



Chapel of
St John & St Anne

Ascension Day

*Holy
Communion*

Thursday 14 May 2015
7:30pm



¶ The Gathering

Opening Hymn



1. All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord.
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord?
Forever he will be the Lamb upon the throne;
I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone.
2. I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord,
who once was slain to reconcile the world to God.
Forever you will be the Lamb upon the throne.
I gladly bow the knee and worship you alone.

*Words & Music: Noel Richards (b 1955) and Tricia Richards (b 1960)
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(Ancient & Modern - 193)*

All God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Psalms 47.5

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All **and also with you.**

Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

The Ascension Reading – Acts 1.4-11

While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

At the end the reader says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

A minister says

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heaven,
Jesus the Son of God,
let us offer him the praise worthy of his name.

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory be to God in heaven, peace to those who love him well;
on the earth let all his people speak his grace, his wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory, mighty Father, heaven's king;
hear our joyful adoration and accept the thanks we bring.**

**Only Son of God the Father, Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with him in triumph seated – for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy, Saviour, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father with the Spirit: Three-in-One!**

*Words: Michael Perry
Music: Ode to Joy, L van Beethoven*

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words

Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will lead us to eternal life.

Silence is kept.

Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

Reading – *Ephesians 1.15-23*

I have heard of your faith in The Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason. I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that The God of our Lord Jesus Christ, The Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power for us who believe, according to the working of His great power. God put this power to work in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And He has put all things under His feet and has made Him the head over all things for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 47



All **God goes up with shouts of joy; alleluia!**

- 1 All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. **R.**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**
3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

Music: Stephen Dean

Gospel Acclamation



Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading – Luke 24.44-53

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples, 'These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about Me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and He said to them, 'Thus it is written, that The Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what My Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up His hands, He blessed them. While He was blessing them, He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All **Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

cf Philippians 2.6-11

Prayers of Intercession

This or an alternative response is used

Lord, in your mercy:

All **hear our prayer.**

And at the end

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.

John 14.27,28

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn



1. Holy forever and ever is God,
over all creatures the sovereign Lord,
who was, and is, and who is yet to come. *Alleluia!*
2. Praise to our Maker and Mover we sing,
glory and honour and blessing we bring;
all our existence depends on the Lord. *Alleluia!*
3. Worthy are you who, by shedding your blood,
brought from all nations a people for God.
Folk of all races you call to be priests. *Alleluia!*
4. Worthy the Lamb who was sentenced and slain!
Worthy the Lamb in his rising again!
Worthy of power and wisdom and wealth, *alleluia!*
5. Blessing and honour and glory and might
be to the Lamb on the throne, as is right.
Let earth and heaven unite to exclaim *alleluia! Amen.*

Words: based on Revelation 5,7, John L Bell (b 1949) & Graham Maule (b 1958) Music: John L Bell (b 1949)
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Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.
Born of a woman,
he came to the rescue of our human race.
Dying for us,
he trampled death and conquered sin.
By the glory of his resurrection
he opened the way to life eternal
and by his ascension,
gave us the sure hope
that where he is we may also be.
Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

(each line is sung by the cantor and repeated by all)

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Music: St Bride, John Bell, adapt John Harper

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All **Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [N and] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Looking for the coming of his kingdom,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All **Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

All **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Live in us, that we may live in you.

Giving of Communion

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia.

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

All **Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.
Alleluia.**

Communion Hymn



1. Christ bids us break the bread
and share the cup he gave,
in token of the blood he shed
for those he died to save.

2. It was for us he came,
to bear, by human birth,
a crown of thorn, a cross of shame,
for every child of earth.

5. O Christ, once lifted up
that we might be forgiven,
we take the bread and drink the cup
and share the life of heaven.

3. The Saviour crucified
in glory rose again:
we here remember him who died,
ascended now to reign.

4. Our hearts his word obey,
in thankfulness and love:
we feed on Christ by faith today
and feast with him above.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b 1926)

Music: Eastville, Kenneth Naylor (1931-1991)

© Timothy Dudley-Smith (Ancient & Modern – 434)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

Final Hymn



1. Ascended Christ, who gained
the glory that we sing,
anointed and ordained,
our Prophet, Priest and King:
by many tongues
the Church displays
your power and praise
in all her songs.

2. No titles, thrones, or powers
can ever rival yours;
no passing mood of ours
can turn aside your laws:
you reign above
each other name
of worth or fame,
the Lord of love!

5. All strength is in your hand,
all power to you is given;
all wisdom to command
in earth and hell and heaven:
beyond all words
creation sings
the King of kings
and Lord of lords.

3. Now from your Father's side
you make your people new;
since for our sins you died
our lives belong to you:
from our distress
you set us free
for purity
and holiness.

4. You call us to belong
within one body here;
in weakness we are strong
and all your gifts we share:
in you alone
we are complete
and at your feet
with joy bow down.

*Words: Christopher Idle (b 1938)
Music: Christchurch, Charles Steggall (1826-1905)
(Ancient & Modern – 224)*

Reading – Acts 1.12,13a,14

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

No responses are used at the end of the reading.

Silence is kept.

Responsory

As we wait in silence,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we listen to your word,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we worship you in majesty,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your refreshing,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your renewing,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your equipping,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your empowering,
All make us ready for your coming Spirit.

The Blessing

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Dismissal

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.