



GUILDFORD
CATHEDRAL

7.00pm
Thursday 9 May 2024

ASCENSION
DAY
CHORAL
EUCCHARIST



WELCOME

ASCENSION DAY

The Ascension of Jesus is the departure of the risen Jesus from the earth. The narrative in the first Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles takes place 40 days after Easter Day. Jesus is taken up in the sight of the disciples after telling them to remain in Jerusalem until the coming of the Holy Spirit; as he ascends a cloud hides him from their view and they saw two men in white who told them that Jesus will return 'in the same way you have seen him go into heaven' In the Christian tradition, the Ascension is connected with the exaltation of Jesus, meaning that because of his Ascension Jesus continues alive, at the right hand of God and he lives to pray for his people. The risen Jesus departs, and his people await the coming of God the Holy Spirit.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SERVICE

We sing the hymns and the response to the Psalm and say together the words in **bold** type. Although posture is suggested please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

PLEASE DONATE TO THE WORK OF THE CATHEDRAL

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MASS SETTING Missa Brevis *Grayston Ives* (b. 1948)

THE GATHERING

INTROIT

Coelos ascendit hodie
Jesus Christus Rex gloriae.
Sedet ad Patris dexteram,
Gubernat coelum et terram.

*Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
has ascended today into the heavens.
He sits at the right hand of the Father
and rules heaven and earth.*

Jam finem habent omnia
Patris Davidis carmina.
Jam Dominus cum Domino
Sedet in Dei solio.

*Now all the psalms of David,
our father, are fulfilled.
Now the Lord sits with the
Lord on the seat of God.*

In hoc triumpho maximo
Benedicamus Domino.
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas.
Deo dicamus gratias.
Alleluia. Amen.

*In this greatest of triumphs
let us bless the Lord.
The Holy Trinity be glorified.
Let us give thanks to God.
Alleluia. Amen.*

Words: anonymous, 12th century

Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Stand

ASCENSION DAY ACCLAMATION

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

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

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

HYMN



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!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia,
lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia,
He hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia,
take the King of Glory in. Alleluia!

Lo, the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia,
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia,
though returning to his throne, Alleluia,
still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!

See, he lifts his hands above; Alleluia,
see, he shows the prints of love; Alleluia,
hark, his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia,
blessings on his church below. Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia,
his prevailing death he pleads; Alleluia,
near himself prepares our place, Alleluia,
he the first-fruits of our race. Alleluia!

Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia,
far above the starry height, Alleluia,
grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia,
seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), Thomas Cotterill (1779-1823) and others
Music: CP 167 Llanfair, Robert Williams (1782-1818)*

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.

Sit **THE ASCENSION READING** Acts 1.4-11
read by Roger Heath Bullock

While staying with the apostles, Jesus 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.'

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Stand Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us offer him the praise worthy of his name.

GLORIA EXCELSIS

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis.
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu
Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus
Dei, Filius Patris: qui tollis
peccata mundi, miserere
nobis; qui tollis peccata
mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostrum; qui sedes ad
dexteram Patris:
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus;
tu solus Dominus;
tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu,
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to people
of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you.
We give thanks to you for your
great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King.
God the Father almighty.
Only Son of the Father, Jesus
Christ. Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father: who takes
away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us; who takes away
the sin of the world, receive our
prayer; who sits at
the right hand of the Father:
have mercy upon us.
For you alone are holy;
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.*

THE COLLECT OF ASCENSION DAY

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

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into the heavens,
so we in heart and mind may also ascend
and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT Daniel 7.9-14 read by Berrie Norton

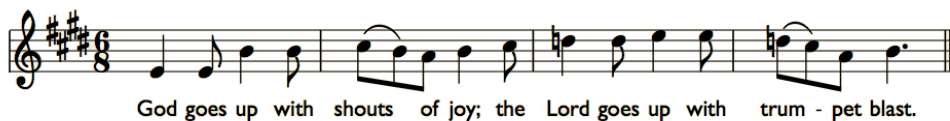
As I watched, thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.
A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousand served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened.
I watched then because of the noise
of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking.
And as I watched, the beast was put to death,
and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.
As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away,
but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.
As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.
To him was given dominion and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

PSALM 47

The choir sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. All sing the refrain as indicated in the psalm.



