



"The Ascension" by Margaux Cherry

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina gathers for
The Worship of God
Ascension Sunday, May 21, 2023

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Christ Candle Caroline Carter

Opening the Bible Aaron Kane

Choral Prelude

"Jesus Loves Me" Words by Anna Warner; Music by William Bradbury
Pre-K - 1st: Keighley Johnson and Maggie Martin, directors;
Assistants – Meganne Gould, Genelle Hix

"Jesus Hands' Were Kind Hands" Traditional French Melody; Words by Margaret Cooper
K-1st: Shelby Moss, director; Cindy Kohler, accompanist;
Assistants – Ruth Primm, Ashley Bethel, Jamie Stone

*Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,
healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,
washing tired feet and saving those who fall;
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.*

*Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you;
make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;
let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,
till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.*

Gathering Rev. Courtney Willis
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

†**Call to Worship** Rev. Seth Hix
By Joanna Harader

We come seeking a spirit of wisdom and revelation.

We come to know God.

We come to enlighten the eyes of our hearts.

We come to be reminded of the hope to which God has called us.

We come trusting in the immeasurable greatness of God's power:

The power that raised Christ from the dead;

The power that seated Christ at God's right hand in the heavenly places.

We come to be part of the fullness of God. Let us worship God together!

†Hymn 108

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing" MADRID

†Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Rev. Willis

Time for Children Rev. Chris Cherry

Children (first grade and younger) may attend Junior Church and will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response.

†Hymn 353

"For the Beauty of the Earth" DIX

Prayers of God's People Rev. Buck Cochran

Choral Anthem Sanctuary Choir and 2nd-5th Grade Choir – Baker Lawrimore, director;

Assistants – Amy Grizzle Kane and Mary Petriskie

"Look at the World" by John Rutter

Look at the world Everything all around us

Look at the world And marvel every day

Look at the world So many joys and wonders

So many miracles Along our way

Praise to thee O Lord for all creation

Give us thankful hearts that we may see

All the gifts we share and every blessing

All things come of thee

Look at the earth Bringing forth fruit and flowers

Look at the sky The sunshine and the rain

Look at the hills Look at the trees and mountains

Valley and flowing river Field and plain

Think of the spring Think of the warmth of summer

Bringing the harvest Before the winter's cold

Everything grows Everything has a season

Till it is gathered to our maker's fold

Every good gift All that we need and cherish

Comes from God In token of God's love

We are God's hands Stewards of all earth's bounty

God's is the sky and all the heav'ns above

Gospel Lesson Amelia Britt

Acts 1:1-11

Sermon Rev. Amy Starr Russell

†Hymn of Response 258

"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" LLANFAIR

Stewardship Prayer Marie Delgado *deacon*

Offertory Meditation Matt Messick

†Benediction Rev. Starr Russell

†Postlude Matt Messick

Youth Creative Arts

In the months of preparation for leading this celebration of Ascension Sunday, our youth and children considered the question, "How might we come to know God through God's creation, justice, mercy, and love?" Our youth explored this mystery through visual arts — carpentry and photography. Their works are displayed at the front of the sanctuary and in the narthex. Thank you, Buck Cochran, Amelia Barnes, Richard Wiley, and Gayle Wiley for leading in this season of youth creative arts. In digital arts, a group of 4th-6th graders practiced videography with Tyrone Smith. They join us today in worship from the balcony, using their new skills and creativity to share wider this celebration of Christ's ascension.

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of

Bill Miller

following the celebration of his life

by Mark & Tammy Miller and Wayne & Amy Miller.