Ascension Day May 13, 2021

7:00 pm Sung Eucharist



William Blake, The Ascension, c. 1805-6

The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of almighty God:

They are in memory of George and Bertha Heldt, from George Heldt;

and

In loving remembrance of Lilian We-Chee Goh, from her husband Swee Chua.

MUSIC OF THE MASS - Communion Service in E, Leo Sowerby

PRELUDE: Prière du Christ montant vers son Père, Olivier Messiaen

HYMN 174 - Hail the day that sees him rise

- Hail the day that sees him rise. Alleluya! Glorious to his native skies; Alleluya! Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluya! Enters now the highest heaven! Alleluya!
- 2 There the glorious triumph waits; Alleluya! Lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluya! Christ hath vanquished death and sin; Alleluya! Take the King of glory in. Alleluya!
- 3 See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluya! Yet he loves the earth he leaves: Alleluya! Though returning to his throne, Alleluya! Still he calls mankind his own. Alleluya!
- 7 There we shall with thee remain, Alleluya!
 Partners of thine endless reign; Alleluya!
 There thy face unclouded see, Alleluya!
 Find our heaven of heavens in thee. Alleluya!

LLANFAIR Robert Williams of Anglesey 1781-1821 Charles Wesley 1707-88 and Thomas Cotterill 1779-1823

Please kneel

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen. The cantor sings*

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie Eleison : Lord, have mercy upon us. Christe Eleison : Christ, have mercy upon us. Kyrie Eleison : Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Celebrant: Glory be to God on high,

Cantors: and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The Lord be with you; R / *And with thy spirit*.

Please remain standing for the Collect

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. *Amen*.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Acts 1.1-11

In the first book, O The-oph'ilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked

him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samar'ia and to the end of the earth." And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The word of the Lord R / *Thanks be to God*

PSALM: 47—Omnes gentes, plaudite; Tone VIII, 1

- 1 O CLAP your hands together, all ye **peo**-ples : O sing unto God with the **voice** of me-lo-dy.
- 2 For the Lord Most High is to be **fear**-ed : he is a great King **o**-ver all the earth.
- 3 He subdu-ed the peoples under **us** : and the nations **un**-der our feet.
- 4 He chose our heritage for **us** : even the glorious land of Jacob, **whom** he lov-ed.
- 5 God is gone up with a merry **noise** : the Lord with the sound **of** the trum-pet.
- 6 O sing praises, sing praises unto our **God** : O sing praises, sing praises **un**-to our King.
- 7 For God is the King of all the **earth** : sing ye praises with **un**-der-stand-ing.
- 8 God reigneth over the **na**-tions : God sitteth up-**on** his ho-ly throne.
- 9 The princes of the peoples are gatheréd to-**geth**-er : with the people of the **God** of A-bra-ham;
- 10 For the rulers of the earth belong unto **God** : he is very high-**ly** ex-alt-ed.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1.15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe, according to the working of his great might which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come; and he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fulness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord R / *Thanks be to God*

SEQUENCE HYMN 835 - Eternal Monarch, King most high Æterne Rex altissime

- Eternal Monarch, King most high, Whose Blood hath brought redemption nigh, By whom the death of Death was wrought, And conquering Grace's battle fought:
- 2 Ascending to the throne of might, And seated at the Father's right, All power in heaven is Jesus' own That here his manhood had not known.
- 3 That so, in nature's triple frame,Each heavenly and each earthly name,And things in hell's abyss abhorred,May bend the knee and own him Lord.
- 4 Yea, Angels tremble when they see How changed is our humanity; That flesh hath purged what flesh had stained, And God, the Flesh of God, hath reigned!
- 5 Be thou our joy and strong defence, Who art our future recompense: So shall the light that springs from thee Be ours through all eternity.

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to thee let earth accord, Who art, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit One. Amen. Alleluia.

> Latin c 5th century Tr J.M. Neale 1818-66

GOSPEL: Luke 24.44-53 R / *Glory be to thee, O Lord*

And Jesus said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are 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 blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

> The Gospel of Christ R / *Praise be to thee, O Christ*

Mode ii

NICENE CREED Missa de Angelis

Celebrant: I believe in one God

Cantor: the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON

OFFERTORY HYMN 389 - Look, ye saints! the sight is glorious!

