

**ASCENSION SUNDAY
THE HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

OPENING HYMN: *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise* 247 vs 1 & 4

WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading From The Book Of Acts *Rev'd Donna Mercer*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 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 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." **Acts 1:1-11**

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

PSALM 47

Rev'd Lynn Courage

Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a cry of joy.

For the Lord Most High is to be feared;
he is the great king over all the earth.

He subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet.

He chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.

For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill.

God reigns over the nations;
God sits upon his holy throne.

The nobles of the peoples have gathered together
with the people of the God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God,
and he is highly exalted.

Blessed are you, God of all the earth; you have called us out of every people and nation to be a royal priesthood and citizens of your holy city. May our words of praise call the world to turn to the joy of fellowship with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Reading From The Letter Of Paul To The Ephesians

Stewart Button

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.

Ephesians 1:15-23

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN: *O Lord Most High* 245 vs 1, 2, 4

THE GOSPEL

Bishop Samuel Rose

Reader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

All: Glory to, you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said to them, "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. **Luke 24:44-53**

THE HOMILY

Bishop Samuel Rose

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ina Kearley

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

All **We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of our name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

THE PEACE

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN: *How Shall I Sing That Majesty* 335 vs 1, 2,

(Offertory is prepared and received)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Eternal God,
our Saviour Jesus Christ
has promised to be with us until the end of time.
Accept all we offer you this day,
and renew us in his transfigured life;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer 3)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his glorious resurrection 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 with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**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.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the

goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command,

All **we remember his death,**
 we proclaim his resurrection,
 we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that

we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours almighty Father, now and for ever.

All Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
**All We, being many, are one body, for we all share in
 the one bread.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of
God

All Thanks be to God

COMMUNION HYMN: *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour* 84

ANTHEM (Soloist)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal Giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom.
Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we
proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

DOXOLOGY

Celebrant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
 can do infinitely more
 than we can ask or imagine.
 Glory to God from generation to generation,
 in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: *Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus* 246 vs 1, 2, 3

DISMISSAL

HAIL, THOU ONCE DESPISED JESUS! 246 vs. 1, 2, 3

Hail, thou once despised Jesus!
Hail, thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us;
Thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, thou universal Saviour,
Thou hast borne our sin and shame;
By thy merit we find favour:
Life is given through thy name.
Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
All our sins on thee were laid:
By almighty love anointed,
Thou hast full atonement made.
All thy people are forgiven
Through the virtue of thy blood:
Opened is the gate of heaven,
Peace is made 'twixt us and God.
Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory,
There forever to abide;
All the heavenly hosts adore thee,
Seated at thy Father's side.
Worship, honour, power and blessing
Thou art worthy to receive;
loudest praises, without ceasing,
meet it is for us to give.

Prayer During the Pandemic

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Resources For Worship From The Following Sources

Anglican Church of Canada

One License #733242-A

Book of Alternative Services

Book of Common Praise

Book of Common Praise (Revised 1938)

GIA Publications.

Wee Worship Book

The Iona Community

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