

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Then I heard every creature in heaven
and on the earth and under the earth
and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing:
To the one seated on the throne
and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!
Let us worship God.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of majesty, you led the Messiah through suffering into risen life, and took him up to the glory of heaven. Clothe us with the power promised from on high, and send us forth to the ends of the earth as heralds of repentance and witnesses of Jesus Christ, firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

*HYMN #113

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

LLANFAIR

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SUMMARY OF THE LAW

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

BE NOT AFRAID

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Choir and congregation sing several times

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-14 (p. 118 New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy.

For the Lord Most High is to be feared, the great Sovereign over all the earth.

The Lord subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

The Lord chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of the beloved Jacob.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our Sovereign, sing praises.

For God is Sovereign of all the earth; sing praises with all your skill.

God reigns over the nations; God sits upon heaven's holy throne.

The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, and God is highly exalted.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11 (p. 111 New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
SERMON

*HYMN #142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(see insert)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Gary Hallquist and Benjamin Harlan

All Praise and Honor

*DOXOLOGY

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

EASTER HYMN

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*LORD'S PRAYER

(see insert)

SENDING

*HYMN #151

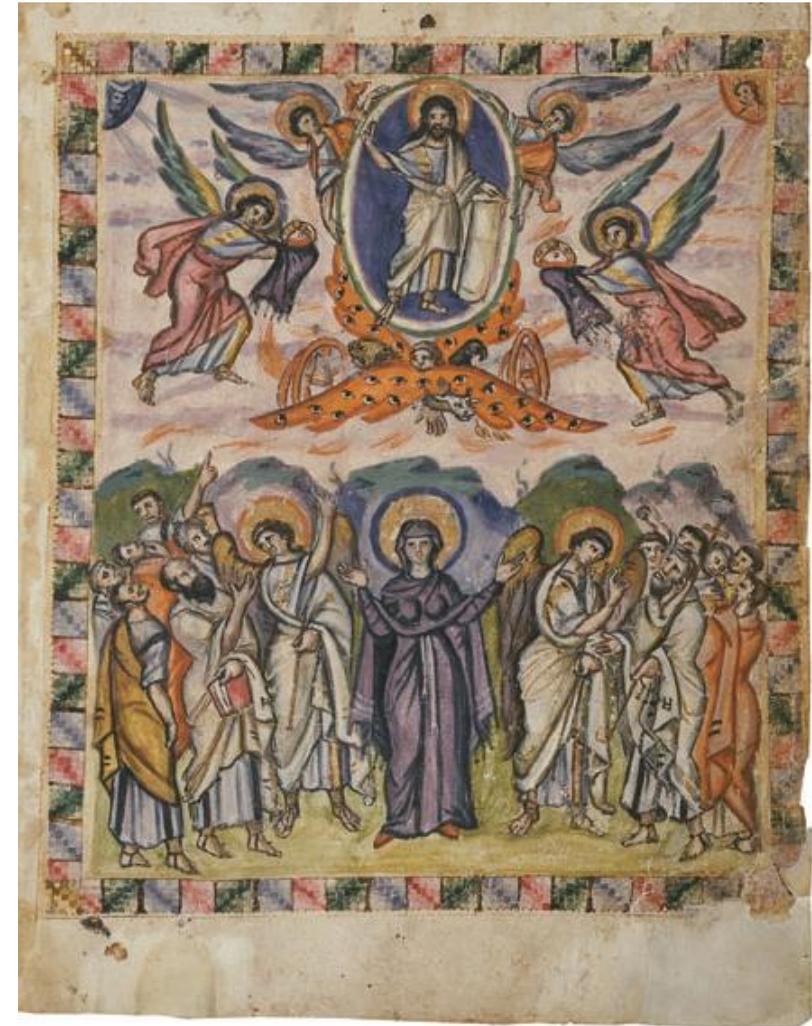
Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



**ORDER OF WORSHIP
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
ASCENSION SUNDAY
May 28, 2017
Presbyterian Church in Needham**