



SERVICE ORDER

**Sunday, 12 May
The Ascension of Our Lord**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Almighty God,
we believe in your Son, our Lord,
who ascended into heaven.
Lead us also to ascend there in heart and mind,
and take us to live with him forever.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Clap your hands! Shout for joy!
Our Lord reigns on the throne of glory!
Christ has conquered sin and death and lives and rules eternally.
Our Lord reigns on the throne of glory!
Let us open our hearts to the ascended Lord,
Our Lord reigns on the throne of glory!

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

JESUS SHALL REIGN

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To Him shall endless prayer be made,
and endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of every tongue
declare His love in sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on His name.**

**Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blessed.**

**Where He displays His healing power,
death and the curse are known no more;
in Him the tribes of Adam boast
more blessings than their father lost.**

**Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud 'Amen!'**

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.
Public Domain

CONFESSION OF SINS

*Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins,
and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins,
and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your
punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the
sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be
gracious and merciful to me. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to
die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He
has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit.
Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.*

GOD FORGIVES

..... peace be with you.

Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LORD HAVE MERCY

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

SONG OF ADORATION – STF/Pg58

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honour, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God
and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Ascended Lord Jesus, as we gaze into the clouds together with the first disciples this morning, watching and waiting for your return, remind us that we are standing on holy ground. Place our feet on the pathways of peace and hope. Help us to live with the assurance that you are with us, and that there is much that you would have us do in your name. Keep us ready and willing always to serve you all our days. Amen.

PSALM 47

*Clap your hands, all you nations;
shout to God with cries of joy.
For the Lord Most High is awesome,
the great King over all the earth.
He subdued nations under us,
peoples under our feet.
He chose our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.
God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.*

God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.
The nobles of the nations assemble
as the people of the God of Abraham,
for the kings of the earth belong to God;
he is greatly exalted.

Glory to the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever.
Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11 Jesus' ascension, promise and commission

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Then they gathered round him and asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them: 'It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.'

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 Christ is the supreme Lord over all things

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53 Jesus commissions and blesses the disciples

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.' Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

HE IS EXALTED

**He is exalted The King is exalted on high
I will praise Him He is exalted forever exalted
And I will praise His name**

**He is the Lord Forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and earth Rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted The King is exalted on high**

**He is exalted The King is exalted on high
I will praise Him He is exalted forever exalted
And I will praise His name**

**He is the Lord Forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and earth Rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted The King is exalted on high**

Twila Paris

Permission used under CCLI - 53805 / 230276 / 153413

MESSAGE

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,
from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

ANCIENT OF DAYS

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall,
there is still one King reigning over all.
So I will not fear for this truth remains
that my God is the Ancient of Days.

None above Him, none before Him,
all of time in His hands.

For His throne it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power, all the glory; I will trust in His name.
For my God is, the Ancient of Days.

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul;
He is here with me, I am not alone.
O His love is sure, and He knows my name;
for my God is, the Ancient of Days.

None above Him, none before Him,
all of time in His hands.

For His throne it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power, all the glory; I will trust in His name.
For my God is, the Ancient of Days.

Though I may not see what the future brings,
I will watch and wait for the Saviour King.
Then my joy complete, standing face to face
in the presence of the Ancient of Days.

None above Him, none before Him,
all of time in His hands.

For His throne it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power, all the glory; I will trust in His name.
For my God is, the Ancient of Days.
For my God is, the Ancient of Days.

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren & Jesse Reeves
© 2018 CityAlight Music. Permission used under CCLI - 53805 / 230276 / 153413

OFFERING PRAYER

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your constant and continual blessings. Bless all of our offerings, so that that we might worship you with great joy and serve your people with great love. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ, has been raised to the right hand of God. Let us pray to him that he would intercede for us and for all the world before our Father in heaven.

