# June 01, 2025 9:30 AM

# The Ascension of Jesus Christ & Butterfly Sunday



# **CEDAR CHURCH**

A Union Church since 1855 3419 Broadway Allentown, PA 18104 610-395-6332

Email: <a href="mailto:cedarchurch@ptd.net">cedarchurch@ptd.net</a> www.cedarunionchurch.com

# Our Mission

Cedar Church extends a hand of welcome to all of God's children seeking a place of worship among persons dedicated to the love of Christ and his teachings.

# \*Please rise in body or spirit.

### **Before The Service**

A selection of traditional & contemporary sacred music arrangements played on the piano

**Prelude** Musette

George Frideric Handel

# Ringing of the Bell

### Welcome & Announcements

### Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!





# \*Call to Worship

P: A new day has begun.

C: Hope wins!

*P: A fresh start is granted.* 

C: Faith wins!

P: Today you have the opportunity to do something new.

C: Hope wins!

*P: Jesus, the Christ is entering your life in a new way.* 

C: Faith wins!

P: Come, let us worship God, who is inviting us into life in a new way, a way that transcends death, a way of hope and faith.

C: Love wins! Let us worship Christ, who overcame death to give us new life!

# \*Opening Prayer

LA: Let us pray:

C: Holy One, you come to us as a flash of lightning, an uncontrollable source of energy and power. Even while we try to keep you safely within the confines of our liturgy, hymns, and theology, your spirit continues breaking forth in new and unexpected ways, reminding us that you are the One in whom the whole Earth rejoices. In this time of worship and prayer, loosen our chains, open our hearts that we may hear and respond to the Spirit's call. Amen.

### \*Invitation to Confession

P: While we claim to celebrate the ascension of our Lord, the way we live proclaims our lack of faith in his power to deal with the world.

Let us confess the incongruity between our faith and practice.

Let us pray:

# \*Unison Prayer of Confession

C: We come, O Lord, on this day of glory to confess our lack of trust. While we sing of your lordship over all creation, we have too often acted as though you are powerless in the face of today's events. Help us to live with confidence in your presence today and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.



# \*Kyrie

P: Lord have mercy upon us.

C: Lord have mercy upon us.

P: Christ have mercy upon us.

C: Christ have mercy upon us.

P: Lord have mercy upon us.

C: Lord have mercy upon us.

### \*Assurance of Pardon

P: God's love is never bound by our limitations and failures. It rises renewed in each moment, waiting on the pathway of life to offer us grace. The chains which bind our lives are torn apart by the power of God's gift of forgiveness.

C: Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

### \*Canticle of Praise



(Please be seated)

**Scriptures** (Scripture Verses are NSRV unless otherwise stated)

### The Reading of the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:1-11

Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

[Luke writes:] <sup>1</sup>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 Responsive Reading of the Psalms Psalm 47, The Voice

The high point of the Psalm, verse 5 in which "God has gone up with a shout" may refer to a processional in worship, demonstrating that God is enthroned in the heavens. The theological meaning is that that God rules over all nations — indeed of the entire universe. Israel rejoiced in being God's people, but also in knowing God as LORD of all, not just some local deity.

- Clap your hands, all of you;
   raise your voices joyfully and loudly.
   Give honor for the True God of the universe;
- <sup>2</sup> Here's why: The Eternal, the Most High, is awesome and deserves our great respect. He is the great King over everything in this world.
- <sup>3</sup> He's helped us win wars, suppressed our enemies, and made nations bow at our feet.
- <sup>4</sup> He decides the extent of our inheritance and selects the land where we and our children will live, for we are the pride of Jacob, the ones He loves.
- <sup>5</sup> The True God ascends the throne acclaimed by shouts of the people. The Eternal is announced by the blast of a trumpet.
- <sup>6</sup> Sing! Shout! Play instruments!

Praise our God and King; sing praises to Him who is worthy.

