



The Anglican Parish of
CHRIST CHURCH ST LUCIA

Sunday, 24 May 2020

Sunday after Ascension



Online Service of Praise, Prayer & Proclamation

<https://youtu.be/bueruw5E8jk>

Welcome

Fr. Michael

Organ Prelude

Toccata in g, P 468 – Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Opening Sentence: *sung by Cantor (Fr. Michael)*

This is eternal life, that we may know you,
the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 17.3

The following thanksgiving is said together

**Gracious God, we humbly thank you
for life and health and safety,
for freedom to work, leisure to rest,
and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life.
But, above all, we praise you for our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
for his death and resurrection;
for the gift of your Spirit;
and for the hope of sharing in your glory.
Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The following prayers and the Collect of the Day are said in preparation for the reading and teaching of Scripture

Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us
and showing the way of salvation through faith in your Son.
We ask you now to teach and encourage us through your word,
so that we may be ready to serve you;
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
to have ascended into the heavens,
so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend,
and with him continually dwell;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

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O God, whose Son Jesus prayed for his disciples,
and sent them into the world to proclaim the coming of your kingdom:
by your Holy Spirit, hold the Church in unity,
and keep it faithful to your word, so that, breaking bread together,
we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service,
now and forever. **Amen.**

APBA p.520

The First Reading

Reader: Rev'd Canon Libbie Crossman

Acts 1:6-14

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."

Then they 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.

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

Psalm 47

sung by Cantor (Fr. Michael)

John Bell (TIS 29)

- 1 Clap your hands all you nations,
Amen, Hallelujah!
Shout for joy all you people:
Amen, Hallelujah!
Holy is the most high;
Amen, Hallelujah!
Mighty over all the earth.
Amen, Hallelujah!
- 2 God subdues ev'ry nation,
God is king of all creatures;
God has given this land
to the people he loves.
- 3 To the shouting in triumph,
To the blasting of trumpets,
God has gone up,
God ascends over all.
- 4 Praise the Lord with your singing,
Sing God psalms forever.
God is monarch of all,
sov'reign over the earth.
- 5 Those on earth who are mighty
still belong to our Maker,
God exalted on high
God forever our Lord.

Paraphrase by John Bell (b.1949)

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it - not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.

In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

Gospel Acclamation

sung by Cantor

Jn. 14:18



The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you and your hearts will rejoice.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Gospel Reading

Reader: Rev'd Bill Crossman

John 17.1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Organ Acclamation

Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630 – J.S.Bach

*God's Son triumphs today, risen from the dead, Alleluia, Alleluia!
In glory and splendour, we praise him through eternity, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

The Sermon

Fr. Michael

Abp. Rowan Williams vs Prof. Richard Dawkins: Humanity's ultimate origins
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zruhc7XqSxo>

Organ Reflection

Zeuch uns nach dir, op.65/34 – Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

*Draw us to you, that we may follow
with heartfelt desire to the place where you are.
O Christ Jesus, departed now from this world.*

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Invitation to the Confession

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Christ has entered heaven itself, there to appear before God on our behalf.

Let us therefore draw near in full assurance of faith, and confess our sins to the God of grace.

**Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have broken your holy laws
and have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit,
enable us to live for you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The minister declares God's forgiveness

God desires that none should perish,
but that all should turn to Christ, and live.
In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.
God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel.
Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

The Intercessions

Leader: Rev'd Canon Libbie Crossman

Through Christ, who ever lives to make intercession for us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lift up our hearts to the heavenly places
and inspire us to serve you as a royal priesthood:

*Jesus Christ, risen and ascended, **Hear our prayer.***

Let all peoples acknowledge your kingdom
and grant on earth the blessing of peace:

*Jesus Christ, risen and ascended, **Hear our prayer.***

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit
and renew your Church with power from on high:

*Jesus Christ, risen and ascended, **Hear our prayer.***

May peace abound and righteousness flourish,
that we may vanquish injustice and wrong:

*Jesus Christ, risen and ascended, **Hear our prayer.***

Help us to proclaim the good news of salvation,
and grant us the needful gifts of your grace:

*Jesus Christ, risen and ascended, **Hear our prayer.***

Let us commend the world, for which Christ prays, to the mercy and protection
of God using the prayer that He taught us,

The Lord's Prayer

**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 for ever. Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prayer

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers,
feeding us with your word,
and encouraging us in our meeting together.

**Take us and use us to love and serve you and all people,
in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Christ our exalted king pour upon you his abundant 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.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia:
In the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Organ Postlude

Nun danket alle Gott, op.67/59 – Sigfrid Karg-Elert

*Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way,
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

MUSIC LINKS:

Anthems:

Viri galilaei – Patrick Gowers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwmicSFdcd0>

God is gone up – Gerald Finzi

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_67yfaroeK

O clap your hands – Orlando Gibbons

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_7W_8EQAO0

Hymn:

Crown him with many crowns

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kPkjghup8E>