

✠ ENTRANCE ✠

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.  
(Matthew 18:20<sup>NRSV</sup>)



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

\*Opening prayer

\*Call to Worship (Responsively)

Mystery of God, draw us near and wisdom of God, surprise us.

Fill our minds with awe! Encourage us with hope!

Glory of God, shine through our lives.

Reveal Your power and Your glory!

In the mystery, the wisdom and the glory of God,

Let us worship! Let us worship our God!

\*Confession of Sins (in Unison)

The story of Ascension Day challenges us to seek the presence of the risen Christ in the here and now; in our lives, our community, and our world. (...) When we "look up to heaven" for our answers, and we fail to seek the Spirit at work in our midst, when we forget to repent of our wrong doings; when we fail to forgive others for mistakes of their own, and so we fail to give witness to the risen Christ; when we doubt the power of your Spirit, which is at work changing hearts and opening minds, and so we fail to embrace relationships of righteousness and peace, Lord have mercy on us.

\*Words of Assurance

Friends, the love of God revealed in Jesus forgives us, heals us, and sets us free to witness to his love in the world. Praise The Lord!

\*Hymn "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

#32 BH

✠ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ✠

New Testament Reading Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21;

Children's Time

Hymn "Sanctuary" #588 BH

Sermon John 17:20-26;

***"I MADE YOUR NAME KNOWN TO THEM"***

✠ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

Hymn "Glorify thy Name" #18 BH

\*Affirmation of Faith

\*Response "Glory Be to the Father"

Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Offering/Offertory Prayer

\*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

✠ SENDING FORTH ✠

\*Closing Hymn "He Touched Me" #628 BH

\*Charge & Benediction

**"I pray that the God of our Savior Jesus Christ, the God of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, to bring you to a rich knowledge of the Creator. May God enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see the hope this call holds for you – the promised glories that God's Holy Ones will inherit, and the infinitely great power that is exercised for us who believe." Amen.**

Postlude

# In the Life of our *STONEGATE* Family

**Sunday, May 8, 2016**

2:00 p.m. – MOMS IN PRAYER MEETING

**Thursday, May 12, 2016**

10:00 a.m. – LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

**Friday, May 13, 2016**

8:00 a.m. – FRIDAY BREAKFAST

**Sunday, May 15, 2016 – MOTHER'S DAY**

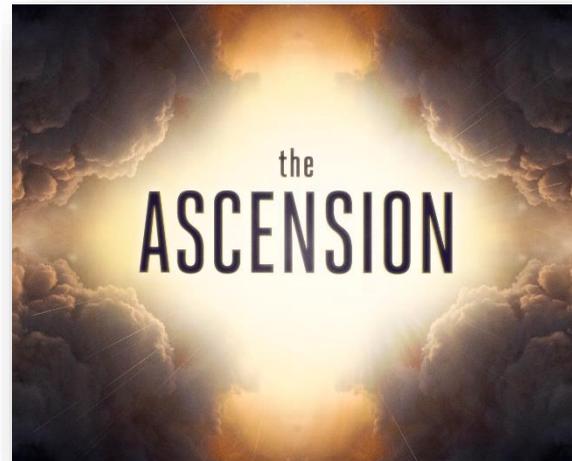
2:00 p.m. – MOMS IN PRAYER MEETING

## ☪ For Our Guests ☪

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to God as we worship the true and living God together.



Some prayers, litanies, and other worship resources or their parts used in bulletin, except as noted, come: "From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2015 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright © 2014 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission." and others come from unrecognized, unnamed resources, or are our own ideas.



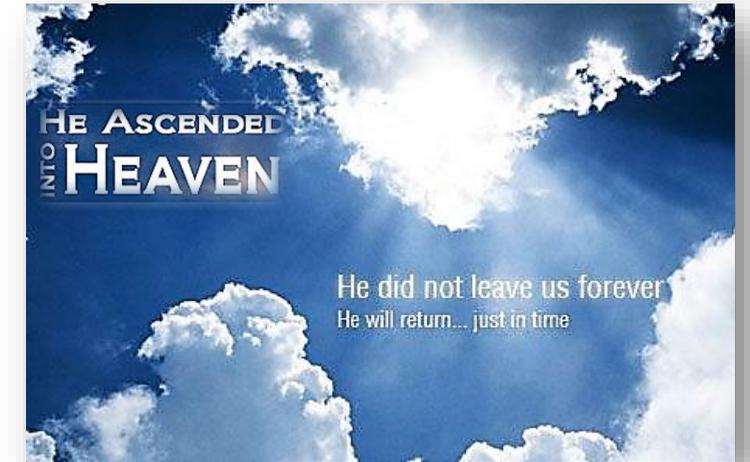
## THEME IDEAS

Ascension Day begins a period of waiting for the followers of Jesus.

The risen Christ, who has been wonderfully and unexpectedly present with them since Easter - comforting, teaching, challenging - leaves them to return to the One who sent Him into their midst in the first place. Christ leaves those early followers with many unanswered questions, but also with the promise that the Spirit will come to empower them for a future that they can hardly

imagine. The time between Ascension Day and Pentecost is what we might call a "retreat."

It is a time when the Disciples gather together to wait and ponder all that has happened to them, and to prepare for this new moment in the mission they will share. "Why are you looking up to heaven?" is the challenge posed to the disciples by the two strangers in dazzling robes. The prayer, the work, the mission, the very Spirit of Christ is discovered here on earth, in new and surprising ways.



# STONEGATE CHURCH

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

*Sunday Worship Service at 10:45 am*

*Ascension Sunday, May 8, 2016*

## ☪ WORSHIP LEADERS ☪

Rev. , Pastor

, Pianist

, Liturgist

, Children's Time

, Welcome and Announcements



\* Please rise as you are able

#156 RH = Page 156 Red Hymnal

#156 BH = Page 156 Blue Hymnal

Back Cover BH = Back Cover Blue Hymnal



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