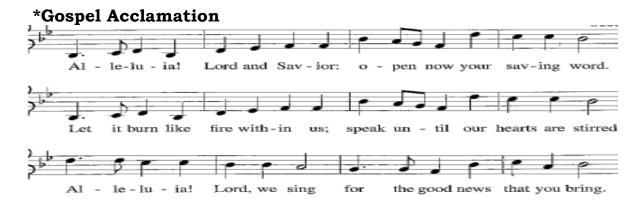
- <sup>7</sup> For He is the King of all the earth. Sing praise, all who can. Put words to music, and then sing praises
- <sup>8</sup> At the feet of the God who sits on His holy throne, ruling over all the nations.
- <sup>9</sup> All those with influence in this world—princes, kings, and satraps—gather with those who follow Abraham's God.
  For these defenders belong to God who reigns over the nations!

C: Thanks be to God.

### The Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:44-53

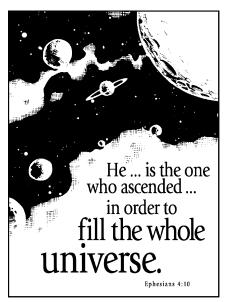
On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.



P: Listen to the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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."45Then 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; 53and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*P:* This is the good news.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated.)

# Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Brother and Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sermon

"Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will."

Jonathan Edwards

We Lift Up Survivors and Remember Those Who Lost Their Fight





# \*The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

P: Set free in spirit, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

(Silence is kept.)

LA: Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy,

# C: hear our prayer.

LA: Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy,

### C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry especially those on our prayer list. Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. God, in your mercy,

# C: hear our prayer.

P: Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymn writers. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy,

# C: hear our prayer.

P: Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy,

# C: hear our prayer.

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your lifegiving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

### C: Amen.



### **Offertory Invitation**

P: If Jesus was giving directions to us, his disciples, today, they might sound something like this: "You will be my witnesses to Cetronia, to all of Lehigh County, to Pennsylvania, and to the ends of the earth." One way we become Christ's witnesses is through our giving today. Some of our gifts will help people in Jesus' name locally. Some funds will reach into our state. Some gifts will reach far into our world in the name of Jesus. I invite you to give generously and joyfully as you fulfill Christ's call to be his witnesses to Allentown and to Emmaus, and to Bethlehem, and to all the world. Please share generously!

Anthem

Hear Me Now, O Lord

Jay Althouse

\*Doxology (Sung)

C: 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. Amen.

# \*Prayer of Dedication

P: Let us pray.

C: For all the gifts we have been given, we give thanks: the gift of your love, the gift of Jesus, the gift of life everlasting. We acknowledge our mission to serve and so we bring what we can that others may know your love, too. Amen.

# Service of Holy Communion

### \*The Invitation

LA: Come to this table: you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come! It is Jesus the Christ who invites us to meet him here.

# \*The Eucharistic Prayer

LA: God be with you.

C: And with you.

LA: Lift up your hearts, people of God.

C: We lift them to our Lord so they might be filled with a new spirit.

LA: Let us give thanks to God who loves us.

C: May our willing spirits offer praises to the One who feeds us.

LA: Our greatest joy is to offer you our thanks and praise,

Creator, Grace-giver, Healer of our brokenness.

All that is beautiful was created for our eyes;

all that is wonderful was created for our awe;

all that is majestic was created for our praise;

all that is mystery was created for our silence.

But despite everything you have given us, we are not satisfied.

Believing life is about our appetites, we choose the bread of the world not the bread of life; knowing our only hope is from you, we continue to rebel; called to live in unity with one another, we cling to all which divides us.

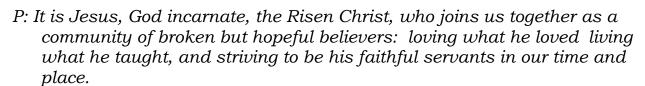
Yet you refuse to let go of us, sending your only Son, Jesus, to call us to life in you. We have fallen, and you lift us up; we have forsaken you, and you redeem us; we are broken, and you make us whole.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices, here and now, with the faithful of every time and place, singing to the glory of your name:

### \*Seraphic Hymn (Sung)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and Earth are full,

are full of the majesty of thy glory, Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!



