



MAPLE SPRING CHURCH, HOLLSOPPLE, PA 15935  
814-479-7062



## **The Ascension of Jesus**

**Luke 24:44-53 NIV**

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

<sup>50</sup> When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup> And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Our monthly newsletter, *Water Cup*, is distributed gratis to members and friends of the congregation to encourage vital Christian living and to promote participation in the life and work of the Church.

We hope you find this issue of the *Water Cup* informative and helpful. We welcome your contributions and comments.

Published by:

**MAPLE SPRING CHURCH**

106 Spring Rd  
Hollsopple, PA 15935  
814-479-7062

Web Page: [MapleSpringCOB.org](http://MapleSpringCOB.org)

Sunday School.....9:15 am  
Sunday Morning Prayer....10:15 am  
Worship Service.....10:35 am

In emergencies, in the pastor's absence, call  
Tim McDonald, Board Chairperson,  
or that week's Deacons On-Call,  
who are posted weekly in the *Dew Drops*.



Secretary/Editor: Melody Pletzer

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[www.facebook.com/MapleSpringChurch](http://www.facebook.com/MapleSpringChurch)



**Please submit all bulletin items  
and *Dew Drops* announcements  
to the office by 11 a.m. on Thursdays.**

***WATER CUP* DEADLINE  
for the June 2023 issue  
is May 15, 2023.**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The living water of Christ wells up within us and overflows! It is our mission to be obedient to Christ by living in unity with one another, by disciplining one another through the Holy Spirit, and by reaching out to our neighbors.



**PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH**

Deanna Fisher and Sally Kaufman  
Marlin Ott and Arbutus Blough  
Pat Koba and Elsie Michael  
Nancy Gindlesperger and Jordan Shroyer  
Bill Watkins and Sandy Watkins



...Pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. ~ James 5:16b

The **Way of Hope Christian Fellowship** of Hollsopple, PA is our prayer partner church for the year 2023. Please keep our prayer partner church and Pastor Rob Rummel in your prayers.



**Praying for the Salvation of the Lost**

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

1 Timothy 2:1-6 NIV

***Please remember the following,  
who are actively serving our country...***



SGT Adam Veres, Army Specialist (Whitney Weimer)  
Jonathan Zanoni, US Coast Guard (Cayla Roberts)  
MAJOR Mark Bedrin, Army (Katie McDonald)  
SPECIALIST Sierra Alwine, Army  
Ssgt Nathan Pahel, Air Force (Annie Bridge)  
Police Officer Matthew Bridge, Richland PD  
AB Jenna A. Hauser, US Air Force



**PRAYER FLAG**

We are thankful for those who do God's work to protect us. Please pray for our peacekeepers. The Missions and Service Commission has a prayer flag displayed in support of active duty military personnel, 1<sup>st</sup> responders, EMS, firefighters, police officers, and conscientious objectors\*, presently serving from our congregation. If you have a loved one you would like to add, please give the name, office, or type of duty, along with a picture to the church office. If you prefer not to submit a picture, we can simply post the name.

*\*A conscientious objector is one who is opposed to serving in the armed forces and/or bearing arms on the grounds of moral or religious principles. Conscientious objectors opposed to serving in the military are still required to register with the Selective Service System and will be placed in the Selective Service Alternative Service Program. Length of service in the program will equal the amount of time a man would have served in the military, usually 24 months.*

***Please remember those  
on our Visitation List...***

Reta Alwine	767 Soap Hollow Rd. Hollsopple, PA 15935
Howard & Helen Hildebrand	Laurel View Village 2000 Cambridge Dr. Davidsville, PA 15928
Jim Moran	1056 Soap Hollow Rd Hollsopple, PA 15935
Marlin Ott	Laurel View Village Vista Apt. #813 2000 Cambridge Dr. Davidsville, PA 15928
Betty Shaffer	Richland Woods 3324 Elton Rd Johnstown, PA 15904
Gale Shipley	51 Akers Street, Apt. 306 Johnstown, PA 15905
Owen Stevens	1000 Vista Dr., Apt. 825 Davidsville, PA 15928
Ruth Stevens	125 W. Main Street Stoystown, PA 15563
Cliff & Sally Stutzman	Meadow View Nursing Center 1404 Hay St., Rm 328 Berlin, PA 15530
Emma Thomas	822 Fisher Rd. Boswell, PA 15531
Phyllis Thomas	Laurel View Village 2000 Cambridge Rd., Rm 522 Davidsville, PA 15928

# DEACON MINISTRY

...Serving the Maple Spring Congregation

Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are Christ's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, to do good works, which He prepared in advance for us to do."

There are so many lessons to pull from this scripture. Specifically, when we are focused on finding and living within God's will and purpose for our lives, there are four lessons to focus on.

First, we are God's workmanship. A one-of-a-kind creation. No one before you or to come will be created with the exact same DNA or thumbprint. God has created you with a specific purpose, a calling just for you. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul tells us that all have been given different gifts and abilities, but above all they were given by the same God. You have a unique purpose just as you were uniquely handcrafted.

