

**St Chad's Church, Pattingham with Patshull
Service for Ascension Day 2020**

Introduction and Welcome

Hymn

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly 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 Virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won
which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
as of that Rose the Stem;
the Root whence mercy ever flows,
the Babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre 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 hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

Matthew Bridges(1800-1894)

All God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. *Psalm 47.5*

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

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.
All **and also with you.** *cf 1 Timothy 1.2*

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.

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 Hymn 414

All **Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis.**
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

**Peace on earth to all your people,
Lord God, heavenly King.
We worship you, almighty Father,
let our voices ring! Sing:**

Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

**Jesus, blessed Lamb of God,
to you our voice we raise.
You take away our sins, O Lord,
receive our song of praise! Sing:**

Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

**Holy Lord in highest heaven,
how our hearts rejoice
in God the Father, Son and Spirit,
so with loudest voice sing:**

Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis.

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

The Collect

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

Silence is kept.

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 Liturgy of the Word

Reading - Acts 1.1–11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

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. *cf Matthew 28.19,20*

All Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24.44–53

44 Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ 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,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.’⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ 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.’

50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us join our prayers with those of our Saviour Christ,
seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

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.

All 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All **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.

All **Amen.**

¶ **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

The Peace

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.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

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 president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president says

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

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

All **Holy, 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
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,
in remembrance of me.

All

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [N and] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

All

**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 for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion

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.

While the president partakes of Holy Communion on behalf of the worshipping community, you may wish to reflect on and partake of an act of Spiritual Communion, praying

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

O most merciful redeemer,

friend and brother,

may I know you more clearly,

love you more dearly

and follow you more nearly day by day. Amen

(After a prayer of St Richard of Chichester)

Lord in these days of mercy, make us quiet and prayerful; in these days of challenge, make us stronger in you; in these days of emptiness, take possession of us; in these days of waiting, open our hearts to the mystery of your cross.

Amen *Angela Ashwin.*

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.

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.**

Hymn 228

1 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!

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

3 Lo, the heaven its Lord receives; Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves. Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
still he calls mankind his own. Alleluia!

4 See he lifts his hands above; Alleluia!
see, he shews the prints of love; Alleluia!
hark, his gracious lips bestow Alleluia!
blessings on his church below. Alleluia!

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

6 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!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788,
Thomas Cotterill (1779-1823) and others

The Dismissal

Reading

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Silence is kept.

Responsory

All As we wait in silence,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we listen to your word,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we worship you in majesty,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your refreshing,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your renewing,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your equipping,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your empowering,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

The Blessing

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

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

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

And the blessing ...

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

The ministers and people depart.

Copyright acknowledgement (where not already indicated above):

Prayers of Intercession (Resurrection, Ascension) © Michael Perham (Adapted)

Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000

Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2002

Structure: Liturgy of Ascension Day © The Archbishops' Council 2006

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table 9 (Rogation Days) © The Archbishops' Council