In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did for us.

On the night before Jesus died, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying, "This is the new covenant, whenever you drink of it, remember me." We do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again. In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

# C: Dying, Christ was our salvation; Rising, Christ is our new life; Returning, Christ is to come to bring us home.

P: Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to transform these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we may taste and see your goodness, so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Hear us as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us...

### \*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, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

#### Call to Communion

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that our brother and Savior, Jesus the Christ, died and was raised for you.

### Distribution of the Sacrament

Communion will be by intinction.

Communion will be served to the choir first, then to those in the balcony. The usher will indicate when it's time for your row to move forward to receive communion,

When you do come forward, please proceed via the center aisle and exit by the side aisles. You will get a wafer from the pastor. There are also gluten-free wafers available. The pastor's chalice contains wine.

In the assistant's chalice, there is grape juice.

Communion Hymn What Feast of Love all verses



# \*Prayer of Thanksgiving

LA: Let us pray:

C: Amazing God, you have come into our ordinary lives and set a holy table before us, filling our plates with the bread of heaven, and our cups with salvation.

Send us out, O God, with tenderheartedness to touch an ordinary, everyday world with your extravagant promise of your love. Amen.

# \* Blessing

*P*: As people of faith we have gathered for worship.

C: As people of faith we now return to the world.

*P:* Go out to share the story of faith, the story of life, with the world around you.

C: We share the faith in word and in deed, in speech and in action.

P: As you go out to give a living witness, as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world, go knowing that God goes with you, sharing the laughter and the hope, the fears and the tears.

### C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

~ posted by Rev Gord on his blog, **Worship Offerings.** http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/





# We carry the light of Christ into the world.

### \*Sung Benediction

C: God be with you till we meet again. By his counsels' guide uphold you, Keep love's banner floating o'er you, God be with you till we meet again.

### \*Dismissal

LA: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.

\*Postlude Trumpet March Jeremiah Clarke

The Ministers Pastor

All the People Rev. Candi Cain-Borgman (cell: 610-762-9391)

Music DirectorSextonChurch SecretaryDavid BeckDon HinderliterJenny Simmons

**Volunteers** (Office Hrs. Tue-Wed-Thu 8am-4pm)

Lay Assistance Altar Guild Ushers

Janine Barnaby May 4th & 25th Nancy Otto Chris Ellis & Tammy Boyer

Dan Barnaby May 11th Carol Haines May 18th

# Videographer & Claxton Welcome Video Content Creator

Phil Horlacher Zach Borger & Sarah Barnaby

### 2025 Cedar Advisory Board (CAB)

President: Chris Ellis,

Vice President: Tammy Boyer, Treasurer: Phil Horlacher,

Assistant Treasurer: Sue Phillips,

Appointed Secretary: Jeannine Leonard and Assistant Secretary: Janine Barnaby,

Members: Zach Borger, Carol Haines, Ron Kozza, Cory Lentz, Maggie Gabel and

Pastor Candi Cain-Borgman

#### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

Given by Diane McKenzie in loving memory of mother, Barbara Hunsicker. Given by a Cedar Member in remembrance of his wife who loved flowers. BULLETIN:

Given by Dale Clauser in loving memory of his wife Nancy Clauser.

Given by William Dorney in memory of departed loved ones.

### **DEVOTIONALS:**

Given by The Estate of Paul and Madlyn Haines in memory of departed loved ones.

### YOUTH BULLETIN:

Given by Jeff, Linda & Grace Clewell in honor of Emma Clewell's birthday.

