

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Entrance Antiphon

Acts 1:11

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.

Entrance Hymn

A Hymn of Glory

A hymn of glory let us sing,
new hymns throughout the world shall ring;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
By a new way none ever trod
Christ shares once more the throne of God.
O praise Him, O praise Him:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are a present joy, O Christ,
triumphant love once sacrificed,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And great the light in you we see
to guide us to eternity.
O praise Him, O praise Him:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended now,
to your blessed name all knees shall bow;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
in Triune Godhead ever One.
O praise Him, O praise Him:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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.”

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 47 (46)

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.

Alleluia

Mt 28:19a, 20b

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

Gospel

Mt 28:16 - 20

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.”

Offertory Antiphon

Ps 47 (46):6

God goes up with shouts of joy.
The Lord goes up with trumpet blast, alleluia.

Offertory Hymn

Hail the Day that sees Him Rise

Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia!
To His throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals giv'n, Alleluia!
Reascends His native heav'n, Alleluia!

There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!

Circles 'round with angel powers, Alleluia!
Their triumphant Lord, and ours, Alleluia!
Conqueror o'er death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!

Him though highest Heav'n receives, Alleluia!
Still He loves the earth He leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to His throne, Alleluia!
Still He calls mankind 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 bestow, Alleluia!

Still for us His death He pleads, Alleluia!
Prevalent He intercedes, Alleluia!
Near Himself prepares our place, Alleluia!
Harbinger of human race, Alleluia!

Master, we will ever say, Alleluia!
Taken from our head today, Alleluia!
See Thy faithful servants, see, Alleluia!
Ever gazing up to Thee, Alleluia!

Grant, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!
Far above yon azure light, Alleluia!
Grant our hearts my thither rise, Alleluia!
Seeking Thee beyond the skies, Alleluia!

Ever upward let us move, Alleluia!
Wafted on the wings of love, Alleluia!
Looking when our Lord shall come, Alleluia!
Looking, gasping after home, Alleluia!

There we shall with Thee remain, Alleluia!
Partners of Thy endless reign, Alleluia!
There Thy face unclouded see, Alleluia!
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in the Thee, Alleluia!

Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, Holy. Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Mysterium Fidei

Mortem tuam annunciamus Domine,
Et tuam resurrectionem confitemur, donec venias.

We proclaim Your death O Lord,

And profess Your resurrection, until You come again.

Agnus Dei

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

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 28:20

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

Communion Hymn **“Regina Caeli”**

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

Prayer to Saint Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle;
be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
And do thou, O prince of the heavenly host,
By the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Recessional

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Alleluia! sing to Jesus, His the scepter, his the throne
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood
Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now
Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes nor questions how
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er
Shall our hearts forget his promise, I am with you evermore?

Alleluia! bread of heaven, here on earth our food and stay
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to thee from day to day
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of Lords we own
Alleluia! born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne
Thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim in the Eucharistic Feast.