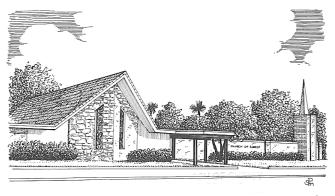


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Palm Springs Church of Christ

Palm Springs, CA

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# What is the meaning and importance of the ascension of Jesus Christ?

After Jesus rose from the dead, He "presented Himself alive" (<u>Acts 1:3</u>) to the women near the tomb (<u>Matthew 28:9-10</u>), to His disciples (<u>Luke 24:36-43</u>), and to more than 500 others (<u>1 Corinthians 15:6</u>). In the days following His resurrection, Jesus taught His disciples about the kingdom of God (<u>Acts 1:3</u>).

Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus and His disciples went to Mount Olivet, near Jerusalem. There, Jesus promised His followers that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, and He instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit had come. Then Jesus blessed them, and as He gave the blessing, He began to ascend into heaven. The account of Jesus' ascension is found in <u>Luke 24:50-51</u> and <u>Acts 1:9-11</u>.

It is plain from Scripture that Jesus' ascension was a literal, bodily return to heaven. He rose from the ground gradually and visibly, observed by many intent onlookers. As the disciples strained to catch a last glimpse of Jesus, a cloud hid Him from their view, and two angels appeared and promised Christ's return "in just the same way that you have watched Him go" (Acts 1:11).

#### The Ascension of Jesus Christ is meaningful for several reasons:

- 1) It signaled the end of His earthly ministry. God the Father had lovingly sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem, and now the Son was returning to the Father. The period of human limitation was at an end.
- 2) It signified success in His earthly work. All that He had come to do, He had accomplished.
- 3) It marked the return of His heavenly glory. Jesus' glory had been veiled during His sojourn on earth, with one brief exception at the Transfiguration (<u>Matthew 17:1-9</u>).
- 4) It symbolized His exaltation by the Father (Ephesians 1:20-23). The One with whom the Father is well pleased (Matthew 17:5) was received up in honor and given a name above all names (Philippians 2:9).
- 5) It allowed Him to prepare a place for us (John 14:2).
- 6) It indicated the beginning of His new work as High Priest (<u>Hebrews 4:14-16</u>) and Mediator of the New Covenant (Hebrews 9:15).
- 7) It set the pattern for His return. When Jesus comes to set up the Kingdom, He will return just as He left-literally, bodily, and visibly in the clouds (Acts 1:11; Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 24:30; Revelation 1:7).

Currently, the Lord Jesus is in heaven. The Scriptures frequently picture Him at the right hand of the Father-a position of honor and authority (<u>Psalm 110:1</u>; <u>Ephesians 1:20</u>; <u>Hebrews 8:1</u>). Christ is the Head of the Church (<u>Colossians 1:18</u>), the giver of spiritual gifts (<u>Ephesians 4:7-8</u>), and the One who fills all in all (<u>Ephesians 4:9-10</u>).

From gotquestions.org

We have a commitment, empowered by the Holy Spirit,

To give glory to God

To be unified in reaching others

To be living witnesses for Christ

### Welcome to the Palm Springs Church of Christ



We extend a friendly welcome to everyone! It is a genuine joy to gather in the Lord's house and share in the worship of the living and loving God.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. (Ephesians 6:18)"

#### Pray for our Church family:

Please keep Roy and family in your prayers during this difficult time following Lucy's passing. We ask that you pray for the improved health of: Mae Britton, Kerry Britton, Lynette Brink, Sue Collins, Phyllis Francis, Wanda Goodenough, Delores Jensen, Betty Johnson, Brenda Jones, John Leonard, Roy McDonald, Jeff Mercer, Jerry Munn, Dail Paramore, and Francis Pati.

#### Pray for family & friends:

Please pray for Russ and Barbara Galbreath's daughter-inlaw Carla and has been placed on hospice care. Pray for the improved health of: Mary Fields, Joy Gabel Filippone, Keith & Lisa Britton, Delores' brother Len, Marjorie Counts, Kathy's husband Kevin, Derek Fields, Dail's friends Marie and Teddy Kovack who is recovering from cancer surgery and Brenda's son Uriah.

**First responders:** Please keep those who are serving their communities in your prayers: Phyllis Francis' extended family member Alisha K. (EMT). Dail Paramore and Stuart Huggins' family members: Joanna Carter (Nurse), Luther Carter (Naval Officer), Jody Huggins and Jory Huggins (both are MI Patrol Officers). Jerry Munn's sister, Dr. Janice Massey of N.C. If you have family members or friends you would like to add to this prayer list, please let Kathy know.

#### Military:

Jeff Mercer's son-in-law Brandon Deusenberry, Glenn Fields, and Kathy's family friends T. Burgess and T. Cairo.

#### **Prayer Warriors Corner**

Father, we come together at this hour with a sense of humility, a sense of honor, a sense of thanksgiving and a song of praise to Your holy name. Because of our personal relationship the You, Father, we know that Your mercy and grace are free. Please bless each member of this assembly, and please continue to bless the leadership with Your wisdom, knowledge, and wise counsel so that this congregation will grow in Your grace and knowledge. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Frank S Paramore

Read: 1 Timothy 1-5

#### News:

**Celebration of Lucy McDonalds Life** has been rescheduled to today following the regular morning assembly. All are invited to attend.

Individually wrapped communion supplies are available for those who are not comfortable with in-person worship service or while you are out of town.

In Search of the Lord's Way: Watch excellent Bible-based messages every Sunday, 7:30 a.m., on KCWQ, VHF channel 2 or UHF channel 26. Also Available ANY TIME online with You Tube. Just enter: SearchTVMinistry and pick a sermon. https://youtu.be/FxMzZ6ZKMdQ

## Scripture reading: Acts 1:6-11

So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will by my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. The were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "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."

# Sermon Title: "The Ascension"

#### Birthdays:

Yolanda Britton: 5/3 Kathy Ferrell: 5/4 Stuart Huggins: 5/14

#### Wedding Anniversaries:

K & K Ferrell: 5/1 K & Y Britton: 5/28

### **WORSHIP ORDER May 29, 2022**

#### **WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER**

539: Higher Ground (1-4)

345: Christ the Lord is Risen Today (1-4)

**COMMUNION & OFFERING** 

342: We Saw Thee Not (1-4) INTERLUDE/INTERVALO

**SCRIPTURE READING & SERMON** 

940: Only a Step (1-3)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING PRAYER

Worship service: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

While we will be having in-person worship service on Sunday mornings, we understand that there are still many of our number that are still not comfortable attending. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, and that you are truly missed.

God bless us all and our families and loved ones too.

**Sermons on line:** For the most recent locally recorded sermon, simply go to the Palm Springs Church of Christ webpage and click on the "sermons" category at the top of the page.

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Tri Lakes Church of Christ in Monument, Colorado