

Grounded and Growing—Ascension Day

Material from *Reformed Worship* is meant to be adapted by worshiping communities to fit their particular context. This is an example of how one church adapted “Grounded and Growing—Ascension Day.” We are grateful to Covenant Christian Reformed Church of Cutlerville, MI and [Rebecca Snippe](#) for sharing this resource ([video recording](#)).

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Let us give praise to the Lord our God,
Who alone does wondrous things.

All: Praise be to his glorious name forever!

Leader: Christ, who was raised from the dead,
has ascended into heaven,
“the first fruits of those who have died.”

All: May the whole earth be filled with his glory!

—1 Corinthians 15:20 & Psalm 72:18–19 adapt. Laura De Jong © 2026 [ReformedWorship.org](#) CC BY-NC-SA 4.0.

***Welcome and God’s Greeting**

***Mutual Greeting**

***Songs**

“[Our God](#)” Tomlin et al.

“[Crown Him with Many Crowns](#)” Bridges, Thring

Call to Confession

On this day of celebration,
when we proclaim the Lordship of Christ,
we are confronted by the truth that our faith is often feeble,
and our voices often frail.

Our celebration does not carry into the rest of our lives.

Let us confess our frailty before God,
asking for God’s mercy and God’s help.

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Prayer of Confession

King of Kings,
today we proclaim your reign over all creation,
but tomorrow we will forget,

and bow down to other powers and princes.
Tempted by the promise of riches, prestige, and comfort,
we close our eyes to inconvenient injustices,
and keep quiet
when we should be calling for those with power to seek shalom.
Forgive our greed,
and move our hands to work for your kingdom.

Lord of life,
today we sing songs of your victory;
tomorrow we will quiet our voices,
lest we appear foolish and naive.
You told us to go and make disciples of all nations,
but we speak of our faith almost apologetically.
Our fear of appearing judgmental and triumphalistic causes us to hold back
when we could share the good news of your kingdom.
Forgive our fear,
and move our mouths to sing your praise.

Lord, of Love,
today we cry out to you to intercede on our behalf,
glad for our union with you;
tomorrow we will grumble about the burden of caring for our neighbor,
annoyed by our union with one another.
We want to be autonomous and untethered,
but you call us to love one another as you love us.
Forgive our selfishness,
and move our hearts to serve.

Lamb upon the throne,
forgive us, and help us.
May we seek first your kingdom.
Amen.

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Assurance of Pardon & Response of Praise

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
He who is the fullness of God, of life, of truth, of goodness,
redeems us and sanctifies us,
even when our sin feels too great.
God alone has saved us;

to him be honor and glory forever and ever.

Amen.

—1 Timothy 1:15–17, adapt. Laura de Jong © 2026 ReformedWorship.org CC BY-NC-SA 4.0

***Song**

["Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me"](#) Robinson et al.

Offering

Offertory: Graduation Slideshow

Time for Prayer

Bible Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20–26

Sermon

"The End is the Beginning"

Prayer

***Song**

["Be Thou My Vision"](#) Hull, Byrne

***God's Blessing**

***Song**

["Hear the Call of the Kingdom"](#) Townend and Getty

*If you are able please stand in body or spirit.