



Chapel of
St John & St Anne

Ascension Day

Holy Communion

Thursday 10 May 2018

7:30pm

¶ The Gathering



1. Hail the day that sees him rise, *Alleluia*,
to his throne above the skies; *Alleluia*,
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, *Alleluia*,
enters now the highest heaven. *Alleluia!*
2. There for him high triumph waits;
lift your heads, eternal gates.
He hath conquered death and sin;
take the King of Glory in.
3. Lo, the heaven its Lord receives,
yet he loves the earth he leaves;
though returning to his throne,
still he calls mankind his own.
4. See, he lifts his hands above;
see, he shews the prints of love;
hark, his gracious lips bestow
blessings on his church below.
5. Still for us he intercedes,
his prevailing death he pleads;
near himself prepares our place,
he the first-fruits of our race.
6. Lord, though parted from our sight,
far above the starry height,
grant our hearts may thither rise,
seeking thee above the skies.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), Thomas Cotterill (1779-1823) and others
Music: Llanfair, melody prob by Robert Williams (1782-1818), harm prob Compilers of English Hymnal 1906
(Ancient & Modern – 228)

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

Psalm 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.

Gradual Hymn



1. Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.
2. Not for ever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.
3. Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.
4. Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wanderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.

Words: Love Maria Willis (1824-1908)

Music: Sussex, English traditional melody adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) (Ancient & Modern – 629)

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

All Lord, in your mercy:
hear our prayer.

And at the end

All Merciful Father,
**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. Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
uttered or unexpressed;
the motion of a hidden fire
that trembles in the breast.
2. Prayer is the simplest form of speech
that infant lips can try,
prayer the sublimest strains that reach
the Majesty on high.
3. Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
the Christian's native air,
his watchword at the gates of death:
he enters heaven with prayer.
4. Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,
returning from his ways;
while angels in their songs rejoice,
and cry, 'Behold, he prays!
5. O Thou by whom we come to God,
the Life, the Truth, the Way,
the path of prayer thyself hast trod:
Lord, teach us how to pray!

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854) Music: Beatitudo, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876) (Ancient & Modern – 767)

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.

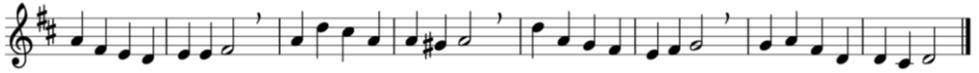
The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **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:



All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
glory in the earth outpoured,
and in heaven's greatest height;
God of endless power and might.

**Blessed is the holy one,
in the Lord's name he has come;
sing hosanna in the height
to the God of power and might.**

*Words: From Sanctus, Kevin Slingsby
Music: Buckland, L G Hayne (1836-1883) © 2011 Kevin Slingsby*

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.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**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. Lord, teach us how to pray aright
with reverence and with fear;
though dust and ashes in thy sight,
we may, we must, draw near.

2. We perish if we cease from prayer:
O grant us power to pray;
and, when to meet thee we prepare,
Lord, meet us by the way.

3. God of all grace, we bring to thee
a broken, contrite heart;
give what thine eye delights to see,
truth in the inward part;

4. Faith in the only sacrifice
that can for sin atone,
to cast our hopes, to fix our eyes,
on Christ, on Christ alone;

5. Patience to watch and wait and weep,
though mercy long delay;
courage our fainting souls to keep,
and trust thee though thou slay.

6. Give these, and then thy will be done;
thus, strengthened with all might,
we, through thy Spirit and thy Son,
shall pray, and pray aright.

Music: James Montgomery (1771-1854) Music: St Hugh, Edward John Hopkins (1818-1901) (Ancient & Modern – 129)

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.

The Dismissal

Final Hymn



1. Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*
2. Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
3. Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
4. Priestly King, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
5. So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

Words: Michael Seward (b 1932)

Music: Guiting Power, John Barnard (b 1948)

© Michael Seward/Jubilate Hymns
(Ancient & Modern – 612)

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.**