

*Great*

*Joy*

**Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Rev. Dr. Barbara Booth-Jarmon  
May 17, 2026  
9:30am**

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Gathering of the People*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Christ is risen and ascended!

People: **Christ reigns in glory and power!**

Liturgist: God has seated Christ above all rule and authority.

People: **We gather to worship the One who reigns forever.**

Liturgist: Jesus lifts our hearts toward heaven and sends us into the world with joy.

People: **Let us worship God with gladness and praise!**

### \*GATHERING SONGS

"Open Up the Heavens"

James McDonald, et al.

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

### CALL TO CONFESSION

The disciples returned to Jerusalem with great joy after Jesus ascended into heaven. Yet we often carry burdens of guilt, fear, and doubt. Christ invites us to lay these before him, for the One who reigns in glory also offers mercy and forgiveness. Let us confess our sins to God.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, you call us to be witnesses to your love and grace, yet we often live as though fear has the final word. You lift our eyes toward your kingdom, but we become distracted by earthly concerns. You send us into the world with joy, yet we cling to doubt, bitterness, and worry.**

*Silent Confession*

**Forgive us when we fail to trust the power of Christ, who reigns above every authority and power. Forgive us when we forget that we are your people, called, blessed, and sent in hope.**

**Lift our hearts again toward your presence. Renew our faith, strengthen our witness, and fill us with resurrection joy; through Jesus Christ our ascended Lord. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*GLORIA PATRI

Hymn #813

*The Word*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, through your Word and Spirit open the eyes of our hearts this day. Help us to understand the hope to which you have called us, the riches of your grace, and the greatness of Christ's power and love. Speak to us through the Scriptures so that we may worship with joy and serve with courage; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** Ephesians 1:15–23  
Luke 24:44–53

p. 1156  
p. 1048

**SERMON**

**“Ascent With Joy”**

Pastor Barbara

*Responding to the Word*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”

# 43

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

The ascended Christ reigns not through domination, but through self-giving love. As Christ has blessed us richly with grace, let us offer our gifts with gratitude and joy.

**\*DOXOLOGY**

#815

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Generous God, all that we have comes from your loving hand. Bless these gifts and use them for the healing of the world, the proclamation of the gospel, and the service of your kingdom. May our lives as well as our offerings bear witness to the risen and ascended Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*Sending*

**\*SENDING HYMN**

“Here I Am, Lord”

# 58

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

## Announcements

**Prayer Concerns** - If you are worshipping with us online, please use the chat feature to type your prayers and we will include your concerns.

🔔 **The Bells of Kirkpatrick** Please contact Sharyn at (908) 399-3468 or [sharydan@gmail.com](mailto:sharydan@gmail.com) if you'd like to join them next time they play.

**Food Ministry:** Our next Grocery Giveaway is May 23.

**Flowers:** Today's flowers are given in celebration of Jack's 75th birthday from Barbara Booth-Jarmon.

**Flowers:** If you would like to beautify our worship space by contribution flowers, Gilded Lily will provide them for \$20 each; choose if you'd like 1 or 2 arrangements. Please contact Sharyn to make arrangements.

The KMPC Deacons are sponsoring a Diaper Drive for the Friendship Center for New Beginnings. **Needed: Pampers or Huggies diapers in sizes 3 to 5** (please no other brands and smaller sizes are NOT needed). Deadline: June 30. Dropoff: Box in KMPC connector. ***Thank you for your generous support!***

**Trenton Thunder - Faith and family night** Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> If we have a group of 20 or more the tickets would only be \$8.00 a piece. More information to come if interested please contact Norma Zimmerman or Sharyn Danner.

**Samuel Ayres, Jr. Scholarship** for the 2026-2027 academic year. The deadline for submissions is July 1, 2026. If you have questions concerning the scholarship, please see Roger Pickard or Steve Wonzer. Applications may be completed and submitted online at: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cfnjscholarship>

**If you wish to donate virtually**, you may use the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin. It will take you to PayPal. Thank you.

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To view our calendar or to donate online, scan the QR Code.



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