

Burlington Baptist Church

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Ascension

Sunday, May 16, 2021

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Welcome to Burlington Baptist Church today!

WE APPROACH GOD

Ascending Christ, returning to your beginning,
you take the joy and anguish of human struggle
into the presence of God.
Intercede for us this day, that the breath of God
may fill the emptiness you leave among us
and we may know the power
of God's Spirit.

Prelude

“To God Be the Glory”

Linda Mourot

(William Doane; arr. Rebecca Moore)

Welcome and Announcements

Dave Ogilvie

Prayer and Preparation

WE PRAISE GOD

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

“You Servants of God”

299 - GG

- 1. You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad Christ's wonderful name.
The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.*
- 2. Ascended on high, almighty to save,
he still remains nigh; his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.*
- 3. Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!*

* Prayer of Approach

Responsive Reading Psalm 68 (selected)

LEADER: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.

PEOPLE: Sing to God, sing praises to God's name;
lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds -
God's name is YAHWEH. Rejoice in God!

LEADER: Guardian of orphans, protector of widows,
O God, in your holy dwelling,
you give the lonely a home in which to live;
you lead prisoners out to prosperity;
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

PEOPLE: When you went out ahead of your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
the earth quaked,
and the heavens poured down rain before you,
O God of Sinai, God of Israel.

LEADER: You gave rain in abundance; you restored the land -
our inheritance - when it languished.
There your people found a home,
which in your goodness you provided for the needy.

PEOPLE: Sing to God, all the earth's realms!
Sing praises to God!
Sing to the Rider of the ancient skies,
who thunders forth with a powerful voice!

LEADER: Proclaim the power of God
whose majesty is over Israel,
whose strength is in the skies.
O God, how awesome you are in your sanctuary!

ALL: The God of Israel gives power and strength
to the people. Blessed be God! Amen.

A Gift of Song

“Jesus, My All, to Heaven Is Gone”

(John Cennick/Traditional Spiritual; setting Howard Helvey)

Allison Thornton and Malcolm Paterson

WE GIVE OURSELVES TO GOD

Prayers of the People of God

The Offering “Tell Me the Story of Jesus”
(John Sweney; arr. Rebecca Moore)

* Offertory Prayer “For the Life That You Have Given” 717 - GG

*For the life that you have given,
for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labour,
with these gifts that are your own;
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing. Amen.*

GOD SPEAKS TO US

The Scriptures

Bev Paterson

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24: 49 - 52

Epistle Lesson: Acts 1: 1 - 14

Sermon: “Not for You to Know”

GOD SENDS US FORTH

* Hymn of Response “I Cannot Tell” 458 - The [Baptist] Hymnal

- 1. I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon women and men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wand'ers,
to bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
that Beth'hem's manger was his only home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and labored,
and so the Savior, Savior of the world, is come.*

2. *I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the Cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
for yet the Savior, Savior of the world, is here.*
3. *I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when all the hearts of folk with love are filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
and myriad, myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will answer:
at last the Savior, Savior of the world, is King.*

Benediction

Postlude “We Walk by Faith” (Marty Haugen; setting David Cherwien)