

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

For the Lord Most High, is awesome, the great Sovereign over all the earth.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our Sovereign, sing praises!

For God is Sovereign of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

God reigns over the nations; God sits upon heaven's holy throne.

Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, by raising Jesus from the dead you proclaimed his victory, and by his ascension, you declared him Lord of all. Lift up our hearts to heaven where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

*HYMN # 150

MADRID

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

GOODNESS IS STRONGER

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;

light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.

Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word, that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 (p. 192, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Acts 1:1-11 (p. 118, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN # 142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Lord is Lifted Up

K. Woods and B. Crockett

*DOXOLOGY

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

EASTER HYMN

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

(see insert)

SENDING

*HYMN # 151

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



ORDER OF WORSHIP
ASCENSION SUNDAY

May 13, 2018
Presbyterian Church in Needham