# Cedar Church Prayer List PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS Short and Long Term Illness

Oliva, Jackson and Emmalyn, Alicia and Kely Eggert, Devyn, Jenny Kuhns, Lynn L., Frank Knauss, Denise and Alan, Vicky Mace, Kathy Wilt, Sue Hrecicien, Barbara Flickinger, Kelly Schantz, Daniel McFadden, Tom Bartman, Malachi Calderon, Elaine, Nancy, Joanne McNabb, Skip Phillips, Brandon Mace, Garnett, Amy Beck, Eric Wakoli, Patti, George Minnich, Marlene Frey, Kourtney, Sara Beth, Amanda, Cindy Polchik, Danielle, Barry, Joan Carter, Dale Erdman, Jean Robertson, Megan, Kim Bastian, Pauline Gaal, Haisley Grim, Howard & Nancy, Cassie Mace, Brooke Weber, Randy, Members of our Recovery Groups.

# Cedar's Homebound Members

Albert Plarr, Barbara Snyder, Fred & Ardella, Jeanette Fry, Linda Ellis, Nancy Erdman, Anna Mae Derhammer, William Dorney, Rosanne Ritter, Lu Vogle, Shirley McNabb, Eleanore Gilbert, Christine Wagner, Elanore Gilbert Sharon Acampora, Betty Brunner, Mary Fillman and Gail Ruth

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact the church office.

(Hospitalization codes: 203 and 404)

Note: The Lehigh Valley and Saint Luke's Hospital Lists are not kept up to date and can be difficult to navigate. So, please notify the Church Office

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Pastor Candi if you or a family member is hospitalized.

# **Sunday, June 1, 2025**

# **Accession-- Butterfly Sunday**

Accession Dutterny Sunday		
Altar Guild: Linen White, Communion Service		
Summer Service	7:30am	Sanctuary
Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
Monday, June 2, 2025		
PPRC	7:00pm	103
Wednesday, June 4, 2025		
Young Adult Group	6:00pm	002
Saturday, June 7, 2025		
Ladies Pottery Painting Event	2:00pm	Paint Some Pottery
Sunday, June 8, 2025		(4144 Tilghman St.)
Pentecost		
Altar Guild: Linen Red, Communion Service		
Summer Service	7:30am	Sanctuary
Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
Tuesday, June 10, 2025		
C.A.B. MEETING	7:00pm	100
Sunday, June 15, 2025		
Trinity- Father's Day		
Altar Guild: Linen Tapestry, Communion	n Service	
Summer Service	7:30am	Sanctuary
Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
Wednesday, June 18, 2025		
Young Adult Group	6:00pm	002
Sunday, June 22, 2025		
2 Sunday After Pentecost		
Altar Guild: Linen Green		
Summer Service	7:30am	Sanctuary
Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
Father's Day Church Social	10:30am	Kitchen, Social Hall



# **Cedar Church Prayer List**

Oliva, Jackson and Emmalyn, Alicia and Kely
Eggert, Devyn, Jenny Kuhns, Lynn L.,
Frank Knauss, Denise and Alan, Vicky Mace,
Kathy Wilt, Sue Hrecicien, Barbara Flickinger,
Kelly Schantz, Daniel McFadden, Tom Bartman,
Malachi Calderon, Elaine, Nancy,
Joanne McNabb, Skip Phillips, Brandon Mace,
Garnett, Amy Beck, Eric Wakoli, Patti, George
Minnich, Marlene Frey, Kourtney, Sara Beth,
Amanda, Cindy Polchik, Danielle, Barry, Joan
Carter, Dale Erdman, Jean Robertson, Megan,
Kim Bastian, Pauline Gaal, Haisley Grim,
Howard & Nancy, Cassie Mace, Brooke Weber,
Randy, Members of our Recovery Groups,

# and

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Shirley McNabb, Eleanore Gilbert,
Christine Wagner, Elanore Gilbert
Sharon Acampora, Betty Brunner,
Mary Fillman and Gail Ruth