

Morning Prayer: May 24th; Ascension

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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 have come together to 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, offer our praise and thanksgiving, pray for the needs of the world, and seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the coming Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Confession

Christ has gone up on high, leading captivity captive and bringing gifts for all. As we prepare ourselves to meet him in the courts of heaven let us call to mind our many failures and sins.

silence

Lord Jesus, you suffered a cruel death on the cross for our redemption,
yet we have forgotten your pain
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you were raised from death to bring us new life, yet we have preferred the comfort of the familiar,
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have ascended into the heart of God, plead there for our forgiveness and entry into the fullness of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

We have a great high priest who has passed through to heaven, Jesus the Son of God, therefore shall our hearts dance for joy **and in our song will we offer him the praise worthy of his name.**

Hymn - O Christ, when you ascended
Tune = Aurelia (listen [here](#))

O Christ, when you ascended,
you took your rightful throne;
Your time on earth had ended —
yet we weren't left alone.
You reign o'er earth and heaven;
your Spirit guides our way.
Your prayers uphold your people;
you lead your church each day.

We're tempted. Lord, to leave you
in stories nicely told;
Sometimes we don't believe you
and say your ways are old.
Sometimes we feel so lonely
and live in doubt and fear —
But your ascension means, Lord,
your Spirit's with us here.

One day, O Lord, we'll know you,
as we are fully known;
One day this world of sinners
will bow before your throne.
One day, God's whole creation
will sing and praise your name;
On earth as now in heaven,
we'll celebrate your reign.

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Opening prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

[Luke 24:44-end](#)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the

right hand of the Father,

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

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

Intercessions are offered.

The response to: Lord in your Mercy

Is: **Hear our Prayer**

Intercessions conclude with:

Merciful father, Accept these prayers for the sake of your son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Notices

Hymn: Hail the day that sees him rise
Lead by the Choir

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
to his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia!
he hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia!
take the King of glory in! Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia!
his prevailing death he pleads, Alleluia!
near himself prepares our place, Alleluia!
he the first fruits of our race. Alleluia!

Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!
far above the starry height, Alleluia!
grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia!
seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, alleluia.