

The Ascension of the Lord

21st May 2020



OPENING HYMN

Hail the day that sees Him rise, alleluia!
To His throne beyond 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 has conquered death and sin, alleluia!
Take the King of Glory in, 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 firstfruits of our race, alleluia!

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

He was lifted up while they looked on.

PSALM RESPONSE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:17-23

He made Him sit at His right hand in heaven.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

All authority, in heaven and on earth, has been given to me.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven, (*as we say the words in italics, we bow*) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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. I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Men of Galilee, why do you gaze at the sky in astonishment? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into Heaven, will come by the very way by which you saw Him go into Heaven, alleluia.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

As the congregation are unable to receive Holy Communion at this time, we are invited to pray a prayer of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

All power has been given to me in Heaven and on earth, alleluia. Go, therefore, and teach all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

New praises be given to Christ newly crowned,
Who back to His heaven a new way has found;
God's blessedness sharing before us He goes;
What mansions preparing, what endless repose!

His glory still praising on thrice-holy ground,
Th'apostles stood gazing, His mother around;
With hearts that beat faster, with eyes full of love,
They watched while their Master ascended above.

"No star can disclose Him", the bright angels said;
"Eternity knows Him, your conquering Head;
Those high habitations He leaves not again,
Till, judging all nations, on earth He shall reign."

Grant, Lord, that our longing may follow You there,
On earth who are thronging Your temples with prayer;
And unto You gather, Redeemer, Your own;
Where thus with Your Father You sit on Your throne.

Hymns reproduced under Calamus license 2458.