

Ascension of the Lord

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

"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."

Luke 24:50-51

BAS Service of the Word

Come and Journey with a Saviour CP 482

***Come and journey with a Saviour who has called us from our birth,
who has washed us in the waters, and who loved us on the earth. [Refrain]***

Refrain

***Come and journey, come and journey with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters; in the Spirit we are one.***

***Come and journey, journey inward, come and seek him deep within,
where he meets us in our living, in our striving and our sin. [Refrain]***

Refrain

***Come and journey, come and journey with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters; in the Spirit we are one.***

***Come and journey, journey outward, telling others of his name,
telling others of his glory, of his cross and of the shame. [Refrain]***

Refrain

***Come and journey, come and journey with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters; in the Spirit we are one.***

***Come and journey, journey outward, where that cross calls us to care,
where injustice and where hunger and the poor call us to share. [Refrain]***

Refrain

***Come and journey, come and journey with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters; in the Spirit we are one.***

***Come and journey, journey upward. Sing his praises, offer prayer.
In the storm and in the stillness find his presence everywhere. [Refrain]***

Refrain

***Come and journey, come and journey with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters; in the Spirit we are one.***

***Come and journey, journey onward; all our gifts we now shall bring
to the building of a city that is holy, Christ its King. [Refrain]***

Refrain

***Come and journey, come and journey with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters; in the Spirit we are one.***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

**We thank you, O God,
that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day
to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing.
Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past,
and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Dear friends in Christ,
as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God,
let us confess our sins.

**Most merciful God,
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 your name. Amen.**

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**
May the Peace of God be with you.
And also with you.

Fairest Lord Jesus CP 619

***Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou the God-head's human son:
thee will I cherish, will I honour,
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.***

***Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the troubled heart to sing.***

***Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and fair the twinkling, starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than
all the angels heaven can boast.***

***All fairest beauty, heavenly and early,
wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
none can be nearer, fairer, or dearer than
thou, my Saviour, art to me.***

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

God unheld by word or wall:

**lift us from dullness and cynical contempt;
make us ready for your Spirit of transforming power;
and turn our hearts to the mending of the world,
through Jesus Christ, the name above all names. Amen.**

1st 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 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."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 93

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

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God!

May God be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

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

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Let us confess our faith as we say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbours,
and for all those who are alone.**

For this community, our country, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For Melissa our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence. Please add your own petitions

Hear us, Lord.

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. Please add your own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our king;

And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ,
and for those whose faith is known to you alone,
that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. Please add your own petitions

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;
you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking.
Grant our requests as may be best for us.
This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Christ Has No Body Now but Yours MV 171

Refrain:

***Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.
Hear on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.***

***No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,
no hands but yours to soothe all its suffering, no touch but yours to bind the
broken hope of the people of God. [Refrain]***

Refrain:

***Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.
Hear on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.***

***No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,
to find the lost, to gaze with compassion; no eyes but yours to
glimpse the holy joy of the city of God. [Refrain]***

Refrain:

***Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.
Hear on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.***

***No feet but yours to journey with the poor,
to walk this world with mercy and justice. Yours are the steps to build a lasting
peace for the children of God. [Refrain]***

Refrain:

***Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.
Hear on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.***

***Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need:
as Christ has blessed, so now his blessing, with ev'ry gift a
benediction, be to the people of God. [Refrain]***

Refrain:

***Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.
Hear on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.***

*please remember to mail in your offering to the church
or consider using the Pre-Authorized Debit system*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
**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.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

**Glory to God 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, forever and ever. Amen**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Lord, You Give the Great Commission CP 433

**Lord you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gift empower us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us closer in community;
with the Spirit's gift empower us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood."
Let your priests, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us share your children's liberty;
with the Spirit's gift empower us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us to just society;
with the Spirit's gift empower us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gift empower us for the work of ministry.**

Readings for next Sunday – May 30, 2020

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23.