- Look, ye saints! the sight is glorious! See the Man of Sorrows now; From the fight returned victorious, Every knee to him shall bow; Crown him! Crown him! Crowns become the Victor's brow.
- 2 Crown the Saviour! Angels, crown him! Rich the trophies Jesus brings; In the seat of power enthrone him, While the vault of heaven rings; Crown him! Crown him! Crown the Saviour King of kings!
- 3 Sinners in derision crowned him, Mocking thus Messiah's claim; Saints and angels throng around him, Own his title, praise his Name; Crown him! Crown him! Spread abroad the Victor's fame.
- 4 Hark, those bursts of acclamation! Hark, those loud triumphant chords! Jesus takes the highest station; O what joy the sight affords! Crown him! Crown him! King of kings and Lord of lords.

REGENT SQUARE Henry Thomas Smart 1813-1879 Thomas Kelly 1769-1854

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

Please kneel

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, let us pray for the Church and for the World.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the church universal throughout the world; for Andrew our bishop and for all who serve and minister to God's people. May the presence of the risen and ascended Christ be with us all.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the Queen and for all in authority in our nation, province, and city; that the nations of the earth may seek after the ways that make for peace and justice.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for all those in need, for the sick_____, and all those suffering from the coronavirus, for elders in isolation, for prisoners, for refugees and migrants, for the oppressed, for those who mourn, and for all for whom our prayers are asked_____, that God's unfailing love will never abandon those who call upon his name.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the souls of the departed awaiting the final resurrection and judgement, especially_____ who have died in recent days, and on their year's mind for_____, that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in God's eternal kingdom.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: O God our Father, hear and answer the prayers of thy people; help us who now behold thy son lifted up upon thy right hand to bear witness of thy great love as we await his return in glorious majesty. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and ever.

INVITATION, CONFESSION, ABSOLUTION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

V / The Lord be with you; R / *And with thy spirit*. V / Lift up your hearts; R / *We lift them up unto the Lord*.

V / Let us give thanks unto our Lord God; R / It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

Through thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his most glorious Resurrection manifestly appeared to all his Apostles, and in their sight ascended up into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where he is, thither we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

The cantor sings:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Blessèd is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake 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. Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: As our saviour Christ hast commanded and taught us we are bold to say:

Cantor: Our Father who 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.*

The consecrated Bread is broken.

The peace of the Lord be always with you: R / *And with thy spirit.*

HOLY COMMUNION

All who intend to receive Holy Communion pray together:

We do not presume

to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. *Amen*.

The cantor sings:

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesu, hear me. Within thy wounds hide me. Suffer me not to be separated from thee. From the malicious enemy defend me. In the hour of my death call me. And bid me come to thee, That with thy saints I may praise thee, For ever and ever. Amen.

MOTET: Mein Jesus hat nunmehr, BWV 43, J.S. Bach And the Lord, after he had spoken with them, was taken up into heaven and sits at the right hand of God. My Jesus has now completed the work of salvation and takes the returning path to him who had sent him. He finishes his course on earth, you heavens, open up and take him back again!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

May the gifts we have received from thy altar, O Lord, kindle in our hearts a longing for the heavenly homeland and cause us to press forward, following in our Saviour's footsteps, to the place where for our sake he entered before us. Who liveth and reigneth now and for ever. *Amen*

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CONCLUDING HYMN 392 – Rejoice, the Lord is King

 Rejoice, the Lord is King, Your Lord and King adore; Rejoice, give thanks and sing, And triumph evermore: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice, Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

- 2 Jesus, the Saviour, reigns, The God of truth and love: When he had purged our stains, He took his seat above: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice, Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail; He rules o'er earth and heaven; The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus given: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice, Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.
- 4 He sits at God's right hand Till all his foes submit, And bow to his command, And fall beneath his feet: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice, Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

DARWALL Rev. John Darwall, 1770 Rev. Charles Wesley, 1746

POSTLUDE: Transports de joie, Olivier Messiaen