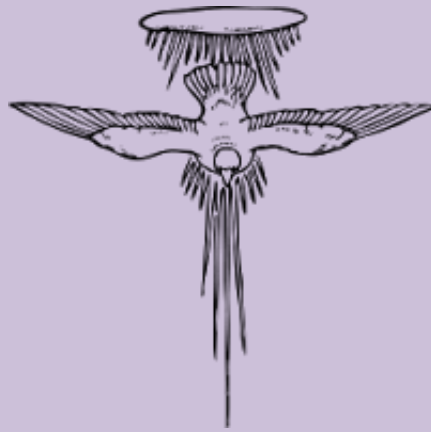


Celebrating the Ascension of the Lord, Jesus Christ



Introduction

[from Hebrews and Revelation]

We have a great High Priest who has gone into the very presence of God – Jesus the Son of God. With confidence, let us approach God's throne of grace.

Jesus is worthy to receive power, wealth, wisdom and strength, honour, glory and praise.

Hymn

Prayer

The Lord reigns!

Let the earth rejoice!

Glory to God

He is our Father

Glory to Christ our Saviour!

He has brought us to the Father.

Glory to the Holy Spirit

Who gives us life for ever with the Father

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

God our Father, we see your glory in the majesty and beauty of your creation. We are in awe of the power and the intricate design of all your works, yet without fear because you are our Father and your whole nature is love.

Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, Judge and Friend; In your presence we are ashamed of our failure to live in the glory of your presence, trusting you for everything which comes to us in life, yet we are assured that our repentance brings us your forgiveness, as you revealed by your Cross and Resurrection.

Holy Spirit, God with us; God in us, inspire and teach us in our worship and in our living, that the glory of God may overshadow us and your love flow through all our words and actions.

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

The Lord's Prayer

Our father in heaven, may your holy name be honoured;

May your kingdom come;

May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today the food we need.

Forgive us the wrong we have done,

just as we forgive the wrongs others have done to us.

Do not bring us to hard testing without keeping us safe from evil.

The kingdom, with all power and glory, belongs to you alone.

Shared Reading

[Psalm 93. Ephesians 2]

The Lord is King!

He is robed in majesty and power.

Like the immoveable earth, your throne, Lord,
has been set firmly in place from the beginning.

You existed before time began.

Greater than the roaring voice of the ocean, your Word is powerful and supreme in
heaven.

Your holiness is unchanging and eternal.

**Christ Jesus always had the nature of God,
but of his own free will he gave up all he had,
and took the nature of a servant.**

He became like man and appeared in human likeness.

**He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death – his
death on the cross.**

**For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the
name that is greater than any other name.**

**And so, in honour of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and
in the world below will fall on their knees, and all will openly proclaim that
Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

Hymn

Prayers

We give thanks to God
we have seen the glory of God in Jesus Christ his Son
in his coming as human with us - the glory of life
in his teaching and his living - the glory of truth
in his death and resurrection - the glory of love
in his ascension and return to the Father - the glory of eternal hope

Lord of Glory

This is our prayer

We pray for the glory of God in his Church

Lord of Glory

This is our prayer

We pray for the glory of God in the world

Lord of Glory

This is our prayer

We pray for the glory of God in our community

Lord of Glory

This is our prayer

We pray for the glory of God among those in sickness and need

Lord of Glory

This is our prayer

**The glory of God is
a life lived by faith in him
a life lived under the shadow of Christ's Cross
a life totally submitted to his will.
Lord, let that life be ours.**

Offering

Hymn

Readings

Ephesians 1: 15 – 23

Luke 24: 44 – 53

Sermon

Hymn

At the Lord's Table

Praise to God, the Father

We will praise him

Glory to God, the Son

We will give him glory

Praise to God, the Holy Spirit

We give him our thanks and praise

Praise the living God,

one in three and three in one for ever

Blessing and honour, glory and power
are rightly yours, all-gracious God.

By your creative word the world was born;
in your generous love you made the human family,
that we could see your glory
and live forever in your presence.

When we were separated from you by our sin
you sought us with your steadfast love;
you did not give us up.

At the right time you sent your Son
to be our Saviour and Deliverer.

Like us, in all but sin, he lived our life
and died our death on the cross.

You raised him from death and now he reigns at your right hand

God is holy God is powerful and mighty

His glory fills the universe

Praise him ! Praise him !

Praise to the Lord Jesus Christ who, at supper with his friends, took bread and gave you thanks, broke it and gave it to them and said: 'Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body given for you. Do this to remember me.'

We give thanks
that the glory of God
is seen in the works of his kingdom -
and in works of love in and through human lives

When supper was ended, he took the cup and gave you thanks, gave it to them, and said: 'Drink from it all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for everyone, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me.'

**Lord Jesus, by your death you destroyed death for us;
by your resurrection you give us eternal life;
by your glorious ascension you open the way to heaven
for all who are united to you by faith.**

**Lord Jesus, we unite ourselves to you
and with each other
as we share this bread and wine,
the tokens of your body and your blood
May bread and wine be our sign of faith.
Come to our hearts, Lord Jesus.**

Sharing Bread and Wine
[as for local custom]

Final Prayer

**Risen, ascended, glorified Lord Jesus.
We share your life;
the fellowship of your suffering
and the glory of your resurrection.
Give us grace and strength
to live in the light of your glory;
to share your love and work for you kingdom.**

Hymn

Blessing