

Friends,

If you were to look at the church calendar, you would see that tomorrow is Ascension Day—which is the day that Christians celebrate Jesus' Ascension to heaven forty days after his resurrection. This is an important day, as we often simply think about how Jesus died and was resurrected and see that as the end of the story. But it is important to note that after his resurrection, Jesus later ascended into heaven, to one day come again to establish God's kingdom on earth. This is not merely a footnote to the story, but is essential to it.

Yet when we think about how Jesus ascended into heaven, we must not think that we are alone. Rather the Holy Spirit remains with us. In fact, according to the book of Acts, the very last thing Jesus said before he ascended into heaven was “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Scripture describes the Holy Spirit as our comforter or helper. The Holy Spirit speaks to us and aides us. Thus, as we go about the work of ministry in our world, we do so in the name of Jesus, but empowered by the Holy Spirit, who is still among us today.

Thanks be to God,
Pastor Jordan