hymn *Jesus Shall Reign Where E'er the Sun* brings us the reminder that Jesus brings hope for the weary and oppressed.

Before this, in our time of prayer we honor those who have lost their lives in service to our country in *For the Fallen* by Donald Guest; and in the responsive Prayers of the People for those lives lost in Uvalde, TX., singing *How Long*, *O Lord*. After the word is proclaimed, we are sent out with a prayer for the healing of our nation in *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*. And as we are sent out into the world to share the love of Jesus, we are reminded that our calling is to love and care for our neighbors.

Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in Melrose Chapel (to the left, when facing forward in the sanctuary) immediately following service each Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.

Tour Kirk in the Hills each Sunday! Those interested in a brief tour are asked to meet in the Baptistry, to the right of the Chancel, after the 11:00 a.m. service. See an usher for direction or further details.

Loose offerings collected today will support Foster Care and Adoption ministries. You can make note of that on your check, envelope, or online gift to show your support. For text to give information, please refer to the information card in the pew rack in front of you.

Join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

The flowers on the alter in the sanctuary are presented to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce W. Miller in memory of those who served and saved the Union during the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865.

About todays cover art

Come Holy Spirit | Lance Brown | Fine Art America

From the artist, "I began painting after graduating art school in 2001 and painted a picture of Jesus for the first time in 2009 for my church in Arlington, Texas. At that time in my life I had been praying for God to reveal my true purpose in life. Little did I know at that time, this was God's plan for my life. God had called me to spread the gospel with paint as a speed painter!"

Copyright Information

For the Fallen Donald Guest © 1984 The Royal School of Church Music. Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies T. Frederick H. Candlyn © 1942 Carl Fischer Inc. Ride On, King Jesus! Hall Johnson © 1951 Carl Fischer, Inc.



Worship Times

8:00 a.m. - Cedarholm Chapel 9:00 a.m. - Outdoor Worship 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.



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