NILES COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CARTER-WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 24, 2020

Celebrating the Ascension of our Lord

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

"Across The Lands" James Nelson, piano

arr. James Koerts

Greeting, Welcome, and Announcements

Call to Worship

Why are we looking up to heaven?
Christ has come;
Christ has risen;
Christ will come again.
Why are we longing for the future?
The Holy Spirit is among us now.
In our baptism, we have already died and risen with Christ.
Why are we afraid of death and dying?
God's love casts out our fear.
Christ is alive and death has lost its sting
Why are we hesitant to follow Jesus?
In Christ, we have the promise of new life now, and eternal life to come.
In Christ, let us join our hearts to worship God.

Hymn #260"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"HYFRYDOL

Call to Reconciliation

Called to proclaim repentance, we are reluctant to look at our own failings. Let us trust in the One who offers us hope and healing, as we pray together, saying,

Unison Prayer of Confession

You call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice, God Most High. We watch our clocks to make sure we spend more time with ourselves than with you. We are hesitant to witness to your power from on high, as we are uncertain of your presence in our lives. Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your good news, as we participate in the life and suffering of our world, as did your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

- L: Choosing to set aside judgment, God gives us justice; choosing to let go of punishment, God fills us with peace; choosing to release anger, God's steadfast love rests upon us.
- P: Forgiven, redeemed, restored we will tell everyone, through the lives we lead, what God has done for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sharing God's Word

First Lesson Ephesians 1:15-23

Time with Young Disciples

Lesson from the Acts of the Apostles: 1:1-11

Offering of Music	"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"
	Anita Ilika, piano

Sermon

Thanksgiving

Offering

Prayer of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sending

Hymn #276 "Sing a New Song unto the Lord"

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"God Bless America" Emily Crisp, soloist Irving Berlin