



# The Fullness of Easter Joy

## The Ascension of Him Who is Gracious

“Today is Ascension Day, and that means that it is a day of great joy for all who can believe that Christ rules the world and our lives.”  
-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”  
-John 20:17

"Whereas Aaron could lift his arms and pray for God's face to shine on the people, in seeing Jesus ascending into the heavens these believers saw the actual face of God shining. While they had heard of God's graciousness, now they had seen him who is Gracious. While they had held out for God's lifted countenance, they now saw it actualized. While they had longed for the peace promised in the benediction, they now knew him who was Peace. The great High Priest came and not only pronounced the benediction, but he became the benediction."  
-Kelly Kapic

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."  
-Acts 1:8

And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.  
-Luke 24:50-53

## Order of Worship

### Welcome & Announcements

### Prelude

Leader: He is risen!  
**People: He is risen, indeed!**

### Call to Worship: Psalm 47:1-2, 5-7

47 Clap your hands, all peoples!  
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!  
2 For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,  
a great king over all the earth.  
5 God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.  
6 Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
7 For God is the King of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm!

### Hymns of Praise

**Come, now is the time to worship**  
Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time  
To give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are  
Before your God  
Come

One day every  
Tongue will confess  
You are God  
One day every knee will bow  
Still the greatest treasure  
Remains for those  
Who gladly choose You now

**Blessed Be the Lord, the God of Israel**  
Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
From everlasting, to everlasting (repeat)  
Let all the People say AMEN!  
Let all the People say AMEN!  
Let all the People say AMEN! Praise the Lord!

Gather us O Lord, our God,  
from among the nations  
Deliver us and save us, O God,  
God of our salvation  
All:  
So we may give thanks to thy holy name  
And glory in thy praise — Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, give thanks to the Lord,  
for He is good  
His steadfast love endures forever,  
and he is good  
All:  
Declare the mighty deeds of the Lord  
And show forth all his praise —Hallelujah!

### Prayer for the World, the Church & the City

### The Apostles' Creed

### Confession

We come, O Lord, on this day of glory to confess our lack of trust. While we sing of your lordship over all creation, we have too often acted as though you are powerless in the face of today's events. Help us to live with confidence in your presence today, and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.

### Private Confession

### Assurance of Pardon: Romans 8:31-34

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

### Hymn of Assurance

**His Mercy is More**  
What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Tithes and Offerings

credit card and other options such as e-transfers are available via [mail@gracevancouver.com](mailto:mail@gracevancouver.com)

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.

Scripture - Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:4-11

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God**

God's Word Today- Mike Hsu

Sermon Title: The Ascension of Him Who is Gracious

Sermon Outline:  
1. Jesus Appearing to His Disciples  
2. Jesus' "Non-Answer" to His Disciples  
3. The Old Testament Imagery of Priestly Blessing  
4. A Blessing that Transcends Current Circumstances  
5. The One Who Is Blessing Equipping His Disciples with Joy

Application Questions:  
Have you seen Him who is Gracious? Do you know the One who is peace? Do you know the One who is the Eternal Blessing?

The Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts!  
**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto you, O Lord, our Father Almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your holy name; evermore praising You and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth of Your glory are full. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

Words of Institution and Declaration of Faith

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**People: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.**

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God, take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on Him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Hymn of Thanksgiving

I Looked Up

I looked up  
and I saw my Lord a-coming  
I looked up  
and I saw my Lord a-coming  
down the road.

Hallelujah, He is coming,  
Hallelujah, He is here,  
Hallelujah, He is coming,  
Hallelujah, He is here.

I looked up  
and I saw my Lord a-dying  
I looked up  
and I saw my Lord a-dying on a tree.

I looked up  
and I saw my Lord a-rising  
I looked up  
and I saw my Lord a-rising from the grave.

Hallelujah, He is risen,  
Hallelujah, He's alive,  
Hallelujah, He is risen,  
Hallelujah, He's alive.

One day I'll, I'll look up  
And I'm gonna see my Lord a-coming  
Yes I'll, I'll look up  
And I'm gonna see my Lord a-coming in the clouds

Benediction: Psalm 67:1-4

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*  
that your way may be known on earth,  
your saving power among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!  
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.

Peace

Minister: The Peace of the Lord be with you all  
**People: And also with you**

Announcements

- 1. Zoom Prayer Meeting every Thursday 7-7:45 pm.
- 2. Please send Prayer requests & Tithes to [mail@gracevancouver.com](mailto:mail@gracevancouver.com)
- 3. Operation Baby Bottle- Pregnancy Care Centre fundraiser until Father's Day. Bottles available on the back table.
- 4. INKS dinner at the Hsu home tonight @ 6pm.
- 5. Installation service of Grace Providence Church today at 2pm at GVC. All are invited to attend.
- 6. Free Parking available across from Canada Post.
- 7. Children's Church and Nursery are available downstairs.

Tithes

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|---------------------|-----------|
| 2025 Annual Budget  | \$250,000 |
| Giving Last Week    | \$3,840   |
| Year-to-date Giving | \$81,769  |

Ministry Contacts

Lead Pastor:  
Mike Hsu – [mike@gracevancouver.com](mailto:mike@gracevancouver.com)

Assoc. Pastor of Worship and Discipleship:  
Abel Sisco - [abel@gracevancouver.com](mailto:abel@gracevancouver.com)

Care Team:  
[careteam@gracevancouver.com](mailto:careteam@gracevancouver.com)