



Sunday, May 17, 2026  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

## ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

*During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the day.*

### Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

**Prelude** – Prelude in G Major BWV 568  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

### Psalm of the Day – Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, you gates;  
be lifted up, you ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The Lord strong and mighty,  
the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, you gates;  
lift them up, you ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>1</sup>Who is he, this King of glory?

The Lord Almighty—  
he is the King of glory.

**Introit** – “Jubilate Deo”  
Music & Text: Mark Patterson

IPC Choir  
Chandler Cudlipp, Director

### \*Call to Worship

Peter Chen

Leader: Jesus Christ has come into heaven and is at God's right hand— with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.

**People: Since we have a great high priest who has gone into heaven— Jesus, the Son of God—let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.**

Leader: Let us praise his holy name! Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

**People: Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God forevermore! Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia!**

### \*Hymn of Praise – #151 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

### Prayer of Confession

Nathan Wannemacher

Leader: Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by justice and love.

**People: In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon – 1 John 2:1-2**

Leader: My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**People: He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.**

## **God's Gracious Will for Our Lives – 1 Peter 4:7-8**

Leader: The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

**People: Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.**

**\*Gloria Patri #579 "Glory Be to the Father"**

## **RECEIVING GOD'S PROMISES**

**Child Dedication**

Elias Morf

## **RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer of Illumination – "Open My Ears That I May Hear"**  
Music & Text: Clara H. Scott

**Old Testament Reading – Psalm 47 (p. 571)**

**New Testament Reading – Luke 24:50-53 (p. 1062)**

**Sermon – "The Ascension Foreshadowed"**

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*Hymn of Response – #144 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!"**

**Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings**

Maio Chen, Council Chairperson

**Offertory – "Blessing and Honor"**  
Text: Horatius Bonar; Music: Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681

IPC Choir

**\*Doxology #592** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Prayers of the People**

Maio Chen

**The Lord’s Prayer** (*in unison in English or the language of your choice*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **GOING WITH GOD’S MISSION AND BLESSING**

**Welcoming of Visitors**

Maio Chen

**Announcements**

**Moment for Mission**

Sue Knüsel

**\*Hymn of Dedication** – #142 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

**\*Sending and Pastoral Benediction**

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

**Choral Benediction** – Danish “Amen”

**Postlude** – *Allegro maestoso*  
from “Flöten-Concert für die Orgel” in F Major op. 55  
Christian Heinrich Rinck (1770-1846)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

*Please remain seated during the postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.*

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***\*Please stand if you are able.***

*Today’s bulletin cover features a stained-glass window from The Anglican Church of St. John the Evangelist, London, Ontario, Canada. According to a website description of the window: “The Crown of Heaven symbolizes the triumph of Christ and salvation and stands as a foil to the suffering of the Crown of Thorns. The color blue is meant to symbolize the Heavenly Love. One of three windows that creates the Symbols of Our Faith that were created in memory of Mrs. E.C. “Frances” James 1882-1960. The windows were dedicated on June 16, 1963.”*