

**First United Methodist Church of Evergreen Park,  
11:00am Worship Ascension of the Lord  
Ascension of the Lord  
preaching: Dave LaCognata  
liturgist; Bill Moore**

**Prelude**

**The Call to Worship (Responsive)**

Shout for joy, sing songs of praise,

**for God reigns over all the earth!**

God has gone up with a shout!

**Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!**

**The Prayer of the Day (Unison)**

**O God of glory, sovereign of all nations, the risen and ascended Christ calls us to carry your message of life to all people. Led by the power of your Holy Spirit, may we witness always to the hope to which we are called as we share Christ's love to the ends of the earth. Amen.**

**The Hymn**

**“Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

**#327 UMH**

**The Call to Confession**

Jesus tells us that repentance and forgiveness is to be offered in his name.

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, who assures us of new life through the power of Christ's redeeming love.

**The Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing.**

**When we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you,  
you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power,  
through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.**

*the silence*

**The Words of Assurance**

Sisters and brothers, as Christ is our witness, God's power to pardon is immeasurable.

Therefore, proclaim this good news to the ends of the earth: through the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven.

**The Hymn**

**“Jesus Shall Reign”**

**#157 UMH**

**The Prayer of Illumination**

Come Holy Spirit, open our minds to see the power of Scripture to give life; enlighten our hearts that we might see Christ in all whom we meet; in the name of the one, holy, and living God, to whom we give all glory. Amen.

**The First Reading**

**Acts 1:1-11**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.

<sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven

**The Psalter**

**Psalm 47**

<sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

<sup>2</sup>For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

<sup>3</sup>He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup>He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

<sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

<sup>7</sup>For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

<sup>8</sup>God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

<sup>9</sup>The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

### **The Epistle**

#### **Ephesians 1:15-23**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### **The Gospel**

#### **Luke 24:44-53**

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>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, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so, stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” <sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them; he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

### **The Sermon**

#### **The Prayers of Intercession**

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.**

#### **The Invitation to the Offering**

God invites us to give the testimony of our hearts in practical offerings of money and time. Therefore, let us testify to God’s love by bringing our gifts.

#### **The Offertory Music**

#### **The Doxology**

#### **The Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)**

**Jesus Christ has made God known to us. We already belong to God. And so, we dedicate these gifts to God’s service and to the glory of God’s name. Amen.**

#### **The Hymn**

**“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” #703 UMH**

#### **The Benediction**

Go now. Christ sends you into the world just as he himself was sent into the world.

Delight in the Lord’s teaching, testify to his resurrection life, and share in the ministry of his people.

And may God protect you from the evil one;

May Christ Jesus give you God’s word & make you his own;

And may the Holy Spirit sanctify you in the truth, and fill you with the joy of God.

Postlude

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*The mission of the United Methodist Church  
is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”*

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**\* THIS WEEK AT FUMCEP**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	May 16	<b>11:00 a</b> 7:00 p	<b>Worship Service</b> Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
<b>MONDAY</b>	May 17		
<b>TUESDAY</b>	May 18		
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	May 19		
<b>THURSDAY</b>	May 20		
<b>FRIDAY</b>	May 21		
<b>SATURDAY</b>	May 22		
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	May 23	<b>11:00 a</b> 7:00 p	<b>Worship Service</b> Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Barbara Good**, Pastor, [revgood87@gmail.com](mailto:revgood87@gmail.com)  
**Ray Paschke**, Accompanist  
**Virginia Franson**, Nursery Attendant

**First United Methodist Church of Evergreen Park**

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Telephones: Church: 708-422-8451 /// Pastor 708-529-5501  
Website: <http://evergreenparkmethodist.org>

**PEOPLE TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Ruth Fuss, Ardith Inman, Freddie and Bessie Kendrick and Bessie’s mom Ruth Jones, Richard Mezera,  
Greg and Claudia Manow, Ed and Georgeen Slee,  
**Prayer Shawl and Prayer Bear** Recipients; **Past and Present** Servicepersons

**We extend our condolences to the family of Joseph Zettek. Joe passed away Wednesday, May 5th. His daughter Jan Durham said she would love to hear from church members, and that this congregation meant so much to her father. Condolences can be sent to Jan Durham 1223 Leon Place, Evanston, IL 60201**

