



The Setauket Presbyterian Church

“As active disciples of Jesus Christ, we celebrate and share the love of God among ourselves and with others.”

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Ascension of the Lord

May 17, 2015

9:30 AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Ringling of the Steeple Bell

Welcome and Announcements including Pentecost Offering

Introit *Praise Ye The Lord*

Felix Mendelssohn

* **Call to Worship** (adapted from Acts 1)

All you who love God, you have heard about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 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.

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?”

He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that God has appointed. 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.”

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “People 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.”

* Hymn 258 *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

DEO GRACIAS

PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION

Holy Christ, today we look up to you, for today you see all, enthroned in the heavens and riding upon the clouds. We confess that we come to you with spiritual tunnel vision. We look at life and faith through our own imperfect eyes, through our own faulty memories, through our own notions of how the world should be. We fail to embrace the new, or the stranger, or the pain so close at hand. Help us, then, to look for you not only up there, but right here beside us. Widen our vision. Open our hearts to the hearts of others, especially of those who struggle and suffer, as you did here on earth. Give us the width and depth, the broad hospitality, of your vision, so that we might glimpse through your eyes the world and all who walk upon it. Grant that even when our vision fails, we may still lead others to you, praying always in your name... *(Silent Prayer)* Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

* Sung Response

from Hymn 236

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

WITH THE CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Children should proceed to their church school class.)

HEARING THE WORD

Sung Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 288 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me...melt me, mold me, fill me, use me...

First Reading Acts 10:44-48

Anthem *Peoples, Clap Your Hands!*

Genevan Psalter, 1551

Second Reading Mark 16:9-15, 19-20

THE SERMON *Tag, You're It!*

The Rev. Mary B. Speers

* HYMN 273 *He Is King of Kings*

HE IS KING

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

THANKING GOD THROUGH OUR OFFERINGS

Offertory

(Please sign the Friendship Roster found at the end of the pew,
noting the name of fellow worshippers when it is returned.)

* Doxology 606 (alt)

* Prayer of Dedication

Living God, at his Ascension your Son Jesus Christ gave gifts to the church. Lead us now, as Christ's body on earth, to use the gifts we have received to do your will. Bless to your glory these gifts we now return, and all we do in your world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

CORONATION

* CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION and BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

A Joyful Amen

Mark Orton

POSTLUDE

please rise in body or in spirit; **unison prayers are in bold.*

Large print bulletins, Bibles, hymnals and listening devices are available; please ask a Deacon.



NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 24 - PENTECOST

WEAR RED ON PENTECOST...Everyone is invited to wear something red **next Sunday, May 24**, Pentecost Sunday, as we celebrate the vibrant outpouring of the Spirit at SPC.

9:00 Knitting at 9 in the Parlor

9:30 Worship Service and the Rev. Kate Jones Calone preaching; Childcare (ages 1 - 3)

9:45 Church School (Preschool through 6th Grade)

PENTECOST OFFERING – Building Faith-Filled Futures

“O God from My Youth You Have Taught Me” (Psalm 71:17)

On Pentecost Sunday, the Presbyterian Church celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit by collecting an offering to transform the lives of children at risk, guide young people in their growing faith, and support young adult volunteers (YAVS), who dedicate one year of service to mission around the world.

Forty per cent (40%) of the offering stays within congregations, helping youth to serve in their local communities. SPC is one of many local faith communities co-sponsoring a retreat for high school students focused on racial justice that will be held on October 11-12, 2015. This gathering will bring together youth from many different faith traditions, racial-ethnic backgrounds, and communities on Long Island to build relationships with each other and participate in a program led by ERASE Racism.

The retreat will empower young people to return to their own communities and become leaders in the essential work of fostering diversity and understanding, and of building a more inclusive and equitable Long Island. Our portion of the Pentecost Offering will be used to help cover the cost of the retreat for the youth who participate.

Please give generously when we collect this offering on **Sunday, May 24** in support of our young people. Thank you. Envelopes are available in the pews today and in the weeks ahead.