

**May 17, 2026**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Easter**  
**Ascension Sunday**  
**Montevallo Presbyterian Church**

Prelude            Be Thou My Vision  
                          Arr. Richard Kingsmore                    Magnus Eck (Recording)

Welcome and Invitation to Worship

Call to Worship        Vicky Hager

Clap your hands, all you peoples.  
**Jesus is risen from the dead!**

Shout to God with songs of joy.  
**Jesus has ascended into heaven!**

Sing praises to God, all the earth.  
**Jesus will come again to reign!**

Opening Prayer

Hymn                #267 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of all time and space:**  
**We confess our failure to use well**  
**our own time and space.**  
**We give our hearts to trivial matters.**  
**We struggle to separate truth from clutter.**  
**We neglect our neighbors you direct us to love.**

**We exploit the world you have made  
and have failed to care for your creation.**

**Forgive us.**

**Reshape our priorities and guide our efforts  
that we may live our days to your glory.**

~ silent prayer ~

*The liturgist pours water into the font as a remembrance of our baptism.*

### The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Our risen Lord abounds in love and grace.  
God's mercy echoes throughout the earth and heavens.  
This is good news!  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

### The Peace

### Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading      John 17:1-11                      NRSV/UE

[1] After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, [2] since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given to him. [3] And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. [4] I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. [5] So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

[6] "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. [7] Now they know that everything you have given me is from

you, [8] for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. [9] I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. [10] All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. [11] And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 47, selected verses

ICEL

All peoples, clap your hands,  
 shout your joy to God.

**For God Most High is awesome,  
 great ruler of all the earth.**

God ascends the mountain  
 to cheers and trumpet blasts.

**Sing out your praise to God,  
 to the ruler, sing out your praise.**

For God rules the earth;  
 sing praise with all your skill.

**God rules over nations,  
 high on the sacred throne.**

Second Scripture Reading Acts 1:6-14

[6] So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” [7] He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come

upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

[9] When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. [10] While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. [11] They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

[12] Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. [13] When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. [14] All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us,  
**thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Hymn            #738 “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

Announcements and Invitation to Discipleship

Prayers of the People

Offering/Offertory

Open Your Ears...

Andrew Villars

Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
 Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

## The Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Minister: Why do we give thanks and praise before this table?

**People: We give thanks for God's work  
 of creation and salvation.**

It is our greatest joy, creator God,  
 to give you thanks in every time and place.  
 You made the heavens and the earth  
 and all that is in them—  
 sun, moon, and stars,  
 mountains, rivers, and trees,  
 animals and people.

You even made us in your own image  
 to love and serve you,  
 and to care for one another and your creation.  
 You show us your mercy every day.

All glory and blessing are yours, Saving God,

for in your mercy you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ.  
Born a child like us, he grew to be your servant.  
Jesus taught your truth.  
He welcomed, healed, forgave, and loved people.

In the end, he suffered and died  
to save us from our sin.  
And God raised him up, to give us a new life.  
We praise you that before he died,  
our Savior gave us this holy meal  
to eat together until he comes again.

**People: Why do we eat bread at this table?**

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread.  
After giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,  
saying: Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

**People: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?**

The same night, Jesus took the cup, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

**People: What do we remember at this table?**

We remember God's gracious love for us,  
Christ's death and resurrection for us,  
and the Spirit's tender care for us.  
And remembering, we offer ourselves  
and our gifts for the world.

**People: What do we ask at this table?**

We ask:

Merciful God, pour out your Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine,  
that in eating and drinking together  
we may be made one with Christ  
and with one another.

At this table we ask for unity in Christ our Lord,  
and ask for strength to serve the world in his name  
until the day you make all things new.

**People: Through Christ,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Our Father who art in heaven...**

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

A Time for Children

Charge and Blessing

Postlude #240 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” (2<sup>nd</sup> Stanza)

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

*Spread the good news o’er all the earth:*

*Jesus has died and has risen.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.*