

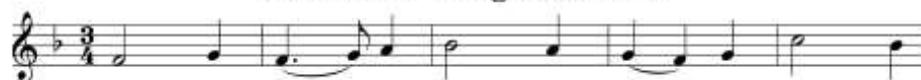
**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**The Ascension of the Lord**



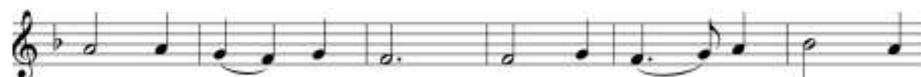
**ANTIPHON**

**MEN OF GALILEE, WHY GAZE IN WONDER AT THE HEAVENS? THIS  
JESUS WHOM YOU SAW ASCENDING INTO HEAVEN WILL RETURN AS  
YOU SAW HIM GO, ALLELUIA.**

## Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the  
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we  
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, Here on  
 4. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, You the



scep - ter, his the throne. Al - le - lu - ia! His the  
 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is  
 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! Here the  
 Lord of lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of



tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone,  
 near us; Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
 sin - ful Flee to you from day to day.  
 Mar - y, Earth your foot - stool, heav'n your throne.



Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der  
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him When the  
 In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, Earth's re -  
 You with - in the veil have en - tered, Robed in



like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of ev - 'ry  
 for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for - get his  
 deem - er, plead for me, Where the songs of all the  
 flesh, our great high priest; Here on earth both priest and



na - tion Has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

## **Invocation and Kyrie**

In the Name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## **The Gloria**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

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.

### **Collect**

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,  
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,  
for the Ascension of Christ your Son  
is our exaltation,  
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,  
the Body is called to follow in hope.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and  
ever. Amen.

### **Reading 1**

#### **ACTS 1:1-11**

In the first book, Theophilus,  
I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught  
until the day he was taken up,  
after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit  
to the apostles whom he had chosen.  
He presented himself alive to them  
by many proofs after he had suffered,  
appearing to them during forty days  
and speaking about the kingdom of God.  
While meeting with them,  
he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem,  
but to wait for “the promise of the Father  
about which you have heard me speak;  
for John baptized with water,  
but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”  
When they had gathered together they asked him,  
“Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**PS 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9**

**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All you peoples, clap your hands,  
shout to God with cries of gladness,  
For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome,  
is the great king over all the earth.

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy;  
the LORD, amid trumpet blasts.  
Sing praise to God, sing praise;  
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

For king of all the earth is God;  
sing hymns of praise.

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

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

**Reading 2**  
**EPH 1:17-23**

Brothers and sisters:  
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,  
give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation  
resulting in knowledge of him.  
May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened,  
that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call,  
what are the riches of glory  
in his inheritance among the holy ones,  
and what is the surpassing greatness of his power  
for us who believe,  
in accord with the exercise of his great might,  
which he worked in Christ,  
raising him from the dead  
and seating him at his right hand in the heavens,  
far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion,  
and every name that is named  
not only in this age but also in the one to come.  
And he put all things beneath his feet  
and gave him as head over all things to the church,  
which is his body,  
the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;  
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**  
**MT 28:16-20**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew  
**Glory to You O Lord.**

The eleven disciples went to Galilee,  
to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.  
When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.  
Then Jesus approached and said to them,  
“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.  
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Following the Gospel, spend some time reflecting on the readings, or listen to a homily from a Catholic priest or deacon that has been recorded for this purpose. Fr. Richard has provided a video homily [HERE](#).*

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
*[At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.]*  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come  
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 life everlasting. Amen.

### **General Intercessions**

Knowing that Christ has ascended to the right hand of His Father amid shouts of joy, and there intercedes for us, let us confidently offer to Him our prayers for the Church, the world, and all who are in need.

for the Church throughout the world; and for all bishops, priests and deacons: that they may be effective witnesses of our risen and ascended Savior, even to the ends of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

#### **Lord, hear our prayer.**

for the leaders of the world: that they will be mindful that it is God who is king over all the nations, let us pray to the Lord.

#### **Lord, hear our prayer**

for all believers: that the Ascension may increase our awareness of the dignity of every human life, created to share life forever in the glories of heaven, let us pray to the Lord.

#### **Lord, hear our prayer.**

for our church and school: that the Father of glory will grant to us a spirit of wisdom and revelation so that we may know Him clearly, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

for the sick, the suffering, the lonely, the poor and the dying, and especially those who suffer from the COVID 19 virus: that God in His mercy will help them to know the great hope to which He has called them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

for all the faithful departed, and especially for those who gave their lives in service to their country as we remember their sacrifice this Memorial Day weekend: that God would grant to them the riches of glory in His inheritance among the holy ones in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, Most High God: through the death, resurrection and ascension of your Son, you have shown us the surpassing greatness of your power for those who believe. Hear our prayers and grant them through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**The Our Father**

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. Amen.

## **Communion Antiphon**

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

*Since receiving the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is not possible at this time, make a Spiritual Communion by using the following prayer:*

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.  
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.

## **Closing Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray,  
that Christian hope may draw us onward  
to where our nature is united with you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

May Almighty God bless us, the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*A closing hymn follows*

## A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!



1. A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New  
 2. The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -  
 3. To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why  
 4. "You see him now, as - cend - ing high Up  
 5. O Lord, our home - ward path - way bend, That



songs through - out the world shall ring; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 our un - wea - ried hearts as - cend, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, As -  
 lu - ia! And with his faith - ful fol - l'wers see Their  
 lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This  
 lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see Re -  
 lu - ia! Where, seat - ed on your Fa - ther's throne, You



cends un - to the throne of God.  
 Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.  
 is his glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."  
 reign as King of kings a - lone.



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Hymnus cantatus gloriae*, Venenlôde Bede, 672-733, u. by Benjamin Webb, 1819-1883; *The Hymnal* (Novel), 1834, alt.  
 Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, LM with alleluia; *Geistliche Kirchenlieder*, Cologne, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958