

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'A Place Called Home'

Rev. Russel W. Shuluga

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

We are blessed by God's word. Let us respond boldly to God's grace with abundant giving for the mission and ministry of this church.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

'Intermezzo'

Hermann Schroeder

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Endless source of life, pour your blessing upon the gifts we bring before you. Bless our giving in your abundance for the restoration of all people. Through our offering, may those who are weary be energized; may those who feel forgotten find a home. With the joy of your grace filling our hearts, we pray. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Christ is lifted up! As he withdrew, he offered a blessing. Receive his blessing today and be commissioned to serve God in this world. Offer healing to the broken and care to the empty. Transform the world through your faithfulness. Amen.



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'

No. 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'A Charge to Keep I Have'

No. 413 Vs 1 & 2

*POSTLUDE

'Toccata in E Minor'

Johann Pachelbel

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

May 21, 2023

7th Sunday of Easter

Ascension Sunday

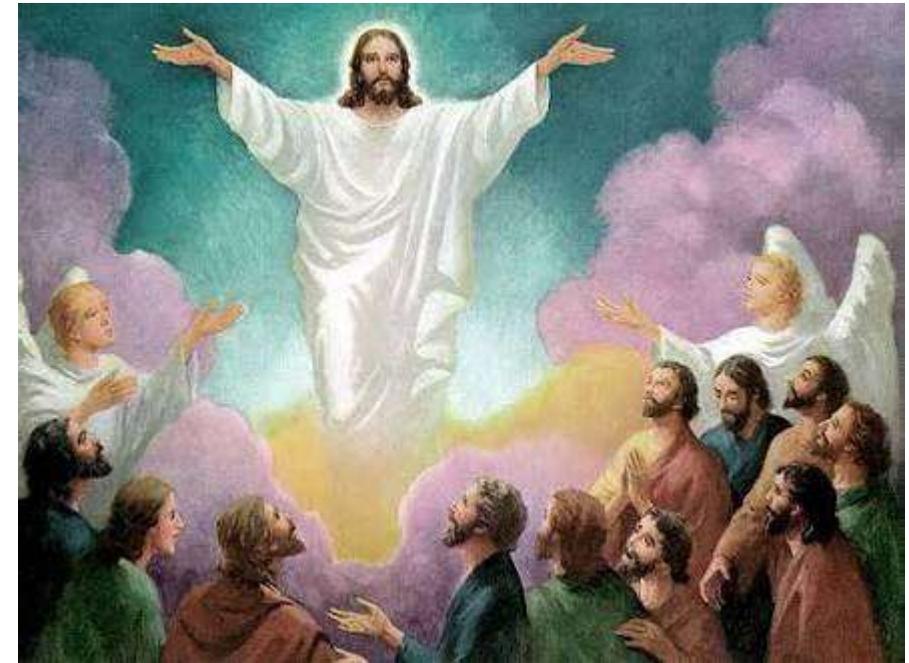
Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

Pastor Russel contact information:

Phone: (412) 735-5072

Email: Shulugarussel@gmail.com

Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.



Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP-11:15 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE 'Blessed Jesus, at thy word' J. S. Bach

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT
Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky' No. 173

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Let us gather in this space.

People: We gather from many places.

Pastor: Let us center ourselves for worship.

People: We are one in the Spirit with joy in our hearts.

Pastor: Let us receive God's blessing.

People: God's blessing is ours. We are God's beloved! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

Breath of God, renew us in this time of worship. Help us set aside thoughts that trouble us. Help us pause the challenges of the world that taunt us. Pour your spirit within each one of us, that we may be re-spirited in this hour by your power and your grace. Amen.

INTROIT 'Breathe on Me, Breath of God' No. 420 Vs. 1 & 3

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

GENERAL CONFESSION

Life-giving God, we receive your blessing, but we don't always feel worthy to receive it. Your call often confuses us and your love seems too generous. We worship and pray, yet we still count the times we fall short of what we think you expect of us. Your mercy is abundant, but we hesitate to open our hearts to receive it. Get our attention and draw us closer to you, that we may know the relief of your assurance. As we pray to you, hear our prayers. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God hears our faithful prayers and looks upon us with eyes filled with compassion. Christ advocates on our behalf; through him, we are forgiven.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE 'He Touched Me' No. 367

*SHARING THE PEACE

We are called by Christ from suffering to renewal, from despair to hope. As witnesses to God's love for all people, let us show God's love for one another. Let us pass the peace of Christ to restore the broken places in our community.

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE 'Thy Word' No. 601 (Refrain only)
"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON Acts 1:6-14

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 'Alleluia' No. 186
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: and also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL IS READ Luke 24:44-53

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 70