

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (PCA)

BIBLE BELIEVING † CHRIST CENTERED † GRACE FILLED † GOSPEL DRIVEN



Worship for the Lord's Day

Ascension Sunday

May 16th, 2021 • 10:45 A.M.

Trinity Fellowship Church exists to glorify God by equipping a community of believers to worship God and be witnesses of Him in Central Arkansas and to the ends of the earth.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

– Acts 1:11

The gospel tells us we can be reconciled to God only if we trust in Christ, the King of God’s blessed kingdom. We must, therefore, understand who Jesus is and what He has done. Today we remember the ascension of our Lord, an event the contemporary evangelical church largely ignores. The church must not neglect this significant event, for it reveals the nature of Jesus’ return at the end of the age. Jesus ascended visibly; thus, He will return visibly when He comes in final judgment.

In Matthew 24:1–31, Jesus anticipates His ascension. Many people believe Jesus predicted His final return to judge creation when He quoted Daniel 7:13–14 in Matthew 24:30. But as John Calvin and other scholars have noted, Daniel 7 refers not to the Son of Man’s descent from heaven but to His entrance into heaven to receive His kingdom. Matthew 24:1–31 does not predict the end of the world. It foresees events associated with Jesus’ enthronement as King of kings and Lord of lords. The ascension of Christ recorded in Acts 1:6–11 is one of these events, the Son of Man coming to receive His kingdom as foreseen in Daniel 7:13–14 and Matthew 24:30.

Jesus is indeed coming from heaven at the end of the age to consummate His plan and bring a new heaven and earth. But He is not coming back to take His throne, for as Matthew 24:1–31 and Acts 1:6–11 inform us, Christ took this throne when He ascended on high. Jesus is reigning now, and because He is king, we can serve Him in confidence of His final victory.

Celebration of Worship

Greeting and Announcements

Announcements can be found on page 7

Prelude

*During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation
for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary.
(Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)*

† Processional Hymn

Hymns of Grace

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Nº 391

† Call to Worship

from Psalm 68

Leader: *Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him! You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there. O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice. Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies. Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!*

† Hymn of Praise

Hymns of Grace

Across the Lands

Nº 198

† Please stand, as able

† Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

from *Reformed Worship*

Unison: We come, O Lord, on this day of glory to confess our lack of trust. While we sing of your lordship over all creation, we have too often acted as though you are powerless in the face of today's events. Help us to live with confidence in your presence today and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.

Individual Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hebrews 9:27–28

Leader: *It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.*

† Hymn of Trust

Glorious Day

Hymns of Grace

Nº 212

Our Worship in the World for the World

Salvation and life in union with Christ frees us to worship and work for the glory of God and the fulfillment of our created purpose.

In obedience to His commission, we support the work of the church in all places and faithfully serve in the many vocations to which we have been called.

Prayers of the People

*God calls us to be a praying people.
Let us join in prayer, offering our praise,
thanksgiving, and intercession to God.*

Offertory

Our offering is an act of worship in which we express our gratitude and reliance on God.

For those of you who are guests with us today, giving is not obligatory.

*We are eager to share with you more about our church and its ministry
and to invite you to participate with us as you are called by God.*

Tithes and offerings may be placed in the plates in the narthex,

or you may give online at trinityfellowshipbca.org/give,

or by texting GIVE to 501-456-4896.

† Doxology

Hymns of Grace

N^o 440

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

† Prayer of Dedication

Reading of Scripture

ESV Pew Bible

Song of Songs 1:1–2:7

p. 560

Sermon

Rev. Brad DeVries

“Love’s Strong Desire”

† Hymn of Response

Hymns of Grace

Jehovah’s Bride (vv. 1–2)

N^o 337

† Benediction

† Recessional Hymn

Hymns of Grace

Jehovah’s Bride (v. 3)

N^o 337

Postlude

*As you leave the sanctuary today, may you know the hope to which God has called you,
experience the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,
and trust his incomparably great power for us who believe.*

*Please help us love our community by recycling your unneeded bulletins as you leave.
A recycling bin is located by the door in the narthex.*

A Special Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ! Our prayer is that you will find great joy and spiritual nourishment as we worship together today.

- ❖ Welcome packets are available in the narthex. We encourage you to fill out a visitor's card and place it in the plate located in the narthex.
- ❖ Large print ESV Bibles are available near the bulletins.
- ❖ A cry room is available for infants and small children. The cry room is located adjacent to the narthex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baby Bottle Drive ▶ A Baby Bottle Drive to support Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center will be held through Father's Day, June 20th. Bottles can be picked up in the narthex and returned at any time.

Union Rescue Mission Update ▶ Representatives from the Union Rescue Mission will give an update to the Adult Sunday School class next Sunday, May 23rd.

Sunday School ▶ Our spring Sunday School term will conclude next Sunday, May 23rd. There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, May 30th. Our summer Sunday School studies will begin on Sunday, June 6th. Children ages 12 and under will meet in Classroom 7 and the youth and adults will meet in Classroom 2. Both groups will be discussing John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

Newsletter Articles ▶ The final day to submit articles for the June Newsletter is Sunday, May 23rd. Articles should be submitted via email to Heath.

Prayer and Praise Service ▶ There will be a Prayer and Praise service on Sunday, May 30th, at 5:00 P.M. Following the Prayer and Praise Service, there will be a Fellowship Picnic. The Fellowship Team will provide hot dogs, chips, and drinks. Those attending may bring an optional picnic side to share.

Women's Bible Study ▶ The Women's Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, June 2nd. The morning group meets at 9:30 and the evening group meets at 6:30. Both groups will be discussing *Men and Women in the Church* by Kevin DeYoung. Contact Katie DeVries for more information.



Men's Prayer Group ▶ The Men's Prayer Group meets weekly on Thursdays at 6:00 A.M. at the church. Contact Ron Plate for more information.

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (PCA)

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MISSIONARIES

Austin Braasch RUF at Arkansas State; Jonesboro
Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center North Little Rock
Dan Anderson Central Hope Church; Little Rock
Del Farris MNA Ministry to State; Colorado
Michelle Hill Revive Our Hearts; Michigan
Mike and Eli Sabin MTW; Guam
Tom and Karen Mirabella MTW; Japan
Union Rescue Mission Little Rock



A CHURCH OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA