

HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite II

ASCENSION DAY (OBSERVED)

May 16, 2021 ♦ 10:00 a.m.

While we're unable to be in church together, we gather today as the church, the Body of Christ. Wherever you are, we hope you'll participate fully in our worship through singing, prayer, hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ, and receiving spiritual communion. May God richly bless you as you bless us!

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune II

Michael McCabe

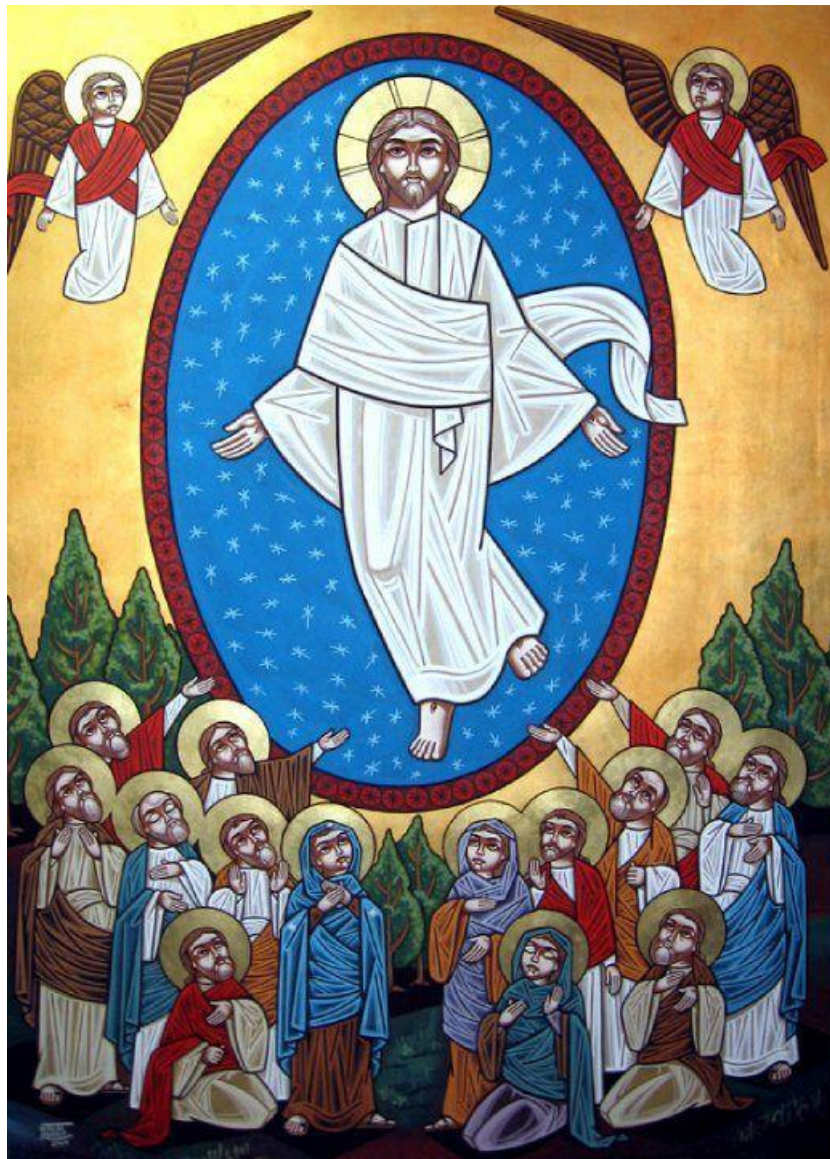


All stand as able at the sound of the bells.

HYMN (sung by all, next page)

Hail the day that sees him rise

(HYMNAL 214)



“Ascension”

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
 *3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
 lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love; Al - le - lu - ia!
 raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
 find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Llanfair*; Robert Williams (1781-1821)

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CANTICLE (sung by all)

John Rutter

Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise; glo - ry to
 you. Glo-ry to you, for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will
 praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. Glo-ry to you in the
 splen - dor of your tem - ple, on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to you. Glo-ry to
 you, seat - ed be - tween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for -
 ev - er. Glo-ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths;
 in the high vault of hea - ven, Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,
 high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to you. Glo-ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and

(continued next page)

Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit, we will high - ly ex - alt you, Glo - ry to you!

Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Presiding Priest The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presiding Priest Let us pray.

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

READER: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

THE RESPONSE (remain seated, read responsively)

Psalm 93

- 1 The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel; *
the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.
- 2 He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;
- 3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.
- 4 The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.
- 5 Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.
- 6 Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever and for evermore.

Kontakian for the Ascension

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor, then all and after the verse.

A. Gregory Murray



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

VERSE: Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his 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 worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Karen Haig

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

THE NICENE CREED

Presiding Priest and People

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary; and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

On this feast of the Ascension of Christ, let us pray with amazement, wonder, awe and astonishment. Joining Christ who intercedes for all the world before God, let us offer our prayers, saying:

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of your incarnate Word, begotten of your own essence to share our human nature. We stand amazed that Christ has ascended from the finitude of space and time to be present everywhere. We rejoice that Jesus evermore dwells in us and we in him. Open our eyes to see your glory, that we may gaze with transfigured eyes at the myriad forms of your faithful presence.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Turn the eyes and hearts of every person to see the signs of Jesus all around us. Show us the Risen One's saving and healing presence in every act of compassion, transformation, peacemaking, justice, and reconciliation.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Turn the eyes and hearts of your Church to see the poor and broken places where Christ is not seen. Help us to see the wounded and afflicted body of Christ still radiant with the light of resurrection. Be present especially with all who are suffering from the coronavirus.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Turn the eyes and hearts of those who lead the nations and shape the economies of the world, that they may be guided by your imperatives of peace and justice. Turn the eyes of the privileged to see all your children who are oppressed, neglected, exploited or abused. Remember all those whose faithfulness to your loving way has brought them into conflict with the powers of this world, and give them the strength to endure.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Turn our own eyes and hearts toward the ones who suffer in body, mind or spirit, that they may find courage and hope in their troubles. And strengthen all those who embody the healing Christ by giving comfort and help to the afflicted.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Turn the eyes and hearts of humanity toward the miracle of creation, and give us the gift of reverence, that we may respect all created beings, live gently on the earth, and be awake to your deep presence in all things visible and invisible.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Turn the eyes and hearts of this congregation to see ourselves, and our world, as you see us. Help us to look toward our glorified Lord, and then to look back at our own stories, to see them afresh, luminous with love and possibility.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

O God, grant us the spirit of amazement. Give us faith when we cannot see; give us hope when we cannot wait; give us longing when we cannot remember. Keep our eyes fixed on the Risen One who has ascended into glory, and yet is with us always, even to the end of time.

O God of wonder, **hear us we pray.**

Presiding Priest: Ascended Lord, you have gone before us into the heavenly glory. Raise these our prayers to heaven, and present them to God in union with your eternal sacrifice, that we may know your divine love in this life, and be united with you in life eternal. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presiding Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

When we're together in church, an offering of money is collected.

[You may make an offering by clicking here.](#)

ANTHEM

Lift up your heads, O ye gates

William Mathias

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors,
and the King of glory shall come in.
Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

TEXT: Psalm 24: vv. 7-10

Recorded on May 13, 2018

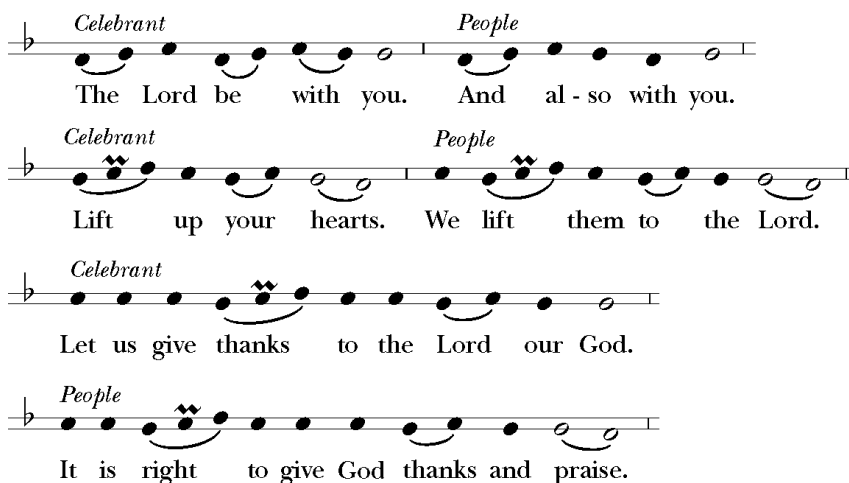
 PRESENTATION ANTHEM

Tallis' Canon



We gath-er at your ta-ble, Lord: we hum-bly lift our hearts to you! Here
all are wel-comed, all re-stored, and all are giv-en work to do.

The people remain standing as able.



Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al-so with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Richard Proulx



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.



1. Peace be - fore us, peace be - hind us, peace
 2. Christ be - fore us, Christ be - hind us, Christ
 3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



un - der our feet. Peace with - in us, peace
 un - der our feet. Christ with - in us, Christ
 lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



o - ver us, let all a - round us be peace.
 o - ver us, let all a - round us be Christ.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Based on a Navajo prayer; David Haas, b.1957
 Tune: David Haas, b.1957
 © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.



THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous God, you have fed us at your heavenly table. Now set us on fire with your Spirit, that when Christ comes again we may shine like lights before his face, who with you and the Spirit lives forever. AMEN.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us God's children through the resurrection of God's Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of God's blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, and the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**



HYMN (next page, sung by all)

A hymn of glory let us sing



1. A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
 2. The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -
 3. To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why
 4. O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, All



hymns through-out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le-
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le-
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le-
 praise to you let earth ac - cord: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le-



lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod. As -
 lu - ia! And with his faith - ful fol - l'wers see Their
 lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" Thus they say, "This
 lu - ia! You are, while end - less a - ges run, With



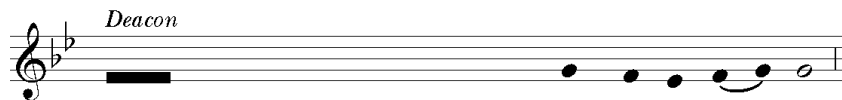
cends un - to the throne of God.
 Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le-
 is his glo - rious tri - umph day!"
 Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Hymnum canamus gloria*; Venerable Bede, 673-735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, © 1978
 Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, LM with alleluias; *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

DISMISSAL



Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia.



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PROCESSION

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune I

Michael McCabe

Music printed and live-streamed under "One License" A-706843

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