



February 5-11, 2017

Text: Acts 1:6-11

**Theme: ACTS-ION:
The Dynamic Life of Christ's Church –
Then and Now**

SUMMARY OF "SERMON": Our text presents the Ascension of the risen Jesus back to the Father's side. The Ascension opens up the promised Second Coming of Christ. It also paves the way for the ongoing mission of the Holy Spirit (cf. v.8) working through Christ's disciples between the first and second Advents of Christ.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week help illuminate the key themes presented in this week's text.]

*Monday, Feb. 6 – **Titus 2:11-15*** [These verses are a powerful reminder of God's grace in Christ not only bringing us salvation but enabling us to live godly lives. Furthermore, the Second Coming of Christ is seen as a powerful incentive for Christians to live faithfully for Him now.]

*Tuesday, Feb. 7 – **Matthew 12:22-28*** [The unbelieving Pharisees couldn't deny that the demonized man was healed. But since they couldn't say that Jesus was from God they foolishly suggested He did this by being in cahoots with the devil. Jesus, though, like us, was empowered in ministry (v.28) by the Holy Spirit.]

*Wednesday, Feb. 8 – **Numbers 9:15-23*** [In different places in scripture the glory and presence of God is symbolized by a cloud/clouds. This is one of the longest examples of this use and gives deeper meaning to Jesus ascending out of sight into a cloud.]

*Thursday, Feb. 9 – **Luke 9:28-36*** [Jesus' transfiguration was a pre-crucifixion glimpse of His glory, which would be fully manifested in His resurrection and Ascension. Note that here, too, a cloud symbolizes the glory of God as the Father speaks.]

*Friday, Feb. 10 – **Psalms 110*** [This, the most quoted OT chapter in the NT, is a foreshadowing of Jesus' Ascension and exaltation as Lord over all – the significance of what is meant by "sitting at [God's] right hand."]

*Saturday, Feb. 11 – **Romans 8:1-17*** [Earlier in Romans Paul has made the case that we are saved by God's grace through our faith in Christ crucified and risen. Now, in this chapter, Paul makes clear that the normal Christian life is a life led by the Holy Spirit.]



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SUGGESTIONS FOR PRAYER FOR THE “LORD’S WATCH”

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

The “**Lord’s Watch**” is a growing commitment of South King County churches to pray together for revival, reconciliation, reformation, and reaching the lost. Participating churches choose a particular day each month to pray. Following is a loose outline to provide cohesiveness for each of us in praying the Lord’s Watch.

I. Rejoice/Adoration

[Use an appropriate scripture: e.g. Psalm 100, Ephesians 1:15-23]

II. Repentance/Confession

[Psalm 139:23-24, Isaiah 59:1-2]

III. Revival in the Church

[e.g. Psalm 85:6-9]

FIPC, Tukwila area churches, South King County, Seattle region

IV. Reconciliation

[e.g. II Corinthians 5:16-21]

Pray for unity between churches, and between Christians at work, in neighborhoods, schools, families, etc.

V. Reformation in Society

Pray for the infusion of God’s righteousness and justice to address the issues of crime, drugs, immorality, poverty, materialism, loss of sanctity of life, etc.

VI. Reaching the Lost

Pray for an awakening among those without Christ, including all ages, and all ethnic groups. Pray for a desire to seek Him who is “the way, the truth, and the life.” [John 14:6]

VII. Reflect

[Psalm 111:2] Think of the mighty works of God and of His promises to you, our congregation, the churches of South King County, and to our society. Let’s all freshly yield ourselves to seek God’s kingdom and His righteousness.

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