

We Gather in Community

Welcoming Music

Joe Lawrence

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Ashley

Ringing of the Bell

Young Person

Responsive Gathering Prayer *Peter Traben Haas, adapted*

Juli Otis

One: Jesus our friend and our guide, we make our claim on reality requesting-
Forgiveness for every debt, provision for every need,

All: strength for every weakness, comfort for every trouble,

One: healing for every sickness, peace for every anxiety,

All: joy for every sorrow, awareness for every stumble,

One: shelter for every storm, and abundance for every lack. You part the waters
again and again, inviting us to ask, seek, and knock.

**All: Help us be faithful, creative heralds of your love and tireless practitioners of
your ways, even when it is hard. For your sake. For the world's sake. For our sake.
Amen.**

↑**Gathering Hymn**

#391 vs. 1-3, & 5 “In the Midst of New Dimensions”

↑**Passing of the Peace**

Juli Otis

One: We are invited to feast at the table of God's Shalom, to seek the well-being
and the wholeness of all creation. Peace for our bodies. Peace for our souls.

All: Peace in our relationships. Peace in our world.

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the sign of peace with one another.

We Share the Word

Time with our Young and Young at Heart

Rev. Ashley

*All are invited to come forward and sit in the front if they feel led. Afterwards, grades
K-5 are invited next door for Godly Play.*

Choral Anthem

“Alleluia”

Randall Thompson

Mount Hollywood Choir

Reading

How We Learned to Rise: An Ascension Sunday Fable
written by the Rev. Dr. Lori Walke

Juli Otis

Reflection

Rev. Ashley

We Pray and We Give

Hymn (*you may stay seated*)

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

Spirit, open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.

Spirit, open my heart.

Write your love upon my heart, as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.

Spirit, open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.

Spirit, open my heart.

Sharing Our Joys, Concerns and Discoveries

Rev. Ashley

It is our practice to share our Gratitude and Joy, Concerns and Discoveries

Our Common Prayer (*unison, please use the words that are most meaningful for you*)

Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us, we call upon your names. Your
wisdom come. Your will be done, in all the spaces in which You dwell. Give us
each day sustenance and perseverance. Remind us of our limits as we give grace
to the limits of others. Separate us from the temptation of empire, but deliver us
into community. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment
around us, and the celebration among us, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

*We are grateful for your gifts of time, talent and treasure
to help co-create God's kin-dom here on earth. If you
would like to give via PalPal, please scan the QR code.*



Juli Otis

Offertory Solo

“You Say”

Julia Timmons, soloist

Lauren Daigle

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Juli Otis

Holy Spirit—undo, unlearn, unravel every myth of scarcity we have been taught,
every legacy of violence passed down. Pour into us the refreshing splendor of
interdependence, of belonging to one another. Bless our offerings to our unfolding
dreams. Amen.

We Are Sent

↑**Sending Hymn**

#249 "Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"

↑**Closing Blessing**

Rev. Ashley

Postlude

Joe Lawrence

Welcome to Mount Hollywood United Church of Christ! We are an Open and Affirming, Just Peace Church. Please be in this space in the ways that feel good for you. Gender neutral restrooms are located off the courtyard, and a changing table for infants is located in the restroom in the main building.

You are invited for coffee and fellowship after the service in our courtyard!

Join us today at 2pm for bowling at Shatto Lanes. The first game is on us!

Save the Date: Sunday, May 31st

Graduate Sunday with Guest Preacher Conference Minister Rev. Rachael Pryor

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, we are so glad you are worshiping with us today. Welcome home!



All Members, Ministers
Rev. Ashley Hiestand, Pastor
Joe Lawrence, Music Director
Katy Hickman, Moderator
Vincent Lopez, Technical Director

↑Please stand in mind, body, or spirit as you feel comfortable.



The Ascension, by Jesus Mafa



MOUNT HOLLYWOOD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ascension Sunday
May 17, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

Then (Jesus) opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day... You are witnesses of these things." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to

Jerusalem with great joy...

-Luke 24:45-46, 48-52

