

Newark First UMC Welcomes You
May 21, 2023
Ascension Sunday
God Calls Us to Be the Church in Worship

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING:

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kyle Houser

NFUMC MISSIONAL OUTREACH:

“We Sing of Your Glory”

#2011

Blessing Baskets are for the benefit of “*Family Promise of Wayne County*”.

INTROIT

“I Love to Tell the Story” (156)

Chancel Choir

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP:

Matt. 5:2-10 NRS

Liturgist

God Calls: ² Then [Jesus] began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

We Respond: As people of peace who live in the house of love, we need to resist our culture’s fascination with violence, might, and death. Video games, TV shows, and movies are filled with images of combat and destruction. Some have suggested a new discipline of fasting from the violent images in entertainment as a method of noncooperation with evil. . . .

Larry James Peacock, *Openings*

† **HYMN OF PRAISE:**

“He Is Exalted”

#2070

OPENING PRAYER: *A Guide to Prayer for All Who Walk with God*

Ever-patient God, you have indeed been kind to us. Your forgiveness opens the way to a new future, your goodness brightens our days, and your truth shows us the things that make for peace. Thank you that in Jesus Christ your salvation

has come near to us, for he is the peace that heals our wounded world. Amen.

ANTHEM:

“Oh Happy Day”

Chancel Choir

FIRST READING:

Acts 1:1-11

Liturgist

RESPONSIVE READING:

Psalms 93 (UMH 813)

Liturgist

¹ The LORD reigns and is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed and is girded with strength.

The Lord has established the world; it shall never be moved;

² Your throne has been established from of old; you are from everlasting!

³ **The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.**

⁴ Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!

⁵ **Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.**

† **GLORIA PATRI:**

No. 70

† **GOSPEL READING:**

Luke 24:44-53

Liturgist

EPISTLE READING:

Ephesians 1:15-23

Pastor

† **HYMN OF PREPARATION:**

“O Christ, When You Ascended”

#3087

TODAY’S MESSAGE:

“Eternal Strength from Unending Love”

Pastor

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY:

#95

JOYS AND CONCERNS AND THE LORD’S PRAYER:

Kyle Houser

† **HYMN OF SENDING:**

Wondrous Love Stephanie Mercer on organ.

(Read Silently as you listen to the music)

Leah Talbot on viola.

† **BENEDICTION WITH BLESSING:**

POSTLUDE:

Now, God Sends Us Forth to Be the Church in Service

Newark First United Methodist Church
Celebrates
Ascension Sunday
May 21, 2023



Caesar's Denarius

OR



Jesus' Cross

Whose image do you bear in this world?
What difference does it make?

Pastor: Rev. David Herrmann
Music Director: Stephanie Mercer
Bell Choir Director: Jenna Taylor
Ad Council Chair: Kyle Houser
Acolyte: Dallas Marshall

Media Min. Dir.: Sami Cepulo
Choir Director: Kathy Cornwell
Lay Leader: Elsie Detrick
Sound Board: Rob Hoe
Liturgist: Kyle Houser