For those who wish to continue worshipping virtually:

First UMC Evergreen Park plans to stream the 11:00am service on  
the [FUMCEP ILLINOIS FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

The Palos UMC will stream their service at 9:30 AM on the  
[PALOS UMC FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

**You do not need to have a Facebook Account to view the services.**

Watch this YouTube video link for more information and step by step instructions:  
[How to watch Facebook Livestreams WITHOUT a Facebook Account](#)

NOTE: THESE RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE TO WATCH ANYTIME.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## EPHESIANS 1: 15-23

G L O R I O U S R E D W E A E N F  
 I K H A C C O R D I N G F L B G P  
 D G G B R E V E L A T I O N K K P  
 Z E R E A S O N J R E M E M B E R  
 G N N Y S N A I S E H P E Z H Q E  
 R T L E T T O Y L N E V A E H T C  
 E I R H T I N E S A E C N Z W Y N  
 A R G I R H R I D X N F Z Z A N A  
 T I B J C U G O A S S O A Z Q E T  
 N P O A Q H M I H S V W G J S C I  
 E S X O U I E Y L T P O P W K P R  
 S X U I N X L S I N U L J I N D E  
 S Q L I M P Q L O R E A V S A E H  
 H Q O Y S C V S G I F T I D H T N  
 Q N O P K S S E N L L U F O T A I  
 V C A L L E D J F G V L M M Y E B  
 O O L I M M E A S U R A B L E S M

FULLNESS	DOMINION	AUTHORITY	HEAVENLY
SEATED	ACCORDING	GREATNESS	IMMEASURABLE
INHERITANCE	GLORIOUS	RICHES	CALLED
ENLIGHTENED	REVELATION	WISDOM	SPIRIT
REMEMBER	THANKS	CEASE	REASON
SAINTS	EPHESIANS		

