

St. Stephen's

United Methodist Church

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 • ASCENSION SUNDAY
IN-PERSON OUTDOOR SERVICE - 9:00AM

Connect Card: www.ststephensfairfax.org/connect

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Pastor Rob

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jiyeon

One: Clap your hands, all you peoples;

All: shout to God with loud songs of joy.

One: God has gone up with a shout;

All: the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

One: Sing praises to God, sing praises;

All: sing praises to our King, sing praises.

OPENING SONG

Hymn of Promise

CCLI# 126529

In the bulb there is a flower in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning, in our time infinity.
In our doubt, there is believing, in our life eternity.
In our death, a resurrection, at the last, a victory.
Unrevealed, until its season, something God alone can see.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Jiyeon

O Lord God, your Son followed your will, both as Servant and Savior, and now rules in the hearts of those who accept him as King: Open our hearts to his rule, that we may rejoice in the blessings of his kingdom and share with those who honor him with their lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

SONG

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

CCLI # 2456623

I'm forgiven, because you were forsaken.
I'm accepted, you were condemned.
I'm alive and well, your Spirit is within me;
because you died and rose again.

Amazing love, how can it be
that you, my King, would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true:
It's my joy to honor you.
In all I do, I honor you.

You are my King, you are my King,
Jesus, you are my King,
Jesus, you are my King.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 1:1-11 NRSV

Pastor Rob

MESSAGE

Hope Grows

Pastor Rob

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Forrest

Forgiving and gracious God, you have called us to be the church, to live out our Resurrection hope and faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to bring to all the good news of your saving love. But too often we have given our faith a back seat to the troubles of the world and to the stresses in our own life. Forgive us for the smallness of our faith. You, who raised Christ from the dead, have promised to raise our spirits and bring us to new life. You have done this and yet, we remain static in our response to you. Clear the things that clutter our spirits. Help us to be open always to your word and your love. In the name of our risen Lord, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE

We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us. Friends, hear the good news and believe: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Alleluia! Amen.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
CCLI#:7173913

*Regular and gluten-free elements are available.
All elements are pre-packaged by TrueVine.*

*We will partake of the elements of bread and fruit of the vine together
as a sign of unity in the Lord.*

BENEDICTION

Pastor Rob

POSTLUDE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
CCLI# 27714

*Special thanks to our musicians for this Sunday:
Tim Anderson, Tammy Lydon, Melissa Pampel, Teryl Pomeroy, Lauri Snider, and
Marcus Williams.*

Have a blessed week! The Lord is risen!