

Note from Pastor Steve

Happy Ascension Day! It has been 40 days since Easter morning. This is the day that Jesus ascended into heaven. Where we find two men dressed in white said:

“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” Acts 1:11

These two men ask us an important question that is still valid today. Why do we stand here looking at where Jesus was? It is easy for times of change like this to look back to what has come before and dream of life getting back to what it was, back to normal. However, Ascension Day is a day that is to move us forward. Jesus left us so the spirit would come. The idea of having what we had before is great. But God has something greater in store for our future. We just have to move towards it. Stop looking at what was, and prepare for what God is planning to do among us in the future.

God has great plans for His church let us prepare ourselves to receive God’ spirit into our lives today.

Pentecost Sunday Service

These last few weeks, the church leadership has been working through what would be best for us as we begin to meet together. After many changes one way or another we have come to the decision to start meeting together outside in the parking lot on May 31, Pentecost Sunday. It is fitting that we would gather again on the Sunday that the church began with the receiving of the Holy Spirit. Our service will be at 10 am in the parking lot.

We will have tables and metal chairs sitting out in the corner of the parking lot for people to sit at. The tables will have a sign on them with family names. We want to honor the need to have no physical contact, but also understand that families have already been in contact with each other. The tables and chairs will have been cleaned before and after our service. The restrooms will be open with limited number of people able to use at one time to keep clean and protect each other.

If your sick don’t come. If you have allergies and sneezing wear a mask. We will be outside, but we want to create an environment where people feel comfortable.

Prayer List

- Carolyn Norwood
- Barry’s Brothers
- Karen Richardson (Jamie)
- David Myers (Cancer)
- Judy Pollard (Health)
- The Clarks (Health)
- Judy Pollard (Family’s Health)
- Jackie Burke’s Father
- John Fletcher (Health)
- Coronavirus Crisis
- Cindy Koontz’s Son (Andy)
- Margaret Dale’s Family
- Janice’s Co-Workers Daughter
- Linda Egnor Mother’s Health
- Judy Pollard (Loss of Son)
- Cindy Koontz’s Granddaughter
- Sonja Keyes Pregnancy
- Marlene Law’s Health
- Clayton Southside School Community—Loss of Teacher

His Ascension and Our Access By Oswald Chambers

It came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. —Luke 24:51

We have no experiences in our lives that correspond to the events in our Lord's life after the transfiguration. From that moment forward His life was altogether substitutionary. Up to the time of the transfiguration, He had exhibited the normal, perfect life of a man. But from the transfiguration forward— Gethsemane, the Cross, the resurrection— everything is unfamiliar to us. His Cross is the door by which every member of the human race can enter into the life of God; by His resurrection He has the right to give eternal life to anyone, and by His ascension our Lord entered heaven, keeping the door open for humanity.

The transfiguration was completed on the Mount of Ascension. If Jesus had gone to heaven directly from the Mount of Transfiguration, He would have gone alone. He would have been nothing more to us than a glorious Figure. But He turned His back on the glory, and came down from the mountain to identify Himself with fallen humanity.

The ascension is the complete fulfillment of the transfiguration. Our Lord returned to His original glory, but not simply as the Son of God— He returned to His father as the Son of Man as well. There is now freedom of access for anyone straight to the very throne of God because of the ascension of the Son of Man. As the Son of Man, Jesus Christ deliberately limited His omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience. But now they are His in absolute, full power. As the Son of Man, Jesus Christ now has all the power at the throne of God. From His ascension forward He is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 13:20-21

Ravi Zacharias

“Love is a commitment that will be tested in the most vulnerable areas of spirituality, a commitment that will force you to make some very difficult choices. It is a commitment that demands that you deal with your lust, your greed, your pride, your power, your desire to control, your temper, your patience, and every area of temptation that the Bible clearly talks about. It demands the quality of commitment that Jesus demonstrates in His relationship to us.”