## The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)  
 Based on Luke 24:44-53

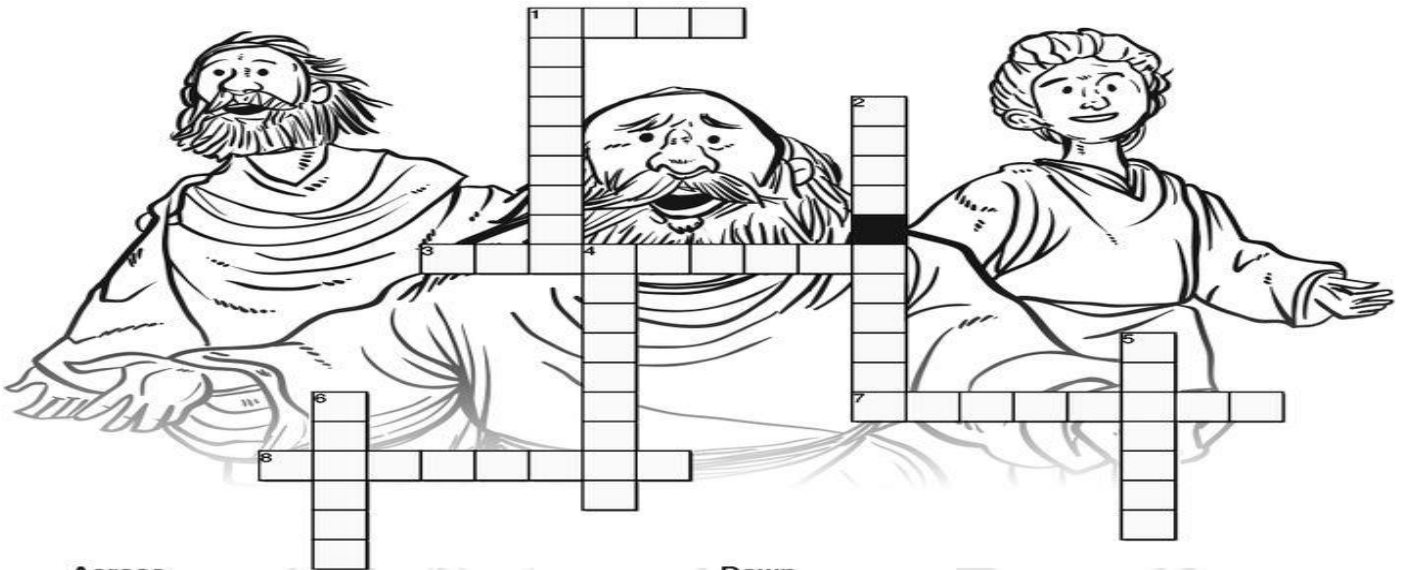


B T Q O M D Q S U F F E R U F  
 F N C Q W O P S A L M S T S A  
 G X N Q O F S M Z Z H N U C O  
 B B Y C R O T E C M E T N R J  
 R A P R S R S P S P F E C I A  
 N I G Y H G U P E G K D L P S  
 Z F S F I I M R N A N W D T P  
 B J Z E P V F S T A Y E E U O  
 X L K R E E G J T Q L H J R H  
 E T E U D N X S Y L P D U E T  
 E S X S E K R K I O E A M M P  
 J S X V S E W F R N D X I C H  
 A X A B D I L P E U V V N O R  
 D E C N K U N P L F J S D Q S  
 H R U I F H O G G V Y K S L C

RISE SUFFER HEAVEN WORSHIPED	REPENT PSALMS SCRIPTURE BLESSING	PROPHETS OPENED FULFILLED UNDERSTAND	TAKEN FORGIVE MOSES MINDS
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# THE ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1-2



**Across**

1. The disciples had the big job of spreading the good news of Jesus's \_\_\_\_\_, death and resurrection to the world.
3. Jesus said, "Go and make \_\_\_\_\_ of all nations."
7. That day, three \_\_\_\_\_ people were brought into God's family.
8. Peter ran out into the crowded streets and told everyone in their own language to "Repent and be \_\_\_\_\_"

**Down**

1. When the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, they could speak new \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who did Jesus say was coming after he left?
4. What was another name Jesus gave to the Holy Spirit?
5. After a final lesson, the \_\_\_\_\_ opened and Jesus rose up into the sky.
6. What appeared on the disciples' heads?



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## The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



X	W	V	D	J	Q	R	I	B	S	O	A	E	U	C	P	K	N	H	L	G	M	Y	Z	F	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. 25-14-20-25-8-20-20-13-4 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 11-16-13-18-13-4 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 22-8-18-4-10 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 10-15-7-8-16-26-14-7-13 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 7-8-10-13 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 7-13-16-13-18-26 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 9-20-13-10-10-8-18-21 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 26-12-17-13-18 \_\_\_\_\_
9. 19-13-12-3-13-18 \_\_\_\_\_
10. 2-11-7-10-19-8-16-13-4 \_\_\_\_\_

SCRIPTURE MINDS	RISE TAKEN	REPENT OPENED	HEAVEN WORSHIPED	BLESSING FULFILLED
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## Bridge Phase

We celebrate the patience, care and measured response our churches have made in this season of the pandemic. Your care for others and your commitment to “Do No Harm” is one of the reasons the State of Illinois is again shifting in the Restore Illinois Plan to a new **Bridge Phase** on **May 14**. This move is due in large part to the number of persons who have been vaccinated in our state.

In the coming phase, note the public health guidelines that have kept us safe, such as wearing masks, social distancing and handwashing. Singing is still considered a high-risk activity and guidelines advocate exercising caution.

Dining together is still limited to 10 persons, which indicates that coffee hours should not yet be reinstated. As always, outdoor activities allow for more flexibility than indoor activities. In the new bridge phase, meetings, which would include worship services, move to 60% capacity.

Once we have been in the Bridge Phase for four weeks, the state will again assess the metrics and determine if we can move to Phase 5 expected by June 11, the final phase in the Restore Illinois Plan to fully reopen the state.

You can find detailed information about the Bridge Phase at [coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/bridge-phase](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/bridge-phase).

The NIC Return Plan remains a good guide as you proceed to welcome back your congregations. It can be found at [umcnic.org/returnteam](https://umcnic.org/returnteam).



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IN PERSON WORSHIP SUNDAY @ 11 a.m. MASKS REQUIRED