



Murray Presbyterian Church

May 21, 2023 10am Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Ascension Sunday

Welcome and Announcements

Moments of Silent Reflection

Ringling of the Tower Bell

*Call to Worship

Leader: Let us prepare to celebrate a great moment in the Church's life.

People: For it is Ascension Day, when Jesus left his disciples commissioned as apostles to the world.

Leader: His instructions to them are ours to follow as well: to build the kingdom of God.

People: Let us await the power of the Holy Spirit as we praise and worship God.

Prayer of Approach

Resurrected Savior, Savior of new life and new hope, we come to you in humble prayer and joyous song, for Easter has changed our lives. We are no longer frightened people—because you live, we have courage to face life and to face death. We are no longer lonely people—because you live, we can accept ourselves and reach out to each other. We are no longer scattered people—because you live, we may come together to witness in our weakness and our strength to the presence of your reign among us and the promise of your reign to come. Amen

*Hymn: *Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise*

WC 258

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have turned the Christian life into a pathway of convenience rather than the vocation of suffering the Apostle Paul told us it would be. Forgive us our self-serving ways and teach us the willingness to sacrifice for the sake of the kingdom. Comfort us with the knowledge that we live in spirit and power of the Risen Christ, who brought life to the world, not by succeeding on its own terms, but by suffering at its hands. In him we pray. Amen

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

*Congregational Response: *Gloria Patri*

Children are Released for Sunday School

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

Sermon: "Knocked Down But Not Out"
Reverend William J. McConnell

*Hymn: *Because He Lives* (See Screen)

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Offering

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn: *Our God Reigns*

(See Screen)

*Benediction and Benediction Response

**May the Lord, mighty God
Bless you and keep you forever
Grant you peace, perfect peace
Courage in every endeavor.**

"May the Lord" words and music by Alfred V. Fedak, Keith Landis
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**Lift up your eyes and see His face
And his grace forever
May the Lord, mighty God
Bless you and keep you forever.**

*Please Stand if Able

WC: Worshiping Church Hymnal (found on seat) PH: Presbyterian Hymnal (Found in pew rack)

Announcements

Next Sunday

Be sure to wear red and join us next Sunday for a celebration of Pentecost. A highlight of the service will be receiving new members and celebrating the sacrament of baptism.

SENCA Donation Theme for May-July: "Kids Cook"

Our church's donation theme for the month of May, and continuing for most of the summer will be "kids cook." During the school year, many families in need rely on school lunches to feed their children. During the summer though, kids don't have access to these lunches. We are asking for non-perishable items such as Ramen Noodles, mac-and-cheese cups, peanut butter and jelly, and other foods that kids can easily prepare for themselves while at home over the summer. These items will then be donated to the SENCA food pantry in Plattsmouth which serves Cass County.

Murray Presbyterian Church

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