

**St. James Episcopal Church
A Moment for Kids—of All Ages!
May 8, 2016—THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**THIS PAST THURSDAY WAS ASCENSION THURSDAY – MAY 5TH
NO LONGER ONE PLACE AND TIME – BUT ALL PLACES AND ALL TIMES**



It was 40 days after Easter, and it was time for Jesus to ascend into heaven. He told his friends that that he was not going to leave them alone, but that they—and all Christians—would receive the power of the Holy Spirit, and that that it was now their job to tell everyone about the love of God.

“As they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight.

While he was going away and as they were staring toward heaven, suddenly two

men in white robes stood next to them. They said, “Galileans, why are you

standing here, looking toward heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you

into heaven, will come in the same way that you saw him go into heaven.” *Acts 1:1-11*

Why did Jesus ascend to heaven? I’m sure the disciples wanted him to stay. By ascending to heaven and sending the Holy Spirit Jesus is present for everyone in all places and in all times.

**BRINGING THE GOSPEL HOME:
THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS**

**Between the Ascension and the Day of Pentecost:
Waiting for the Holy Spirit**

Jesus ascended into heaven 40 days after Easter. The 40th day after Easter is always a Thursday, so we celebrate **Ascension Thursday**. **Pentecost** (a Greek word which literally means 50th day) is the 8th Sunday—the 50th day—of Easter. It is the day that—as Jesus promised—the Holy Spirit came to the disciples. Just before he ascended Jesus told the disciples to go to Jerusalem to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

This is a good time to talk with your family about waiting and patience. Waiting can be hard—especially if we don't know why we're waiting, or when something will happen—if at all. Sometimes Jesus makes promises that we have to wait for. We have to learn how to wait patiently for God. God's plans are always best. It's good—but not always easy—for us to keep focused on God's will and God's love for us. How can we, as family and friends help each other to be patient? Share times of waiting, of patience, of frustration, of answered prayers with each other. Sometimes knowing that we wait together with love and support really helps!

True or False:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Jesus will never come back. | F |
| 2. We are supposed to tell people about Jesus (“be witnesses”). | T |
| 3. Jesus told the disciples to wait. | T |
| 4. The disciples waited but the Holy Spirit never came. | F |

Choose the Correct Words:

As the disciples were watching, Jesus was lifted up and a [**bus or cloud**] took him [**out of their sight or out of town.**] While he was going away and as they were staring toward [**Nazareth or heaven**], suddenly two men in [**white or choir**] robes stood next to them. They said, “Galileans, why are you [**standing here or running around**], looking toward heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you [**into heaven or around the corner**], will come in [**a different or the same**] way that you saw him go into heaven. **Acts 1: 9-11**

Dinner Table Conversation:

*What do you think the Apostles felt as they watched Jesus ascend into heaven?
What do you think the Apostles wondered about as they waited for the Holy Spirit?
Tell about a time when you waited for something that you really wanted.*