

# A Liturgy of the Eucharist for the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ



All Saints Church, Birkenhead



## AN ASCENSION REFLECTION

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

God has gone up with a shout,  
The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

We gather in the name of God: ✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Amen

Grace and peace to you from God.  
God fill you with truth and joy.

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,  
Jesus the Son of God, let us offer him the praise worthy of his name:

*We say/sing*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at  
the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
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

Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will lead us to eternal life.

*Silence is kept*

*The Priest prays the Collect*

## THE READINGS

*After each reading the response is*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
Thanks be to God

*A Hymn may be sung*

*We stand for the Gospel reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.

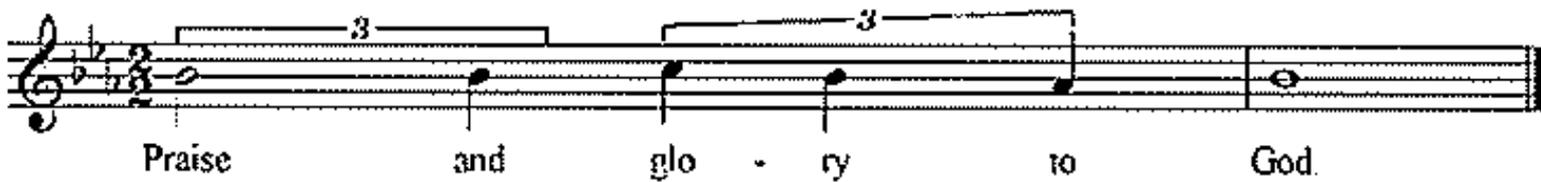
Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to...

All:



*After the Gospel, the reader says*

This is the Gospel of Christ.

All:



## THE SERMON

*Following The Sermon we keep silence*

## THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
✠ the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The presiding priest says:*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, giving thanks for God's goodness.

*Prayer response:*

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

## THE PEACE

*We stand together*

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

## THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*We sing a **Hymn** as the bread & wine and the gifts of the people are brought to the altar*

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The image shows six staves of musical notation for the hymn 'The Great Thanksgiving'. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems, and rests. There are some decorative wavy lines above certain notes. The lyrics are: 'The Lord is here', 'God's Spirit is with us', 'Lift up your hearts', 'We lift them up to the Lord', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God', and 'It is right to offer thanks and praise'.

The Lord is here  
God's Spirit is with us  
Lift up your hearts  
We lift them up to the Lord  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
It is right to offer thanks and praise

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy,

always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

By the glory of his resurrection.

he opened the way to life eternal, and by his ascension,  
gave us the sure hope that where he is we may also be.

Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your glorious name for ever praising you and  
saying/singing:

**H**oly, 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.

*Please sit or kneel*

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father;  
on the night before he died  
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;  
when he had given you thanks, he broke it,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;  
when he had given you thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins;

do this as often as you drink it, to remember me

**G**lory to you, Lord Christ;  
your death we show forth;  
your resurrection we proclaim;  
your coming we await,  
Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

Therefore loving God,  
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,  
his suffering and death,  
his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his  
coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this  
bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving, which we offer through Christ  
our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the  
body and blood of Christ,  
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed  
for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, O God,

in songs of everlasting praise.

✠ **B**lessing, honour and glory be yours,  
here and everywhere,  
now and for ever. Amen.

*Silence is kept*

Looking for the coming of his kingdom, as our Saviour taught us, so we  
pray / sing

**O**ur 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 presiding priest breaks the bread*

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

*We say/sing together:*

**L**amb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us your peace

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia.  
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.  
Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.  
Alleluia.

*The presiding priest and the people receive communion*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our Father,  
you have raised our humanity in Christ  
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:  
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,  
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

We thank you, Lord,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ,  
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet  
prepared for all peoples.  
**Amen.**

*A Final Hymn may be sung*

*A ✠ Blessing is given...*

*We are sent out with these words*

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,  
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**