

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Risen with Christ, let us seek the realities of the Spirit.

P: Our life is hidden with Christ in God.

L: He who descended is also ascended, far above the heavens, that he might fill all things.

P: When Christ, our Life, appears, we shall appear with him in glory! Alleluia!

† HYMN *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise* UMH #312

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 1:6-14

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ 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.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon

the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

CHILDREN’S TIME

† HYMN *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* UMH #514

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

SERMON *“It’s Not That Hard”* Rev. David Magruder

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH A Modern Affirmation UMH #885

† GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

† HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* UMH #89

† BENEDICTION



ASCENSION



BBQ
★ LUNCH ★

