Fruitland and Payette United Methodist Churches

Ascension Sunday – May 24, 2020

## Prelude: “Ring the Bells of Heaven,” George F. Root; arranged by Robert J. Hughes

## Welcome and Announcements

*Welcoming the Light of Christ*

## Interlude: “I need Thee every Hour,” Annie S. Hawks; Robert Lowry

## Ringing the Church Bell

## CALL TO WORSHIP

## Calling Song “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” UMH #89

**Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;**

**Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.**

**Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.**

**Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

## Responsive Reading from Psalm 68:32-35

Leader: The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty;

the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength;

indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.

**People: Your throne was established long ago;**

**you are from all eternity.**

Leader: The seas have lifted up, Lord,

the seas have lifted up their voice;

the seas have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the thunder of the great waters,

mightier than the breakers of the sea -

**People: The Lord on high is mighty!**

**All: Your statutes, Lord, stand firm;**

**holiness adorns your house for endless days.**

## Unison Invocation

**Heavenly Father,**

**We gladly acknowledge your presence here today.**

**May your Holy Spirit open our minds to understand your will and ways.**

**We thank you for witnesses who show us how to follow your Son,**

**Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## Hymn “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations” UMH #569

**We’ve a story to tell to the nations,**

**that shall turn their hearts to the right,**

**a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light,**

**a story of peace and light.**

(Refrain)

**For the darkness shall turn to dawning,**

**and the dawning to noonday bright;**

**and Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,**

**the kingdom of love and light.**

**We’ve a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love,**

**and show us that is love.**

(Refrain)

## Gospel Reading John 17:1-11

## New Testament Reading 1 Peter 5:6-11

God’s Word for God’s people! **Thanks be to God!**

## Offering our gifts and tithes

## Offertory: “He Leadeth Me,” Joseph H. Gilmore; arranged by Lani Smith

## Offering prayer of Francis of Assisi, 13th century:

**O Divine Master,**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

**To be understood as to understand;**

**To be loved, as to love;**

**For it is in giving that we receive,**

**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,**

**And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen**.

## Prayers of the People

## Hymn Come By Here, My Lord“”

**Come by here, my Lord, come by here.**

**Come by here my Lord, come by here.**

**Come by here, my Lord, come by here.**

**O Lord, come by here.**

**Someone needs you Lord, come by here.**

**Someone needs you Lord, come by here.**

**Someone needs you Lord, come by here.**

**Oh Lord, come by here.**

**Someone’s praying Lord, come by here.**

**Someone’s praying Lord, come by here.**

**Someone’s praying Lord, come by here.**

**Oh Lord, come by here.**

## Message “You Will Be My Witnesses” Acts 1:1-11

## Commitment Hymn “Soon and Very Soon” UMH #706

**Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;**

**Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;**

**Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King.**

**No more dying there…**

**No more crying there…**

## Benediction

**May the peace of the Lord Jesus go with you   
wherever he may send you.**

**May he guide you through the wilderness,**

**protect you through the storm.**

**May he bring you home rejoicing   
at the wonders he has shown you.**

**May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors**

## Postlude: “The Faithful Word,” a medley of “Standing on the Promises,” R. Kelso Carter and “How Firm a Foundation,” K; arranged by Carter & Bradbury

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