Next, as we continue to look at God's purpose for our lives, we see that we were also created "to do good works". Many times we feel overwhelmed by trying to figure out what God has for our lives. We feel an urgency for clarity and definition. Often times we miss our purpose in front of us because we are looking for a grand calling full of accolades and praises. We feel pressured to find exactly what God is calling us to. Take the pressure off. Instead of focusing on all the exact moments; the right time, the right path, the right people etc. Let's focus on courage. The courage to take one step at a time. The courage to move out in faith no matter how small a step. The courage to start. When we put our faith in our heavenly Father, that courage will continue to build and that pathway will become clear.

"In advance." We don't need to redefine who we are. God already established that when He created us. We became part of His workmanship. He already called us to a purpose of good works. That was done for us before we were born. In Jeremiah 1:5 it says, "I chose you before I formed you in the womb, I set you apart before you were born." In advance He knew who you would be and what your purpose would be.

Finally, we are commanded to "do." God calls us to action. Many times, we look at a task and presume we lack the ability to complete it. A watering can does not accomplish its purpose by sitting on a shelf. It must be filled with water and used. In the same way, we need to get off the sidelines! Like Peter who stepped out of the boat when Jesus called to him, we need to keep our eyes on Jesus. When we focus on Him and keep our eyes on Him, we don't feel the waves lapping at our ankles. However, when we take our eyes off the Lord, we begin to sink like Peter. Satan uses fear, self-doubt, and distractions to take our eyes off the Lord and keep us from our purpose! God can't bless actions we never take.

Stepping out in faith to fulfill your purpose will always require a belief that feels bigger than you. You will see your failures. You will see when you have been defeated. You will see what the world and Satan want you to see. . . . But God. But God is calling you to see who He created you to be. But God is calling you to know that He designed your purpose before you were born. But God is calling YOU to step out in faith. But God is telling you to get busy.

God does not call the equipped, He equips those He calls.

Submitted by Megan Hostetler

## Submitting to and Praying for Those in Authority

**Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil (Romans 13:1-4 NASB).**

- 1 Pray that followers of Jesus in our country will recognize God's hand in placing governing authorities over us and will submit to those authorities (Romans 13:1).
- 2 Pray that Christians in your community will do what is good so as to have no fear of their authorities (Romans 13:3).
- 3 As a deterrent to doing evil, pray that the fear of just punishment for breaking God's and this country's laws will be restored within the hearts of everyone living in our land (Romans 13:4).
- 4 Pray that believers across the country will regularly offer up entreaties, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings on behalf of those who are in positions of authority (1 Timothy 2:1-2).
- 5 With foolishness abounding in our culture, pray that Christians will silence the ignorance of these individuals by submitting to those in authority and doing that which is right (1 Peter 2:13-15).
- 6 Just as Jesus felt compassion for the distressed people He encountered in His ministry, pray that the authorities in your life will feel compassion for the people they are leading (Matthew 9:36).
- 7 Pray that your spiritual authorities will have the kind of burden for the lost that moves them to pray regularly for a harvest of souls, for more workers to help in spreading the gospel, and for church members to disciple new converts (Matthew 9:37-38).
- 8 Pray that your spiritual leaders will walk under the authority of Christ and will not be fearful or shrink back from ministering to those who are spiritually oppressed or physically ill (Colossians 2:10; Matthew 10:1).
- 9 Pray for your church leaders to demonstrate humility by realizing that the authority and spiritual gifts they have for ministry have been freely given to them by God so they can freely minister to others (Matthew 10:8).
- 10 Pray that the church leaders in your community will not be tempted with greed but will completely depend on God to meet their personal needs and the needs of their families (Matthew 10:9-10).
- 11 Pray for those authorities in your life who preach or teach the Word of God to do so accurately (2 Timothy 2:15) and to trust the Spirit of God to give them exactly what they are to speak (Matthew 10:19-20).
- 12 Pray that God will place over you and your church family authorities who have a wholehearted commitment to Christ and who are willing to surrender everything in following Him (Matthew 10:37-39).
- 13 Pray that your church leaders will have such an unmistakable oneness with Jesus that everyone in your community will know they are walking in a close, personal relationship with Him (Matthew 10:40).



