



Holy Communion

All Saints' Church

Ascension Day

*A **warm welcome** to our worship today. Whether a regular or a visitor, it is good to have you here.*

***We stand as the bell sounds** to mark the beginning of our worship.*

GREETING

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

Amen.

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Words of welcome may be said.

GATHERING HYMN *see hymn sheet*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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

CONFESSION

Seeing we have a great high priest
who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God,
let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith,
and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

**Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,**

**like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GLORIA

**All/choir Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. [x2]
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. [x2]

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us, have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive, receive our prayer.**

Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. [x2]

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit.**

In the glory of God the Father. Amen. [x2]

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer:

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

The Collect is said:

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.
Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 1.1-11

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 baptised with water, but you will be baptised 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 may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

SECOND 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.

At the end the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

GRADUAL HYMN *see hymn sheet*

GOSPEL READING Luke 24.44-53

Choir/All Alleluia! [x4]

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.
Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Choir/All Alleluia! [x4]

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
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.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us join our prayers with those of our Saviour Christ,
seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

At the end:

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

Silence is kept.

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!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN *(see hymn sheet)*

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

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:

**All/choir Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All/choir Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of *[N and]* all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Looking for the coming of his kingdom,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

**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.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

AGNUS DEI

All/choir **Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us *[x2]*.**

**Jesus, bread of life, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us *[x2]*.**

**Jesus, Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us your peace [x4].**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, 'Alleluia!'

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

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

COMMUNION MOTET & HYMN *(see hymn sheet)*

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

**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.**

SENDING HYMN *(see hymn sheet)*

BLESSING

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts
and bring you to reign with him in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

The people and the ministers depart.

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