

Morning Worship at Home

Ascension Sunday

Sunday 24 May 2020

Welcome and Greeting

God has gone up with a shout.
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
(Psalm 47:5)

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

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



The Ascension of Christ Rubens

Collect for Thy Kingdom Come

Almighty God, your ascended Son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom: inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love, that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn AMNS 143: Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Interview

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

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 toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward 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."

Then they 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, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Second Reading: John 17: 1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm the faith of the Church which Christ commissions us to share with the world:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father source of all being and life, the One for whom we exist? **I believe and trust in Him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **I believe and trust in Him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world? **I believe and trust in Him.**

This is the faith of the Church. **This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn: AMNS 431 We have a gospel to proclaim

We have a gospel to proclaim
Good news for men in all the earth;
The gospel of a Saviour's name:
We sing His glory, tell His worth.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
Empty the tomb, for He was free.
He broke the power of death and hell That
we might share His victory.

Tell of His birth at Bethlehem,
Not in a royal house or hall
But in a stable dark and dim:
The Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of His reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified;
He sends His Spirit on His Church
To live for Him, the Lamb who died.

Tell of His death at Calvary,
Hated by those He came to save;
In lonely suffering on the cross
For all He loved, His life He gave.

Now we rejoice to name Him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim:
We sing His glory, tell His worth.

Responsory

As we wait in silence, **make us ready for Your coming Spirit.**

As we listen to Your word, **make us ready for Your coming Spirit.**

As we worship You in majesty, **make us ready for Your coming Spirit.**
As we long for Your refreshing, **make us ready for Your coming Spirit.**
As we long for Your renewing, **make us ready for Your coming Spirit.**
As we long for Your equipping, **make us ready for Your coming Spirit.**
As we long for Your empowering, **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. **Amen.**

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