Gracious God, you have exalted your Son Jesus Christ above all rule and authority, power and dominion. We pray for those who exercise authority in our country, especially our Prime Minister [insert name], and all those involved in federal, state and local levels of government. Strengthen them in difficult times and guide them to make good decisions that honour your will to provide for all people.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you that your Son Jesus called his disciples to proclaim repentance and forgiveness of sins in his name. Show your mercy to those caught in sin that they may know the freedom which forgiveness brings. Through the promised gift of your Holy Spirit, help us to share your love with a world in desperate need of your grace and forgiveness.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Hear the cries of those who are treated unjustly, and release those who are unfairly imprisoned. Let your peace and freedom reign, especially in lands ruled by oppressive regimes!

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Show your favour to the poor, and grant them justice. Help society everywhere make provision for people in difficult circumstances. Be with all those who are unemployed or facing any kind of hardship, and give us eyes to see and hearts to care for them.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we especially pray for those who bear burdens of illness, grief, or anxiety. Bring healing, comfort and peace. Bless all those who care for the sick, and strengthen and protect them that they may continue as your blessing to those unwell.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the families, students, and staff at all of our Grace Places. Today we pray specially for GLPS students, Isabella & Shanaya in 2R, Anais, Luka & Scout in 3H, Bella & Joshua in 3N, Jessica in 4C, Mckenzie & William in 4R, Flynn & Noah in 6B, Aarav in 6J and staff members Leanne K & Bec B. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

Ascended Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, you ascended into heaven, to your Father and our Father, to your God and our God. Always remember us, and never cease to represent our cause before the throne of God, with whom you live and reign, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING TO SHARE

May the Lord bless you and keep you safe.
May the Lord bless you and keep you safe.
May the Lord smile down on you and show you kindness.
May the Lord smile down on you and show you kindness.
May the Lord answer your prayers and give you peace.
May the Lord answer your prayers and give you peace. Amen.

BEHOLD OUR GOD

**Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice:
All creation rises to rejoice.**

**Behold our God seated on His throne;
come let us adore Him!
Behold our King – nothing can compare;
come let us adore Him!**

**Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His Words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?**

**Behold our God seated on His throne;
come let us adore Him!
Behold our King – nothing can compare;
come let us adore Him!**

**Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave;
Jesus, Saviour risen now to reign!**

**Behold our God seated on His throne;
come let us adore Him!
Behold our King – nothing can compare;
come let us adore Him!**

Meghan Baird, Jonathan Baird, Stephen Altrogge, Ryan Baird
© 2011 Sovereigns Grace Worship (ASCAP)/Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI).
Permission used under CCLI - 53805 / 230276 / 153413

HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: Acts 1:1-11

LHS

90 Christ the Lord is risen again
106 Since Christ is gone to heaven, His
home
111 Hail the day that sees Him rise
112 Hail, Thou once despised Jesus
113 Crown Him with many crowns
114 See the Conqueror mounts in
triumph

AT

26 He is Lord
161 Majesty
162 King of kings and Lord of lords
163 Hymn of glory
166 Clap your hands, all you people

115 Rejoice, the Lord is King
285 To Thy most holy supper, Lord
761 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing
771 Hallelujah! sing to Jesus
782 At the name of Jesus
788 Lord, who left the highest heaven
843 Saviour, to the Father's side

226 All is nearness
252 He is exalted
257 Jesus is living
370 You are glorious

TIS

185 Alleluia (v 5)
 192 Christ is the world's redeemer
 216 Rejoice, the Lord is King
 228 Crown him with many crowns
 231 At the name of Jesus
 365 Christ the Lord is risen again
 369 Hail the day that sees him rise

373 Hail, our once despised Jesus
 387 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing
 415 Praise the Spirit in creation
 517 Hallelujah! sing to Jesus
 520 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

Second reading: Ephesians 1:15-23**LHS**

169 The head that once was crowned with thorns

528 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

AT

-

TIS

212 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
 224 All hail the power of Jesus' name
 237 Hail Redeemer! King divine
 371 God is gone up on high

378 The head that once was crowned with thorns
 685 Lord, I come to you (The power of your love)

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53**LHS**

219 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
 G3

221 Spread, O spread, thou mighty Word* G5

AT

103 Send your servant down the road

TIS

207 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
 404 Lord God, the Spirit blest

450 Spread, O spread, almighty word