

Anglican Parish of St Kilda Christ Church



*As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on,
and a cloud took him from their sight.*

Sunday of the Ascension

May 21st 2023

Festival Eucharist

9 a.m.

Organ Prelude: 'Majesté du Christ' from L'Ascension

Olivier Messiaen

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

*Men of Galilee, why do you gaze in wonder at the heavens?
The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia.*

During the Censing of the Altar

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as your matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose, as of that rose the stem;
the root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed over the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love, behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of lords, who over all does reign,
who once on earth, the incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain,
now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing
their songs before him day and night, their God, Redeemer, King.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for you have died for me;
your praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Bridges alt. Thring; Elvey (Diademata)

The Penitential Rite

In order to celebrate these Holy Mysteries well, let us call to mind our sins.

Lord, you ascended to the Father and gave us the gift of the Spirit,
Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy**

Christ, by the power of your cross, you draw all creatures to yourself.
Christ, have mercy **Christ, have mercy**

Lord, you are the king of the universe and your dominion lasts for ever.
Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive + us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life through Christ our Lord.

The Gloria in Excelsis:

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria. Gloria, alleluia, alleluia

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his People on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria. Gloria, alleluia, alleluia

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us. you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria. Gloria, alleluia, alleluia

**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.**

The Appointed Prayer

God our Father,
make us joyful in the Ascension of your Son, Jesus Christ.
May we follow him into the new creation,
for his Ascension is our glory and our hope.
We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Acts 1: 1-11

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

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

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

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

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

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

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

God is king of all the earth,
sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

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

Second reading

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Ephesus

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Ephesians 1: 17-23

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Praise him as he mounts the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, the Lord of Paradise! Alleluia!
Cry hosanna in the height,
As he rises out of sight! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Now at last he takes his throne, Alleluia!
From all ages his alone! Alleluia!
With his praise creation rings:
Lord of lords and King of kings! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Hands and feet and side reveal, Alleluia!
Wounds of love, high priesthood's seal! Alleluia!
Advocate, for us he pleads;
Heavenly Priest, he intercedes! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Christians, raise your eyes above! Alleluia!
He will come again in love, Alleluia!
On that great and wondrous day,
When this world will pass away! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
At his word new heavens and earth, Alleluia!
Will in glory spring to birth! Alleluia!
Joy of angels, joy of men, Alleluia!
Come, Lord Jesus, come again! Alleluia!

James Quinn; Sydney Nicholson (Chislehurst)

Gospel Proclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Holy Gospel:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory ✠ to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Matthew 28::16-20

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Organ Acclamation

Homily

Nicene Creed Let us together affirm the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again 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.**

**We 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 worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
+ and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Greeting of peace

We are the body of Christ
His Spirit is with us. Alleluia!

The peace of the risen and ascended Lord be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

Offertory Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the sceptre, 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, has 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 angels, you on earth our food, our 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, you the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heaven your throne:
you within the veil has entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
you on earth both Priest and Victim in the Eucharistic feast.

William Chatterton Dix; R. H. Prichard (Hyfrydol)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is not only right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times, and in all places,
to give thanks to you, Father Almighty and everliving God.

Today the Lord Jesus, the king of glory,
the conqueror of sin and death,
ascended to heaven while the angels sang his praises.

Christ, the mediator between God and Man,
judge of the world and Lord of all, has passed beyond our sight,
not to abandon us, but to be our hope.

Christ is the beginning, the head of the Church;
where he has gone, we hope to follow.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,
we praise your name forever saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
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.

[the prayer continues]

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again

[the prayer continues]

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**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.

The breaking of the Bread:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei:

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 your peace.

Holy Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God

Those who are baptised in the Name of the Trinity,
and are communicant members of their own Churches,
are welcome to receive Holy Communion at our altar.

During Holy Communion: God is gone up on high today

Post Communion Antiphon and Prayer

I, the Lord, am with you always, until the end of the world, alleluia!

Let us pray.

Father, in this Eucharist,
we touch the divine life you give to the world.
Help us to follow Christ with love to eternal life
where he is Lord for ever and ever.
**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**
**Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Dismissal Hymn

Sing we triumphant hymns of praise,
exultant hymns to heav'n we raise: Alleluia, alleluia.
Christ, by a road before untrod,
now rises to the throne of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
The holy apostolic band
upon the Mount of Olives stand: Alleluia, alleluia.
And with the virgin Mother see
our Lord's resplendent majesty.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Lord, be our joy and strong defence,
who are our future recompense: Alleluia, alleluia.
So shall the light that springs from Thee
be ours through all eternity.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia, alleluia.
who are, while endless ages run,
with Father and with Spirit One.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Solemn Blessing

May Almighty God bless you on this day
when his only Son ascended into heaven to prepare a place for you.

Amen

After his resurrection, Christ was seen by his disciples.
When he appears as Judge may you be pleasing forever in his sight.

Amen

You believe that Jesus has taken his seat in majesty
at the right hand of the Father.
May you have the joy of experiencing that he is also with you to the end of time,
according to his promise.

Amen

May almighty God bless you: the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia! **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia**

Organ Postlude: 'Transports de joie' from L'Ascension Olivier Messiaen

INTERCESSIONS

For the Church:

In the world-wide Community of Faith
we pray for the Anglican Province of the West Indies
In this Diocese we pray for Philip our Archbishop,
his Regional bishops and Archdeacons
We pray for this Parish of St. Kilda -
for our Locum, the Parish Council and our congregation.
May the glory of the Ascended Christ fill our hearts with joy and hope.

For the World:

For victims of vindictiveness and malice, and for those who perpetrate such suffering.
For those who suffer as a result of political ambition
For peace and justice and for all who long for freedom.

For the Community:

For the unemployed in our community.
For the anxious.
For those who are isolated.
For those overcome by fear.
For Christ Church Mission and the Community Centre
(for all volunteers & the Management Committee).

For the Sick: for John, Joe (from Acland Grange), Charles, Harley, Clementine, Beatrice, Andre, Aaron, Kathryn, Danny Allan, Byron, Elizabeth, Jo, Henry, Sam, Hugh, Bridget, Mary & Brian and their carers, Leigh, Helen, Danni, Joan & Henry and their carers, Wendy, Fr Andrew, Evan, Ruth, Patty Dowd, Philip, Judy, Sally & Peter, Lee, Robyn, Dalton, Vivienne & for those we name in our hearts. We pray too for those who mourn.

The Communion of Saints:

With the universal Church,
we honour and invoke Saint Mary, Mother of the Risen and Ascended Lord;
St Helena; St Bede the Venerable, priest & scholar;
St Augustine, Archbishop of Canterbury & missionary.
May their prayers support us as we wait in hope for the glory that is to be ours.
We honour John & Charles Wesley, priests and hymn writers.

For the Departed:

those who have died as the result of epidemics;
those who have died recently,
& those whose Year's Mind occurs at this time: Rodney Purvis, Alan Koschade

Rest eternal grant + them, good Lord

& let everlasting light shine upon them

Next Sunday May 28th

The Feast of Pentecost

Parish Directory

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