- 14** In order to keep the Christians in your community from being like sheep who have no shepherd, ask God to raise up pastors in your community who will lead their congregations to walk according to God's will and direction (Numbers 27:16-17).
- 15** Pray for your authorities to be extremely sensitive in obeying the promptings of God. Pray that God will guide them and let none of their words fail or lack God's anointing (1 Samuel 3:19).
- 16** Pray that your authorities will shepherd the people under their care according to the integrity of their hearts and will guide them with skillful hands (Psalm 78:72).
- 17** Pray that your pastors will gently lead the members of your congregation toward Christian unity, gathering the members around them just like a shepherd compassionately gathers his flock (Isaiah 40:11).
- 18** Pray that your authorities will not be blind to danger, ignorant regarding Satan's attacks, or lazy when it comes to watching out for those under their care (Isaiah 56:10).
- 19** Pray that your spiritual authorities will not be greedy or tempted to seek after unjust gain. Pray that God will give them great understanding to lead others in His ways (Isaiah 56:11).
- 20** Ask God to raise up over your community spiritual authorities who know God intimately and who are always seeking God's manifest presence and His will (Jeremiah 2:8a).
- 21** Ask God to protect your community from spiritual authorities who walk in sin, speak by some authority other than God's, and pursue those things that are not profitable for the community as a whole (Jeremiah 2:8b).
- 22** Pray that God will raise up pastors in your city who are constantly pursuing the heart of God—spiritual shepherds who will feed God's children biblical knowledge and understanding (Jeremiah 3:15).
- 23** Ask God to protect your spiritual leaders from the kind of stupidity that comes from not knowing God or seeking Him (Jeremiah 10:21a).
- 24** Ask God to prosper those who are in spiritual authority over you and to keep their flock from being scattered (Jeremiah 10:21b).
- 25** Ask God to fill your community with spiritual shepherds who will not ruin God's vineyard or turn the churches into desolate wilderness where the Spirit's presence is lacking (Jeremiah 12:10).
- 26** Pray that those in authority will constantly be aware of how God holds them accountable when their evil deeds cause God's children to be destroyed or scattered (Jeremiah 23:1-2).
- 27** For those churches in your community who are currently without a pastor, especially those who are losing members and are fearful of their future, pray that God will raise up wonderful shepherds for them who will bring peace and unity (Jeremiah 23:4).
- 28** Ask God to raise up spiritual shepherds in your community who will seek the lost, bring back those who are scattered, and minister to those who need to experience God's healing grace (Ezekiel 34:4).
- 29** Ask God to raise up spiritual authorities in your community who are committed to the task of equipping the saints, who will then serve God for the purpose of building up of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12).
- 30** Pray for those in spiritual authority over you to not flee when their responsibilities or circumstances become difficult. Pray that they will always demonstrate an appropriate concern for those under their care (John 10:12-13).
- 31** Pray for your pastors to shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to their charge, but proving to be examples to the flock (1 Peter 5:2-3).



# THE PUZZLE PAGE

## The Ascension

Luke 24:44-53

### Word Search Puzzle

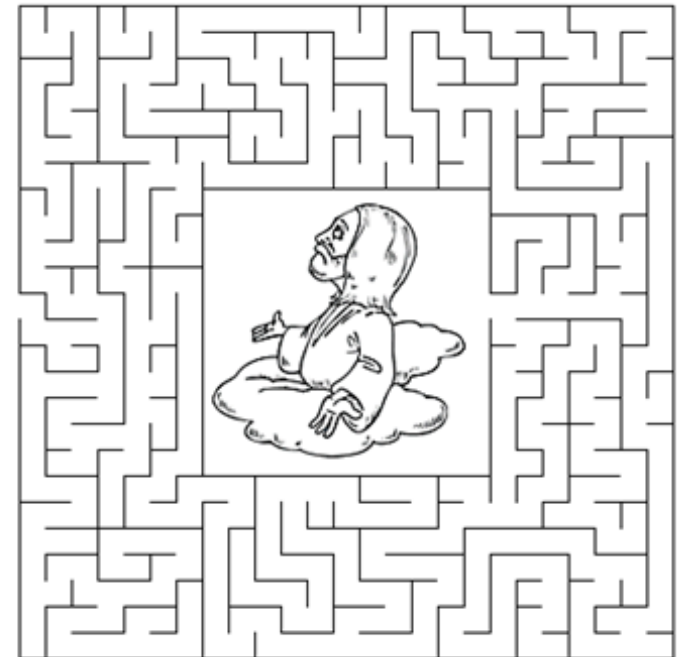
B T Q O M D Q S U F F E R U F  
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RISE	REPENT	PROPHETS	TAKEN
SUFFER	PSALMS	OPENED	FORGIVE
HEAVEN	SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED	MOSES
WORSHIPED	BLESSING	UNDERSTAND	MINDS



### Maze Puzzle

Start Here



# May 2023

## Maple Spring Church Activities, Birthdays, & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Fellowship Meal	1	2 9:00 am Humble Hands	3 Cathy McDonald	4 <b>National Day of Prayer</b> Sally Shaffer Jim & Darla Moran - 38	5	6 9-2 Camp Clean-Up Day
7 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Krista Shaffer	8 Savannah Stutzman	9 9:00 am Humble Hands	10 Harry & Patty Shaffer - 48	11	12	13
14 <b>Mother's Day</b> <b>75th Ann. of Israel</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	15	16 9:00 am Humble Hands	17	18 <b>Ascension Day</b> Harry Shaffer	19	20 <b>Armed Forces Day</b>
21 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Brian Bittner	22 Gary & Connie Martin - 47	23 9:00 am Humble Hands Nancy Gindlesperger	24	25 Rachel Weible	26	27
28 <b>Pentecost</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Fellowship Meal	29 <b>Memorial Day</b>	30 9:00 am Humble Hands	31	1	2	3
4 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	5	Notes  PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO: If you had a change in address, phone number, or e-mail address, please contact the Church Secretary, Melody, by phone or e-mail, 814-479-7062 or MapleSpringCOB@atlanticbb.net. We are trying to use e-mail more often than the USPS to keep down costs.				