Clap your hands together, all you peoples;
O sing to God with shouts of joy.
For the Lord Most High is to be feared;
he is the great King over all the earth. *Response.*

He subdued the peoples under us
and the nations under our feet.
He has chosen our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom he loves.
God has gone up with a merry noise,
the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. *Response.*

O sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill. *Response.*

God reigns over the nations;

God has taken his seat upon his holy throne.
The nobles of the peoples are gathered together
with the people of the God of Abraham.
For the powers of the earth belong to God
and he is very highly exalted. *Response.*

Chant: Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Gospel Acclamation is played by the organist, sung by the choir, and then sung by everybody. As the procession passes, please turn to face the proclamation of the Gospel.



Go, make disciples of all the nations;
I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING Luke 24.44-53

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

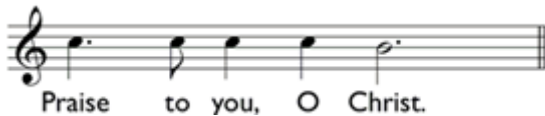


Jesus said to the disciples, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that 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.



THE CREED

**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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who 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 INTERCESSION

The president invites people to pray, saying

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

The deacon leads the prayers

Jesus Christ, great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us, pray for the Church, your broken body in the world.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness, enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high, pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God, pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or sorrow.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation, bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection, surround with your saints and angels those who have died trusting your promises.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us
for work in your service.
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

In conclusion, the president prays

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Stand

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.

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

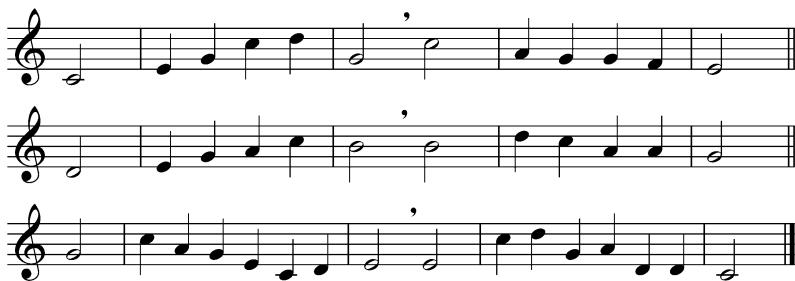
The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN



Ascended Christ, who gained
the glory that we sing,
anointed and ordained,
our Prophet, Priest and King:
 by many tongues
 the Church displays
 your power and praise
 in all her songs.

No titles, thrones, or powers
can ever rival yours;
no passing mood of ours
can turn aside your laws:
 you reign above
 each other name
 of worth or fame,
 the Lord of love!

Now from your Father's side
you make your people new;
since for our sins you died
our lives belong to you:
 from our distress
 you set us free
 for purity
 and holiness.

You call us to belong
within one body here;
in weakness we are strong
and all your gifts we share:
 in you alone
 we are complete
 and at your feet
 with joy bow down.

All strength is in your hand,
all power to you is given;
all wisdom to command
in earth and hell and heaven:
 beyond all words
 creation sings
 the King of kings
 and Lord of lords.

Words: Sing Praise 84 Christopher Idle (b.1938)

Music: CP 152 Christchurch, Charles Steggall (1826-1905)

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President:
The Lord be with you.

All:
And also with you.

President:
Lift up your hearts.

All:
We lift them to the Lord.

President:
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:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli
et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Looking for the coming of his kingdom,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 consecrated bread is broken.

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.

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The president receives the bread and wine.

All who are communicants are welcome to receive the bread and wine. There is no obligation to drink from the common cup. However, please do not dip your wafer in the wine. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides. Gluten-free bread is available.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.*

ANTHEM

○ clap your hands together, all ye people;
○ sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high and to be feared;
he is the great King of all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us,
and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us,
even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise,
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
○ sing praises, sing praises unto our God:
○ sing praises unto the Lord our King.
For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises with the understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon his holy seat.
For God, which is highly exalted,
doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Words: verses from Psalm 47

Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Stand

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.

Amen.

HYMN



Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.



Crown him the Virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won
which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
as of that Rose the Stem;
the Root whence mercy ever flows,
the Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end,
and round his piercèd feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Words: from Revelation 19.12, Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)

Music: CP 166 Diademata, G. J. Elvey (1816-1893)

THE SENDING OUT

READING Acts 1.12, 13a, 14

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, 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.

A moment of silence is kept.

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

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.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Majesté du Christ demandant sa gloire à son Père (L'Ascension)
Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

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