St. Paul's United Church

May 17th, 2015 – Ascension Sunday * = please stand as you are able

Prelude:

Welcoming the Light *Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, *and also with you.*

IntroitThis is the DayMV 122This is the day that God has made, we will rejoice and be glad.This is the day that God has made, we will rejoice and be glad.Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu,We will rejoice and be glad!Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu,We will rejoice and be glad!Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu,We will rejoice and be glad!

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Responsive*) Jesus prayed for his disciples, giving them into God's eternal care. *Jesus prays for us, giving us into God's care.* Know that you have been blessed with the love of the Savior. *We live in that love and seek to serve God.* Open your hearts and spirits now to hear God's word. *May our lives be open to God's Spirit and reflect God's love. AMEN.*

Luke 24:44-53

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn** Praise the Lord VU 245

Prayer of Reconciliation (Responsive)

Lord Jesus Christ, in you we see awesome power. You triumph over death and bring forth new life. You stand over all earthly powers. You are the head of the church. Yet, we often fail to acknowledge your presence in our lives.

We see violence in the world. We see injustice in our communities. We see hunger and need among our neighbors. We see longing for something more. We see failures and faults in our lives. In all these things, we feel powerless.

Forgive our hesitance to call upon you. Forgive our propensity to rely upon ourselves. Forgive our reluctance to acknowledge your power. Speak your words of power again. May your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

AMEN

Assurance of God's Love(Responsive)

May God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that the power of Jesus Christ may be visible in your life.

By the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven and empowered to serve. AMEN

VU 959

Time for All Ages	Where's Jesus?	
Hymn	Jesus Loves Me (vs 1)	VU 365
Jesus loves m	e this I know, for the Bible tells m	ie so,
Little ones to	him belong, in his love we shall b	e strong.
Yes, Jesus lov	es me! Yes, Jesus loves me!	-
Yes, Jesus lov	es me! The Bible tells me so.	
Prayers of the Peopl	e	
*Hymn	Spirit God, Be our breath	MV 150
Offertory		

*Dedication Verse	MV 191
What can I do? What can I bring?	
What can I say? What can I sing?	
I'll sing with joy! I'll say a prayer!	
I'll bring my love! I'll do my share!	

*Dedication Prayer (Unison)

Giving God, as Christ ascended to you in the sight of his disciples, we lift up these gifts to you. Send your Spirit upon them, and bless them to do your work in this world. AMEN

Second Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Anthem

How long should we stand here?

*HymnSent forth by God's BlessingVU 481*Commissioning (Responsive)In the presence of Christ, we have gathered.In the grace of Christ, we depart.In the grace of Christ, we depart.May God clothe you with power on high.
May God put this power to work in each of us.

*Benediction

*Choral Closing You Shall Go Out With Joy VU 884

Postlude