

Morning Prayer May 16th



Ascension

Greeting

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.

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.**

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.

All 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

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 Word of God

Reading: Acts 1:1-11

At the end

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

All 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

Prayers

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

Crown Him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and
all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round His piercèd feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou has died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout
eternity..

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.