

Ascensiontide proclamation at Dawn

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The Gathering ...

Welcome and introduction

Preparation

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

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

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with us all

Introduction

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 tell the story of his parting.

The Ascension Reading

While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father.

“This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?”

He replied, **“It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.

They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Acts 1: 4-11

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

Gloria in excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give your thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord, Jesus Christ, only Son of the
Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins 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.**

Hymn

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
to the throne above the skies; alleluia!
Christ the lamb, for sinners giv'n, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heav'n! alleluia!

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

Circled round with angel-pow'rs, Alleluia!
their triumphant Lord and ours; Alleluia!
wide unfold the radiant scene, Alleluia!
take the King of Glory in! Alleluia!

Lo, the heav'n its Lord receives, Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia!
though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Calls the human race his own. Alleluia!

*Text: Charles Wesley, Tomas Cotterill et al
Music: 'ascension', William Henry Monk*

Collect for Ascensontide

Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature
to the throne of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and forever
Amen.

Canticle

**All nations shall come
and worship you, O Christ,
and share in the feast of your kingdom**

Great and wonderful are your deeds, *
Lord God the Almighty.

Just and true are your ways,*
O ruler of the nations.

Who shall not revere and praise your name,
O Lord? *
for you alone are holy.

All nations shall come
and worship in your presence: *
for your just dealings have been revealed.

**To the one who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb,
be blessing and honour
and glory and might, for ever and ever.
Amen**

**All nations shall come
and worship you, O Christ,
and share in the feast of your kingdom**

Gospel reading

Alleluia! Alleluia! 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! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hear the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he opened their minds to understand the
scriptures, and he said to them,

“Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer
and to rise from the dead on the third day, and
that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be
proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning
from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these
things. And see, I am sending upon you what
my Father promised; so stay here in the city
until you have been clothed with power from
on high.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and,
lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he
was blessing them, he withdrew from them and
was carried up into heaven. And they
worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem
with great joy; and they were continually in the
temple blessing God.

Luke 24: 45 -53

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

Hymn

Jubilate Deo
omnis terra
servite domino
in laetitia.
Alleluia, Alleluia
in laetitia.
Alleluia, Alleluia
in laetitia.

*Translation: Rejoice in the Lord, all you lands,
serve the Lord with gladness, Alleluia!*

*Text: Trad
Music Jacques Berthier, ©Taize community*

Intercession...

Jesus Christ, great high priest,
living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in the
world ...
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on
high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to
your gentle rule ...
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,
drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your brothers and sisters in need,
distress or sorrow ...
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death and
resurrection,
surround with your saints and angels
those who have died trusting your promises
...
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and filling the
universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us
for work in your service ...
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship
at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive them
that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing and departure

God the Father,
who has given to his Son the name above
every name,
strengthen us to proclaim Christ Jesus as
Lord.
Amen.

God the Son,
who is our great high priest
passed into the heavens,
plead for us at the right hand of the Father.
Amen

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant gifts
upon the Church,
make us faithful servants of Christ our king.
Amen.

**May the Lord bless us, protect us from
all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen**

Waiting expectantly
for the promised Holy Spirit,
Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God, Alleluia! Alleluia!